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REPORT.

After the lapse of another year the Directors have much pleasure in offering, for the information of the public, the following account of the progress of the Institution during the year 1859:—

And they feel bound, in the first place, to acknowledge the goodness of Almighty God, who alone can crown the efforts of man, in any undertaking, with success, for the manifest blessing which He has vouchsafed to their exertions in behalf of the Deaf Mutes of Nova Scotia.

A powerful and widely spread interest has been awakened, in behalf of this hitherto neglected class of our population, as evinced by the large numbers who have attended the public meetings which have been called in town and country, and by the greatly increased amount of collections and donations received during the year,—these being more than twice the amount contributed in the previous year, as will be seen by the Appendix.

The Directors thankfully acknowledge the liberality of the Legislature, in bestowing upon the Institution the increased grant of £400, which was done upon the report of a committee of the Assembly, after a careful examination of the Institution in all its branches.

To the Provincial Parliament of Nova Scotia belongs the honorable distinction of being the first among the Colonies of the Empire thus to recognise the claims of the Deaf Mute portion of our population to share in the educational advantages so long exclusively bestowed on others. Our country will assuredly reap a positive benefit from this humane and enlightened policy, by its qualifying hundreds who have hitherto been unprofitable if not burdensome to society, to assume a position, intellectually and socially, at once comfortable to themselves and useful and honorable to their country,—to say nothing of the still higher benefits imparted to them by instilling into their dark minds the all-important truths of Religion.

No act of the Legislature of this Province redounds more to its honor than the readiness and liberality with which it has responded to the applications made for the endowment of this Institution.