

to furnish one of a thoroughly practical nature, so that they would be able creditably to fill any position in business which they might be called upon to occupy. He gave an instance illustrating the disappointment sometimes felt by business men at the failure of pupils trained in public schools when required to turn their training to practical account. The members of the Board of Education were, he said, especially anxious that the education provided by the public school system of Manitoba be so practical a nature that pupils who were content with the simpler English branches would be fitted for the positions in life which they might take. At the same time, the Board was anxious that pupils who desired to go on and take higher work should be able to do so. This opportunity was now being afforded in a very excellent manner. He was satisfied from what he had seen that Mr. Fawcett was the right man in the right place. In a few years, a large number of students would be going up every year to present themselves for examination before the University of Manitoba. He was sure, from what he had seen of the work done here, that the department in charge of Mr. Fawcett would do its duty creditably. He could see that in a very short time it would be necessary for Mr. Fawcett to have help. Previously to the establishment of this department, Manitoba College, St. John's College, and St. Boniface College, had had all the higher educational work of the Province to do. The examiners who were present today were all connected with those colleges, and they were also members of the University of Manitoba. He was just as proud of this university as of the public school system. Those connected with the university would be glad to see the number of students presenting themselves for examination from year to year greatly increased, no matter from what institution they came. The Legislature had hitherto assisted the university with only a very small grant that was hardly worth speaking of; but he hoped that that body would soon take up the question of grants for higher education, and that the time would come when the colleges, which had been doing their higher educational work for years, would be recognized for the excellence of the work by the making of grants to them. He also hoped that a special grant would be made to the collegiate department here, and to the others that might be established. A collegiate department had been established at Portage la Prairie, at the commencement of the present school year; and no doubt one would be established at Brandon, also one, in a year or two, at Emerson, and others at Rapid City and one or two other places. The speaker went on to refer to the importance of the education which the pupils were receiving. He spoke in particular of the utility of a knowledge of the French language, and observed that the study of this language was made compulsory upon all candidates for degrees in the University of Manitoba. Rev. Prof. Hart indorsed the complimentary remarks of the Superintendent of Education. He was very much pleased, indeed, with the results of the examination, and thought that they were very fortunate in having secured the services of a teacher so painstaking and successful as Mr. Fawcett. It was surprising that in so short a time under his charge such results should have been brought about. He (Prof. Hart) had co-operated to the extent of his ability with the Superintendent in getting a collegiate department established in Winnipeg. He had long felt that high schools should be established in this country to do their share in the work of higher education, which had hitherto been entirely done by the colleges, and was still to a large extent. The colleges wanted to get rid of this work, so as to be able to devote themselves to the special work for which they had been established. He was glad to see this department established, because it encouraged the study of the higher branches of languages, mathematics, and English. In establishing the classical department, he would not interfere with the efficient teaching of the English branches. He was in favor of pupils learning thoroughly what they did learn, rather than learning a little about many things. He would not advise the studying of Latin and Greek by those who only intended to pursue them for a short time; but thought it better that such should spend their time in perfecting their knowledge of the English branches. He considered, however, that there was no better agent for the training of the mind than the study of languages along with other branches by those who could pursue the study to a sufficient extent. He gave some interesting illustrations of the benefits to be derived from the study of languages. In concluding, he referred to the tendency of the educational system in Ontario as being towards the study of too many things, thereby confounding the ideas of education and instruction. He was glad to see that the tendency of the teaching in this school was to thoroughness. Mr. Fawcett briefly expressed his pleasure in having the examiners present.

## SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The following is the annual report of the building committee, adopted by the Protestant School Board. At the commencement of the year the following school buildings were in existence. Central school, Ellen street, 12 rooms, Carlton street school, Graham and Hargrave streets, 2 rooms, Argyle street school, Argyle and Common streets, 2 rooms, Dufferin school, Common and Patrick streets, 2 rooms, Louise street school, Market and Louise streets, 2 rooms. The rapid increase in the school population during the preceding year, from 900 to 1,610, showed the necessity of largely increased accommodation, the overcrowded state of the various school rooms provided indicated the necessity of prompt action. The board, in view of the above, proceeded to arrange for the erection of new buildings, and of additions to those already erected as follows. A new building of 8 rooms on the Central school grounds, a new building of 2 rooms on the corner of Euclid and Lusted streets, an addition to the Carlton street school of 4 rooms, an addition to the Argyle street school of 2 rooms, an addition to the Dufferin school of 2 rooms. These works have now been all completed, with the exception of such outside work as has to be deferred till warm weather. The cost of these buildings is as follows.

New Central School.....	\$19,000
Euclid Street School Building	5,000
" " " Site	3,850
Addition to Carlton Street School.....	12,000
" " " Argyle	5,000
" " " Dufferin	5,000

All these additional school rooms have been furnished with the most improved seats and desks at a cost of \$4,000. The total cost of the new buildings, with their furnishings, was \$54,000.

## WESTERN TEACHERS.

The Provincial Teachers' Association, at its last meeting, decided that it was advisable to hold its sessions annually, in the month of August, this being the time when the members could most conveniently attend. It was hoped by this arrangement to secure a larger attendance of the teachers of the province, and at the same time obtain assistance from eminent educationists who might be visiting the province at that time. It was also thought that the objects of the semi-annual meetings that have hitherto been held could be to a great extent accomplished by the formation of local associations throughout the province. The executive committee accordingly determined to make the change referred to in the time of holding the meetings of the provincial association. Opportunely at this juncture, a movement was entered into spontaneously on the part of the teachers of the western part of the province, for the establishment of an association for that district, and the Superintendent of education was invited to be present at the instituting of the organization. Ven. Archdeacon Pinkham, the superintendent, accordingly left for Brandon on Friday morning with this object in view, and was accompanied, at his request, by Mr. J. B. Somerset, inspector of the city schools. On arriving at Brandon the same day, they found nearly twenty teachers assembled, some of whom had traveled long distances to be present. One gentleman in particular had walked 25 miles, in the latter 15 of which he had been accompanied by another teacher. The association was duly organized, the following officers and an Executive Committee being appointed: President, Rev. Mr. Boydell, Brandon; Inspector, of Schools; Vice-President, Mr. Lamont, teacher, of Brandon; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Jeffry. The Association is to be known as the "Teachers' Association of Western Manitoba." It is purposed that the meetings shall be held alternately in Brandon, Rapid City and Minnedosa. On Friday evening Ven. Archdeacon Pinkham, delivered an address to the teachers and to a number of citizens, including the Mayor and several of the Board of Trustees, in the new school house, which is just approaching completion, and which is a credit to the young and ambitious city. The speaker made reference to the wonderful growth of the city of Brandon, instancing the fact that thirteen months ago he had been present on the occasion of the establishment of the school, when the attendance of pupils numbered about thirty. He contrasted with this the present large building of six rooms and the attendance of about 250 pupils. He further spoke of the resources which should be at the disposal of the board of education from the school lands of the province, and expressed the hope that the time would soon come when the funds from this source would be available for the support of education. Mr. Somerset followed with an effective address, which was very well received. On Saturday the newly formed association took up the subject of the teacher's practical work in the school-room. Mr.