

testimony, the "Courrier" of Ottawa (April 17th, 1861) giving an account of a visit of its directors to the College, records the same observation.

"We were permitted not long ago to visit this establishment. We haste to say we were most agreeably surprised at seeing, in a town as new as Ottawa, an educational institution as advanced as this is and offering so many advantages to its pupils. Our admiration, we are told (and it does not surprise us) was shared in by several members of the Parliament of Lower Canada, and generally by all the strangers who have visited this College.

"This is, in fact, an institution of which Ottawa has a right to be proud and to which we are pleased to call the attention of our compatriots of Lower Canada, no other college offering, besides the study of Greek and Latin, mathematics, physics and chemistry, the same advantages for the study of English and French which are taught upon a footing of perfect equality and are, in general, spoken by all the students."

If we consult another monument of the past, the necrology of our religious family, we read this passage from the "excellent religious whose life may be resumed in one idea: education, and in one accomplishment: the University-College of Ottawa", Father Tabaret.

"The mixing of the two languages presents a difficulty; but it is not insurmountable. Otherwise, we would have to say that a man absolutely cannot know more than one language and that modern na-

tions have made a mistake in forming the youthful mind by the study of the dead and living languages. Have not the best writers in each language known several tongues perfectly? And yet, supposing even that something were lost in the perfection of style, would there not be a great compensation in the greater breadth of ideas acquired? Who is it that said that a person lives as many lives as the number of languages he learns? At any rate, in this part of Canada, the necessity of learning two languages cannot be argued out; it is imposed upon us." (1)

Let no one believe in the sterility of this reflection, because the report upon the scholastic year 1865-66, (2) sent to the Mother-House of the Oblates, (while showing us that in the College of Ottawa each class was taught in the two languages, morning and afternoon, English in the morning and French in the afternoon), fully establishes that the Director's ideas were put into practice in the programme of studies.

Besides, this manner of considering the education of the youth of Ottawa and of the surrounding country, was that of this period of which we write. A prospectus of the convent of the Grey Nuns of the Cross, which was published during several months in 1866 in the "Canada" of Ottawa, proves this clearly:—

"Boarding-school of the Grey

(1) Death-notice of R. F. Tabaret, circular, No. 141.

(2) Missions, March, 1868.