

filled by the ladies and gentlemen of the neighbourhood, who evinced great interest in the proceedings. The Vice-Chancellor opened the meeting, after which the candidates for the degrees were presented to him in the following order:—The Rev. J. H. Thompson, Professor of Divinity, presented the Right Revd. G. Burgess, Bishop of Maine, D.D., of Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, and of Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., to be admitted to the degree of D.D. *ad eundem*. The Rev. Principal Nicolls presented the Hon. George Moffatt, a Trustee of the College, for the degree of D.C.L., *honoris causa*; Charles Hamilton, Esq., of Quebec, B.A., of University College, Oxford, for the degree of B.A. *ad eundem*; and James Jones of Bedford, C. E. Stephen Edgell, of Lennoxville, C.E., Edward C. Fowle, of Lennoxville, C. E., and Louis C. Wurtele, of River David, C. E., *alumni* of the College, for the degree of B. A. After the oath of allegiance had been administered to the new Bachelors of the University, the whole meeting sang the "National Anthem." The Bishop of Quebec addressed the Convocation in an able speech, giving a condensed history of the rise and progress of the University of Bishops' College, and concluded by returning thanks to the Bishop of Maine for his kind attendance at that anniversary. J. S. Sanborn, Esq., M.A., M.P.P., next delivered an able and eloquent discourse upon the advantages of collegiate education, not only to men intended for the learned professions, but to all. It was most favourably received. The Vice-Chancellor thanked Mr. Sanborn on behalf of the Convocation, and requested permission to publish the address—a request to which we are happy to learn, Mr. Sanborn acceded. The Bishop of Maine, the Bishop of Montreal, and George Baker, Esq., M.A., also addressed the Convocation, which was then closed with the usual formalities.—*Montreal Gazette*.

—**McGILL NORMAL SCHOOL.**—On Wednesday afternoon the first annual public examination of this school took place in the large hall of the school. The hon. the Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada, presided, supported on either side by his Lordship the (Anglican) Bishop of Montreal, and Principal Dawson, LL.D. There was a large attendance of the friends of popular education, who took a deep and hearty interest in the proceedings. The pupil teachers were examined in Arithmetic, Geometry, English, and French, and Natural History, and their correct and ready replies not only gave great satisfaction to those present, but afforded an earnest not only of the present but of the future usefulness of the school.—*Montreal Herald*.

—**HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT OF MCGILL COLLEGE.**—On Tuesday afternoon the annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of this institution took place. His Excellency the Administrator of the Government presided. Addresses were delivered by the Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau, Judge Day, and Messrs. John Dougall and J. J. Day. The Masters of the School presented Mr. T. A. Gibson with an academical cap and hood. The boys of the school presented Mr. Rodger with a gown. Both these gentlemen have received from the University the honorary degree of M.A. The number of scholars in the High School for the past year was 252, more than 200 of whom had studied Latin. Only 30 had studied Greek. The Governors have resolved to have a salaried Drawing master, and, we are pleased to add, a teacher of Music. The prizes having been distributed, His Excellency rose and addressed the recipients. He said it gave him great gratification to take the part he had done in the proceedings of that day, and he most sincerely congratulated them and their parents and friends on the progress which they were reported to have made. His own school days were long past; he was separated from them by many years, yet he could still sympathise most heartily with the vivid feelings of pleasure and satisfaction with which their success must stir their youthful minds; he could sympathise with the exultation they would experience in taking home these prizes—testimonials of their proficiency—to give pleasure to their parents, their brothers and sisters, those dear friends and companions of theirs who would listen to their praises without envy, and hear of and witness their triumphs without a pang. (Applause.) To those who are about to leave school he desired to say a word. The whole colour of their future existence might be decided by what they had learned here and their employment of the next few years—the course of their destiny, for good or evil, would turn upon it. He begged them to remember that their education did not end when they left the school room—education, properly so called, only began there. The seed had been sown here, but it would remain for them to tend and weed the growing crop, and in due time to gather in the harvest. He was himself a soldier, much more conversant with men than bookish lore, with the battle field than the schools; but he hoped they would not therefore heed the less the advice he gave them. When people asked

what good was this or that branch of learning to them, they should not listen; they should turn a deaf ear to all such critics. The studies they had pursued had the effect of drawing out and developing the faculties God had given them. Their studies ought not to be directed solely to fit them for the work of their future daily avocations, but for something far higher—something above the mere drudgery of getting a living. He hoped they had acquired a love of knowledge for its own sake and would add to it that noblest of ambitions—the desire of being good and useful men. He would add a few words to those who remained behind at school. He earnestly urged on them to lose no time, but use every effort to improve their advantages to the utmost. It was not in receiving instruction at the hands of their teachers alone that their education consisted, but in the practice of what they were taught among their schoolfellows and friends. The work of their education should go on in the play-ground as well as in the school-room—their characters were being formed in the one place quite as much as the other. They could not too scrupulously or too constantly practice habits of manly honour, truthfulness, and self-respect. These are the qualities that are sure to command the respect and esteem of their fellow men. For he felt it a duty to warn them that while the possession of knowledge gave them great power; it was a sort of power that might be turned to evil as well as good. He would not—God forbid that any should—even for that reason, withhold from any the blessings which education confers. Yet he would warn them to take care that they made good use of this power. They should enter the world like good soldiers entering an enemy's country; circumspectly, cautiously, keeping a good look out. You will enter on the discharge of the duties of life with great advantages, great opportunities to rise; the world is all before you, more particularly the bright fresh field of this western world. May success attend you.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

—**THE NATIONAL SOCIETY.**—The annual meeting of this society for promoting the education of the poor, was held on Thursday, at the Sanctuary, Westminster, the Archbishop of Canterbury presiding, supported by the Bishops of Bangor, St. Asaph, Salisbury, and Sodor and Man, Lord Bayning, Sir George Baker, Bart., Rev. Sir Henry Thompson, Bart., Rev. Sir Charles Farnaby, Bart., Right Hon. W. Heneley, M.P., Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., and other gentlemen. The report stated that the grants hitherto voted in aid of building and enlarging schools and teachers' residences would be discontinued unless the income of the society was largely increased. On this account the sum of £4,887 had been paid during the past year, providing accommodation for 19,191 scholars, and 86 teachers. The total number of schools now in union with the society was 10,856, 208 having been added since the last report. Since the Manchester buildings, and the boarding-house in Smith-square had been rented by the society—which were both since 1839—1,194 masters had been trained in the former, and 1,497 mistresses in the latter; the Manchester buildings having been a charge to the society of £22,027, and the boarding house in Smith-square, of £18,160. Both, however, were now closed. The society had made an addition to its organising masters; and her Majesty's inspector had expressed himself well satisfied with the improvement which had taken place within the last year in the Central schools. The receipts from the Depository, for 1856, had amounted to £14,878, being an increase of £2,000 over those of the preceding year. Among other points, the report touched upon the satisfactory reports of the training institutions at Carnarvon and Carmarthen, and of St. Mark's College, Battersea College, and Whitelands. A grant had been made in aid of a new training school for mistresses, in the diocese of Durham, and steps had been taken to build a training college for masters in the diocese of Peterborough. During the last three years alone the society had assisted in providing additional accommodation in elementary schools for 67,723 children, supplied from its own training schools 610 masters and mistresses, furnished increased accommodation in its depository for the purchase of school books, materials, and apparatus, aided in the establishment of several local depots, and, at the same time, promoted the work of inspecting and organizing schools.

—**OXFORD MIDDLE CLASS EXAMINATIONS.**—The new statute on middle class examinations, which was promulgated in Congregation on Friday, June 5, and accepted by that body on Wednesday, June 10, was submitted to the members of Convocation on Thursday, and finally carried by a large majority, as well as the title of A.A., (Associate of Arts,) the latter forming the subject of a separate vote. The following is the result of the