



BISHOP RIDLEY COLLEGE.

The Principal has been successful in maintaining an excellent staff of nine teachers, to whose exertions the reputation of the school is due. Pupils have been prepared every year for admission to the Universities, for entrance to the Medical profession, and for admission to the Schools of Science, with uniform success. But the efforts of the staff are not alone directed towards success in the class-room. Every one of the masters plays cricket and other games, care being thus taken to overlook the conduct and language of the boys while at play, as well as during work hours. The College grounds afford opportunity for more varied amusements than those of any other school in the Province. There is a fine gymnasium, a cricket field of over seven acres; and on the home ground five tennis courts and a large open hockey and skating rink. Through the property there runs the old Welland canal, very seldom used by vessels, and now almost a private river. On its banks are erected a commodious boat-house, where the boys keep canoes and skiffs, and a large swimming-bath, where boys are taught to swim, and where they enjoy a daily bath in summer. Swimming races form one of the features of the summer sports.

The greatest possible care is taken in the classification of the boys and in rejecting undesirable pupils. In order to exercise complete

control in these two matters, the Board has adopted the rule of the best English boarding schools of excluding all boys who have reached the age of fifteen and are unable to enter the third form, and also all boys of sixteen who cannot enter the fourth form. Long experience has proved the wisdom of this rule for the prevention of bullying, and in order to keep boys nearly alike in age together as companions.

In moral and religious training, the aim of the school authorities is to teach self-discipline, by dealing personally with individual boys, and to inculcate right principles rather than secure tardy performance of duty through fear of punishment. It is thought that in a school of one hundred it is possible to do this; that the doing of it is the first business of the teacher, and that success in this is the true measure of the success of a school such as Ridley College aims at being. In pursuance of its aim at developing the three-fold nature of the boy, the College claims the support of the Church in Canada.

In 1861, missionaries of the Rhenish Society commenced work among the wild and cannibal Batta people in the island of Sumatra, and so successful have they been that there are now 17,500 Christians. Forty-one churches now support themselves and their native evangelists, who labour among the surrounding heathen.