

metic, Physiology, Algebra and Geometry, History and Domestic Economy, with the Theory of Music. The pupils answered readily the questions put them by their tutors, and evidently had carefully studied in order to pass a good examination. The stimulus to study held out in the shape of handsome prizes of books had created a healthy excitement, and each laudably emulated the other, and all showed proficiency of a marked character. In the senior division of the girls' department, three or four of the scholars were remarkably well advanced in the geometric science, demonstrating abstruse propositions in the fifth and sixth books with an ease and familiarity that would be envied by any boy of twenty. The age of these girls did not exceed fifteen years; so it may be imagined how excellent had been their instruction. In other branches of learning, too, the pupils generally were well "posted up." The number of visitors was largely increased in the afternoon, blocking up the passages and class-rooms in such a manner as to leave little space for the scholars, and every one, as we have remarked, manifested a warm interest in the proceedings. At four o'clock the girls were exercised in calisthenics by Capt. Goodwin, and shortly afterwards the boys exhibited their gymnastic feats in the spacious play-ground attached to the institution. Some of the latter were remarkably agile and daring in their performances, and their exploits created considerable applause.

About half-past four o'clock the visitors and pupils assembled in the theatre of the Normal School, where prizes were distributed to the most deserving scholars by the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Education, as follows:—

BOYS' DEPARTMENT, FIRST DIVISION.—Best scholar in the school—John B. McCarty, who is awarded a scholarship in the Model Grammar School. (The other prizes were too numerous to insert in the *Journal*.)

After the distribution of the prizes, the piece, "Hurrah! Hurrah for Canada!" was well sung by Henry Jones, prize-boy for singing, all the pupils joining in the chorus, and Mr. Sefton accompanying on a melodeon, "Rule Britannia," and "Night's Shades have passed," a nice composition, in which boys and girls sang alternately, followed—both being executed in very good style. An agreeable episode then transpired. Several of the girls of the senior division, forming a committee of the whole school, stepped forward for the purpose of presenting their teacher, Mrs. Clark, with a handsome gold watch. A very complimentary and affectionate address was read by Miss Clarice Hamilton, who enunciated the words in a clear, sweet voice, that was heard in every portion of the spacious apartment. The valuable present was handed to Mrs. Clark by Miss Menet, of the second division; and a handsome bouquet was offered by an equally handsome little girl, named Rose Delaporte, of the third division. Mrs. Clark made a feeling and appropriate reply; and in thanking the scholars for their elegant gift, took occasion to make a few advisory remarks to those of the elder pupils whose studies in the school had that day ended. The presentation, which was a very pleasing affair, was rapturously applauded by the spectators, who filled the gallery of the theatre.

The Rev. Dr. Ryerson then advanced, and said the exercises of the present session had now been brought to a close, or shortly would be, by the pupils singing the National Anthem. In terminating these exercises, he had great pleasure in saying, that never since the commencement of the Normal and Model Schools had the same order and efficiency prevailed in every branch of education as at the present time. At no period in the whole course of his experience had he been more struck with surprise, or felt greater admiration, than at the examinations he had the opportunity of witnessing that day—at the thoroughness, clearness, and simplicity exhibited by the pupils in every branch of knowledge, and the care and attention evinced by the teachers in properly training the children. It was the province of the Model Schools not only to teach the pupils, but to show to the students of the Normal School and the country generally, how children ought to be taught. It was with this view that the selection of teachers for the Model Schools had been made; it was with this view that the buildings in which the children were educated, had been erected; and it was with the same view that all the operations of the institution were conducted. It was important that those who were trained in the Normal School—and trained, he would say, on principles justly considered the most advanced—should have a practical illustration of the best method of teaching. Such an illustration was to be found in the method pursued in the Model Schools, in which those students spent several months during the time they attended the Normal School. This was the purpose for which the Model Schools had been instituted; and at no period of their existence, it gave him pleasure to add, did they appear to answer better

that object than at the present moment. He then paid a high compliment to Mr. Sefton for the great advancement displayed by the children in the department of vocal music, an improvement due altogether to that gentleman's care and ability to instruct. There was another branch to which he would also allude, and in which not a little difficulty and embarrassment had heretofore been experienced. It was that of drawing. Under the able tuition of M. Emile Coulon, however, the pupils now exhibited a highly gratifying improvement, as was proved by the excellent specimens of their taste displayed in the different class-rooms. With regard to the other branches of education, he need make no lengthened observations. Every one acquainted with the schools knew that, from the commencement, nothing that should have been done had been omitted by Mrs. Clark and those who were associated with her. (Loud applause.) He would likewise notice the last branch, though by no means the least important one, in which the pupils were exercised, and over which his friend, Capt. Goodwin, so well known in Toronto, had ably presided. (Cheers from the boys.) He (Dr. Ryerson) knew that every boy's face would brighten, and every boy's eye pleasantly twinkle, at the sound of the name of Capt. Goodwin. (Renewed cheers.) He had no doubt that the physical training of both the boys and the girls would exert no small influence over their health, their activity, and their energy, in future life. He (Dr. Ryerson) went on to remark, that in the Model School they had a practical development of the best theory laid down for the education of youth. They presented to the land of their birth or of their adoption an exemplification of a mode of instruction which had commanded, so far as he knew, the unqualified and highest admiration of visitors from the other side of the Atlantic, from several States of the neighbouring Union, and from all parts of our own country. And he hoped that in the progress of society of this country and the advancement of its people, they would witness that energy of mind, that honesty of purpose, and that faith in the fostering care of Providence which a school of this character so fully developed. (Applause.) He (Dr. Ryerson) then expressed his thanks to the teachers for the pleasure the examinations had afforded him, and said that doubtless the work in which they were engaged would exert an influence that would be felt throughout the length and breadth of our beloved land. (Applause.) He concluded by announcing that the children would sing, with united voice, "God save the Queen," and adverted in graceful terms to the forthcoming visit of the Prince of Wales, son of that noble woman, and more than Queen, who swayed the sceptre of government over us, and on whose dominions the sun never set. The rev. superintendent sat down amidst loud applause.

The children then sang the National Anthem, and the proceedings terminated with the benediction, about a quarter-past six o'clock. The Rev. Dr. Ryerson announced, at the close, that the vacation would extend until the first Monday in August next.—*Leader*.

— **VISIT OF THE YORK AND PEARL COUNTY COUNCIL TO THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.**—On the occasion of the recent visit of the Warden and members of the Metropolitan County Council to the Educational Department for Upper Canada, the Council passed the following resolution. It is gratifying to witness this practical interest in the operations of the "People's Department," of the Government on the part of the local municipal authorities.

"Resolved—That the members of the Council having visited the Normal and Model Schools, desire to express the satisfaction which they feel with the general appearance and internal arrangements of those institutions.

"That they were much pleased with the specimens exhibited of Canadian Manufacture, in the articles of maps and school apparatus, showing that they can now be produced in our own country, not only of equal finish and durability, but at prices much lower than for those imported from Europe or the United States.

"That they desire further to express their sense of the courtesy extended to them, on the occasion of their visit, by the Deputy Superintendent of Education." A true copy.

June 8th, 1860.

(Signed,) J. ELLIOT, Co. Clerk.

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☞ All communications to be addressed to Mr. J. GEORGE HODGINS, Education Office, Toronto.