

Miss Isabella Middlemiss, who is assistant in the Girls' School has during the past year greatly contributed to its success, and I must not fail to bear testimony to her earnest endeavours to help her sister in her laborious duties.

Miss Robertson is still in charge of our Infants' department, and although it is well known that schools of this nature are, more than others, subject to fluctuations, her room is always full of children. During the past four weeks, near the end of the present year, at a time when we might expect many of our little ones to be kept at home on account of the severity of the weather, the school has been thronged with children who seem too happy to have any wish to be elsewhere.

The French classes have been during the greater part of the past year under the care of Mons. Duval, and their steady progress in this important part of education has been highly creditable.

There is an earnest desire on the part of the parents of the children that the teaching of a language which has such an important bearing on the future usefulness of our scholars in this province, should not be neglected; and the appointment of a French gentlemen for the purpose of teaching his own tongue has given great satisfaction.

The teaching of music, to some extent, has always formed a part of our course, and the instrument which the committee furnished to the Girls' School has been usefully employed. I have, however, never neglected to call the attention of our teachers to the importance of vocal music, as a means, not only of teaching the principles of the art, but also of furnishing young minds with a healthy means of relaxation. It must, therefore, be a satisfaction to the committee, that by the consent of our superintendent, a gentleman whose skill in juvenile instruction has gained him the confidence of the public, has been engaged, and that under his care the best of results may be anticipated.

I must again speak in high terms of the punctuality and steady application of the students of the McGill Normal School, during the time they have assisted in carrying on the work of our schools; and as I look upon the time they are so engaged as a most useful part of the training they have to undergo for their future calling, I have always considered their attention when so occupied, as a fair promise of their usefulness when employed in independent positions. I have not failed during the past year to direct them in their work, and where I have noticed peculiar aptitude for the teacher's office, I have considered it my duty to speak of it as a gift which ought to become, not only a blessing to the possessor, but to all with whom he may come in contact.

I need hardly say, that at the commencement of every session, the junior class of the McGill Normal School contains a large number of young persons, to whom right direction in the art of teaching is of the first importance; and that in receiving the assistance of our teachers they