

during the course of the last session. I feel that I should congratulate you on the result of the examination, in that so many of you have taken diplomas, a larger number of diplomas having been given this session than any I ever remember, here or elsewhere, in proportion to the number of pupils; and I think these diplomas have been well deserved, and that we shall never have reason to regret having distributed them as we have done. I have one word more to say. The pain which I feel at parting with you is greater than I once thought I should be able to suffer on such an occasion. But I feel that the more often I have to part from a class of students, the more deeply painful do I feel the separation, because it is no easy or light thing for me to become attached to new acquaintances, I know that this must always be so in this changeable world—I know we cannot hope here to take up an abiding place—I know as long as we live in this world, we shall have to toil onward through the heat, through the dust, through the labor of years, until God, in his mercy, shall give us rest in the grave. Still the feeling that this must be so, does not, to any extent, alleviate the pain I feel in parting with this division. Especially is this the case in regard to the senior division. I shall here meet again many of the junior division, and shall renew with them the acquaintance commenced in this session; but with those who now go forth with highest honors it is in our power to bestow, there is no such consolation. Some of us may meet again, but for many of us this is the last meeting, and there will never again be an opportunity to manifest our sympathy with each other in times of trial and affliction, until we count up the experiences of a lifetime in a world beyond the grave. Allow me to say, in conclusion, that I do heartily welcome to the position of teachers those who are now to take upon them the position of legally qualified teachers. I know that you are worthy rivals with us in the race we are about to run together, and I know that I shall welcome you yet more heartily when you have grappled with difficulties when your native strength has been brought forth, when you have shown that you will not yield for one moment in the straight, unswerving path of duty. And if you go forth with a firm reliance in divine aid to aid you in your course, I know that you will not be vanquished, but that you will overcome all obstacles in the conflict of life—I know that you will show yourselves worthy of the place to which we have considered you worthy of being assigned, and that in future years we will be enabled to look back with pride on the labors of this past session. (Loud applause.)

Principal Dawson, before the Diplomas were awarded, spoke as follows:—I have much pleasure in announcing that forty-six pupils of this school have passed the examinations, and now appear as candidates for diplomas—eighteen for the Model School diploma, and twenty-eight for that for Elementary Schools. Of these 43 are young ladies, 3 young men. 20 are from Montréal, 26 from other parts of Canada. Of those who have not received the diploma, nine have been promoted to the senior class of next session. Several of those who have not obtained the diplomas are pupils of ability and industry, but who from want of previous preparation, illness, or other causes, were unable to avail themselves fully of the benefits of the school. I have, however, on this as on past occasions considered it my duty to the school and to the public, not to recommend for diplomas any who did not appear likely to be thoroughly efficient teachers. I shall read the names in the order of merit, with the distinctions earned by the several students.

The following is the list:

DIPLOMAS FOR MODEL SCHOOLS.

Maria Johnson, Hatley (Stanstead)—Prizes in Geography, Mensuration, Geometry, Algebra, French; Honble mention in Arithmetic, Chemistry, History, Mensuration, Geometry, Pencil, Drawing; Honble mention in Algebra. Louisa Webster, Montreal—Prize in Grammar; Honble mention in Botany and French. Mary J. Reynolds, Waterloo—Prizes in History and Chemistry; Honble mention in Geography and Grammar. Elizabeth T. Simmers, Montreal—Prize in Botany; Honble mention in Arithmetic, Mensuration, Geometry, Chemistry, Algebra, History, Geography. Lucy H. Derrick, Lacolle—Prize in Education. Melissa DeGolyer, Montreal—Honble mention in Mensuration, Geometry, Landscape Drawing. Hannah Bell, Montreal. Elizabeth Chalmers, Montreal—Prize in Education. Eliza Couch, Montreal. Mary E. Roach, Montreal—Prize in Chalk Drawing. Emily Dunning, Dunham. Louisa Tracy, Montreal. Isabella Blythe Cornwall—Honble mention in Landscape Drawing. Frances Lloyd, Quebec. Margaret Drysdale, Montreal—Honble mention in Chalk Drawing. Alice Finlay, Dunham. Oliver Warren, Granby.

DIPLOMAS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Lamira Herrick, Granby—Prizes in History, Algebra, Education

(2nd), Zoology; Honble mention in Grammar, Arithmetic, Agricultural Chemistry. Mary J. Hardy, Esquesing, C. W.—Prizes in Grammar, Education (1st), Agricultural Chemistry; Honble mention in Algebra, Zoology, Pencil Drawing. Margaret Gill, Montreal—Prizes in Arithmetic, Natural Philosophy; Honble mention in Geography, Algebra, Geometry, Drawing from Nature. Caroline Arnold, Montreal—Prize in Geography; Honble mention in Grammar. Mary J. Ross, Lachine. Margery McEwen, St. Andrews—Honble mention in History, Geography. James Wilson, Montreal—Prizes in Arithmetic, Geometry; Honble mention in Zoology. Ellen McOwat, Lachine—Prize in Geometry; Honble mention in Landscape Drawing. Isabella Middlemiss, Montreal. Mary Whitnev, Isle-aux-Noix. Sarah Vosburgh, Montreal. Margery Ballantyne, Napanee, C. W. Susanna McLaren, S. Plantagenet. Jane Ann Peddie, St. Michael—Honble mention in History. Agnes O'Grady, Montreal—Prize in French. Eliza Jane Barnett, Montreal—Honble mention in Arithmetic. Louisa Costigan, Philadelphia, U. S.—Ditto Pencil Drawing. Alice Hall, Oxford. Mary Schutt, Lacolle. John Melody, Galway, Ireland—Honble mention in Geometry. Margaret McDonald, Montreal—Ditto History, Figure Drawing. Janet Grant, Montreal—Ditto Zoology. Margaret Clark, Lachine. Isabella Dalgleish, Port Neuf. Mary Willock, Montreal. Isabella Halliday, Rawdon. Jessie Patterson, Huntingdon.

PROMOTED TO SENIOR DIVISION.

Frances Clark, Margaret Creighton, Mary Jane Condon, Isabella Mack, Mary McMillan, Frances Mitchell, John McLaren. Honble mention in Arithmetic, Alice McLeilen. Honble mention in Chalk Drawing, Catherine Millar.

Having read the list, the learned principal proceeded:—I may state, in presenting these young persons to receive the reward for which they have striven, all of them for one year some of them for two years, that they have passed a thorough and severe course of mental discipline and of practice in teaching. They have acquired much, and have learned how to learn as well as how to teach. They are not young persons with raw or undisciplined minds, just escaped from school, or too lazy to earn their bread by the labour of their hands, and qualified to teach by the short process of an hour's questioning by examiners, they have testified, by their long and patient labour here, that they have really desired to gain for themselves those acquisitions and that training which may enable them to perform well the work of the high and responsible, nay holy vocation in which they are to engage. They have, too, by their conduct here, shown that they possess the moral qualifications of the teacher, else they would not have appeared to-day to receive diplomas at your hands. I may add that in the case of those who are high on our list, the position to which they have attained testifies to more than ordinary natural ability and powers of application. What I now most earnestly desire for these trained teachers, is that they may have the opportunity of doing that good for which their studies here fit them; that no narrow prejudices, no mean jealousies, no paltry economy, may prevent their being speedily employed as teachers. In so far as my recommendation may be received, I have no hesitation in assuring you and this audience, that the children who may be placed under the care of those young persons will have reason to be thankful for the establishment of the McGill Normal School. I would only farther say, that we are desirous that the advantage of the McGill Normal School should be more extensively appreciated. Not that we have not a sufficient number of pupils, for our classes have been full; but we are desirous to attract pupils, from the more distant localities; we are desirous to secure the best intellect of the country; and we are desirous to attract a large number of young men. We wish to have a large choice, that we may receive from every locality only those who are best adapted for the work. We ask, too, your aid and patronage in aid of the young persons who go forth with diplomas that they may obtain the best situations as teachers. I have again, as usual, to express my entire satisfaction with the manner in which the professors and other officers of the school have performed their arduous labours. Where all are so efficient, it would be invidious to give other than general commendation. I shall only refer to a few changes in our staff—Miss McCracken, whose admirable management of the Girls' Model School gave it from the first a very high character, has unfortunately been laid aside by illness, but hopes to resume her work at the beginning of next session. In the meantime, with a little aid and advice from Prof. Robins and Mr. McGregor, two of our own former pupils, Miss Everett, and Miss Bell have sustained the usefulness and character of the school. Our new Primary Department has worked, on the whole, well under the care of Miss Hutchinson, another of our former pupils but its late opening and other circumstances incidental