

embodied the new principle in the 37th Section as thus explained in his report for that year :

THE NEW PRINCIPLE OF "PAYMENT BY RESULTS."

"Our School Law of 1871 has introduced a new principle into the mode of payments to High Schools. Formerly the system adopted was (as in the case of Public Schools) to distribute the High School funds on the basis of average attendance of the pupils at the school. This was found to work injuriously to the best class of schools. For instance, a very inferior school with an average attendance, say, of fifty, would be entitled to receive precisely the same apportionment as another school with the same attendance, but which might be greatly superior,—if not the very best school in the Province. To remedy this defect and remove this injustice a new principle of payment was introduced into the Act—viz : the payment (as it is technically termed in England) 'by results,' or, as in the words of the Act itself, according to 'proficiency in the various branches of study.' This principle has been for years strictly applied to Elementary Schools in England, and it is now extended to other classes of schools. The thoroughness of the system of inspection adopted there has enabled the school authorities to do so. We shall not be able at present to go further than the High Schools with the application of this principle ; but we trust that by and by, if it be found to work well in the High School, we shall be able to apply it to the Public Schools as well.

"In Victoria, (Australia,) 'payment by results,' to the schools, is the system adopted. In the last report of the Board of Education for that country published this year, the Board says :—'The system of "payment by results," now in use, appears to be working well, and to give general satisfaction. The fact that, at each examination, each school's force is recorded as having gained a certain percentage of a possible maximum, affords a means of comparison between different schools which, if not conclusive as to their relative merits, is sufficiently so to cause considerable emulation amongst teachers. Indeed, the wish to obtain a high percentage, materially increases the stimulus afforded by the "result payments."'

"The three-fold principle upon which High Schools are hereafter to be aided, is declared by the new law to be as follows :—

"Each High School conducted according to law (and the regulations) shall be entitled to an apportionment * * * according—

First—"To the average attendance of pupils.

Second—"Their proficiency in the various branches of study.

Third—"The length of time each such High School is kept open as compared with other High Schools."

I. Progress of Education in Ontario.

1. HIGHER EDUCATION IN ONTARIO.

The cause of higher education is making marvellous progress in the Province of Ontario. Not only are the various universities and colleges being more efficiently equipped for the training of young men, but colleges for the education of ladies are now established in several cities and towns, and are doing a noble work. Under the influence of such educational institutions, the intelligence, and consequently, the material prosperity of the people are increasing at a very rapid ratio. The want of facilities in this Province for obtaining a first-class education, especially for young women, is strikingly apparent by contrast with the Province of Ontario. It is true we have a few colleges for the training of young men, of which we are justly proud, and which are making their influence felt upon society; but as yet no college has been established in which our daughters may enjoy the equal advantage of receiving an education of the highest type. Large numbers who cannot afford to send their daughters to the private ladies' schools in the city, feel very keenly the want of such an institution. Many Protestant families, in consequence of this want, send their daughters to Roman Catholic convents. Indeed, it is a well known fact that a not insignificant portion of the pupils in conventual schools are the daughters of Protestants.

The initiative has already been taken two or three years ago by one of our wealthy and generous citizens, who has made a gift of a very valuable property on the face of the mountain to a Board of Trustees, for the purpose of having erected thereon a college, to be known as *The Trafalgar Institute*, for the higher education of women. This board has, unfortunately, not yet accomplished anything in the way of carrying out the intentions of the donor, a fact very much to be regretted.—*Montreal Gazette*.

2. THE ONTARIO LADIES COLLEGE.

The editor and the assistant-editor of the *Christian Guardian*, in conjunction with Dr. Nelles, were appointed by the Toronto Methodist Conference as official visitors to the Ontario Ladies' College. A visit accordingly was made to that institution by those gentlemen on the 18th of last month, of which the *Guardian* of last week gave the following satisfactory report :—

"It is too much to expect that any such institution should spring into existence so perfect and fully equipped as to preclude improvement and progress. But, considering that the college was first opened last fall, the fact that it has now sixty boarders and forty-seven day pupils, and that receipts for tuition will more than meet the current expenses of this first year, is in our opinion a gratifying success. It certainly exceeds our expectations at the inauguration of the enterprise. Much credit is due to the untiring energy of the Rev. J. E. Sanderson, M. A., both in securing the subscription of the necessary stock to warrant the purchase of the property, and in carrying out the practical measures by which the present position has been attained.

"As a more complete report will be prepared for the Conference, we merely mention here a few out of many things which might be said in favour of the college. The situation is beautiful and healthy. Nearly all the pupils seem to be in excellent health. The building is capacious, well ventilated and commodious, and surrounded by spacious grounds for exercise or play. The proximity of Whitby to Toronto should secure a large patronage from this city, as Toronto pupils could have the advantage of a healthy country residence near home, while pursuing their educational studies. As far as a cursory examination enables us to speak, the teaching is conducted with ability and efficiency. The method of teaching is adapted to suggest and stimulate thought ; and the answers of the pupils in the different classes indicated an intelligent grasp of the subjects taught. The Principal, Rev. J. J. Hare, B. A., and the Governor, Rev. J. E. Sanderson, M. A., both passed through the curriculum of a University course in Arts, and graduated with honour ; and must, therefore, be thoroughly familiar with the subjects they teach. Miss Dunlop impressed us favourably as a superior teacher, who will prove a valuable acquisition to the teaching staff of the school. A great point has been gained in securing such an eminent musician as Mr. Torrington, as a teacher and superintendent of the musical department. All the music teachers are examined and approved by Mr. Torrington, before being appointed. Mrs. Hare, who also belongs to the teaching staff, is already spoken of by competent judges as a gifted musician. Mr. Hoch, the drawing master, has a high reputation as an artist and teacher. Though the moral guardianship of the Institution is placed under the supervision of the Methodist Church of Canada, both the Board of Directors and the staff of teachers include members of the different Protestant Churches ; the pupils are conducted to the churches which their parents wish them to attend, and all the arrangements and exercises of the college are conducted in a liberal and unsectarian spirit. A full report of each pupil's standing in her studies is sent to her parents at the close of each term, by which parents will be able to see at a glance what progress their daughters have made. Taking into consideration the eligible location of the institution, in the heart of a fertile and wealthy country, and the good beginning which has been made, we see no reason why the 'Ontario Ladies' College' should not become the most popular and attractive ladies' school in Canada."—*Whitby Gazette*.

3. THE LORETTO ACADEMY, LINDSAY.

A correspondent has favoured us with a graphic description of a very handsome educational building which has been recently erected at Lindsay, under the direction of the Rev. M. Stafford, one of most enlightened and indefatigable friends of education in Ontario. The separate schools of Lindsay have long been reported to the Department as among the best and most efficient in the Province. From the enterprise and ability of Mr. Stafford, who has their interests so deeply at heart, we are sure that these schools reflect great credit upon his zeal and judicious supervision of them. We abridge the following description of the Academy from the *Lindsay Canadian Post* :—

"In the academy just opened by the Ladies of Loretto for the education of young ladies, Lindsay can justly boast of having the finest of the kind in the Province, in the complete and tasteful equipment of the spacious and handsome building that has just been erected. This handsome edifice has been erected from plans prepared by Mr. Wm. Duffus, Architect of this town, under the direction of the Rev. Father Stafford. Built of white brick in modern style, with elaborate yet tasteful decorations of the same