

the high position occupied by Your Excellency, and that every day important public considerations engage your attention, we are convinced that everything which may tend to the benefit of our country must command your notice. The objects then contemplated by those who inaugurated this institution, we feel assured, will not be indifferently passed over. Established sixteen years ago, our school has sent forth into all parts of the Province a large number of trained teachers, and we who have now taken their places here trust that after due preparation we may be enabled in the future to train our pupils in loyalty to the Queen, respect for the institutions of their country, and a patriotism which will lead them to do all things for the benefit of their beloved Canada. [Miss Henderson then explained that the remaining paragraph had been prepared in the expectation that Lady Dufferin would have accompanied His Excellency.] Allow us to express the gratification we feel that Her Excellency the Countess of Dufferin has accompanied you on your visit, and also the sense we feel of the favor she has conferred upon us by so doing, and we earnestly pray that both you and Her Excellency may enjoy health and happiness during your sojourn amongst us. Of this you may be assured, that the honor you do us will not soon be forgotten by the pupils of the McGill Normal School.

His Excellency replied in the following

#### DISCOURSE :

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I can assure you it gives me the greatest pleasure to have had an opportunity of paying you this visit and of showing you by my presence here to-day not only what an interest I take in the general subject of education, but how much importance I attach to those particular functions which you will be shortly called upon to perform. In fact it would be almost impossible to exaggerate the responsibility which rests upon you, because after all it is upon you the teachers who are spread abroad in every village and district from one end of the country to the other, that must depend the due education of the great mass of the people. I am happy to think from what I have seen in Toronto and what I now see here that every precaution has been taken and every means has been furnished which man's ingenuity can contrive to fit you for the successful performance of your important task. It is indeed a matter of equal satisfaction to us all, that a number of young men and women, whose intelligence is printed on every lineament of their countenances, should year after year be sent forth from each of these parent establishments, spreading abroad in all directions sound teaching and everything that is necessary to develop the intellectual vigour and activity of the country. I do not know that there is any practical suggestion which it would be incumbent upon me on the present occasion to make to you, and yet there is one observation which I am almost compelled to submit, and that is, I would venture to remind you that in your future relations with your young pupils you will be careful to remember that your functions must not be confined merely to the development of their intelligence and the imparting of information, but that there is also another duty as important as either of these, and that is that you should endeavour to refine, discipline, and elevate their general behaviour, rendering them polite, well bred, deferential, respectful to their parents, to their elders and their superiors. Perhaps in a new country, where on every side we are surrounded by the evidences of prosperity, where a spirit of independence is an essential element of success, where at a very early age young persons are called upon to fight their own battle and to undertake their own responsibilities, it is very natural that there should be developed an

exuberant spirit of self confidence. Now what I would venture to ask you from time to time to impress upon your pupils is this, that although upon the one hand there is no quality more creditable than self respect, yet on the other hand the very idea of self respect excludes self assertion, and I say this the more readily because I confess if there is any criticism which I have to pass upon the youth of this new country,—I do not say of Canada especially, but of the continent of America,—it is that I have been struck by the absence of that deference and respect for those who are older than themselves, to which we still cling in Europe. Now, to use a casual illustration : I have observed in travelling on board the steamboats on the St. Lawrence, children running about from one end of the vessel to the other, whom more than once I have been tempted to take up and give a good whipping. I have seen them thrust aside two gentlemen in conversation, trample on ladies' dresses, shoulder their way about, without a thought of the inconvenience they were occasioning, and what was more remarkable, these little thoughtless indiscretions did not seem to attract the attention of their parents; when I ventured to make an observation on this to the people with whom I have been travelling, I was always told that these little peccant individuals came from the other side of the line. Well, I only hope that this may be so; at all events without inquiring too strictly how that may be, I trust that the teachers of the schools of Canada will do their very best to inculcate into their pupils the duties of politeness, of refined behaviour, of respect for the old and of reverence for their parents, that they will remember that a great deal may be done by kindly and wholesome advice in this particular, and that if they only take a little trouble they will contribute greatly to render Canada not only one of the best educated, most prosperous, most successful and richest, but one of the most polite, best bred, and well-mannered countries of the American continent.

The Governor General, being joined by the Countess, both took their departure a little after five o'clock.

—Gazette.

#### Lord and Lady Dufferin's Visit to the Catholic Commercial Academy, Montreal.

Yesterday (16th inst.) afternoon, at three o'clock, His Excellency, the Governor General and the Countess of Dufferin, drove up the Plateau, off St. Catherine street, to visit the Catholic Commercial Academy. Their arrival was preceded by that of the Mayor, Madame and Mlle Coursol. Several of the Catholic School Commissioners—the Board of which consists of Abbé Rousselot, Canon Leblanc, Mr. Belanger, Messrs. P. S. Murphy, S. Rivard, Judge Coursol and M. C. Desnoyers—were also present to receive him. As their Excellencies entered the vestibule, the Orchestra, in an adjoining room, struck up "God Save the Queen." The distinguished parties proceeded to the parlor where they divested themselves of their cloaks and mantles, and then visited the different classrooms of the first and second stories. They soon reached the third story, a splendid hall, beautifully wainscotted and ceiled with white pine, varnished to the mellow vinous color of old oak, and tastefully decorated for the occasion with flags and other appropriate emblems.

A raised platform, surmounted by a dais, was placed at one end of the hall, and to this the Governor and party were conducted, when the programme of exercises was immediately opened. A *pot pourri* of Irish melodies, quaintly enough labelled "Clandeboyne," was finely rendered by the orchestra. This orchestra is a little wonder in its way. It consists of five or six violins,