

mental culture, and consequently do not encourage students nor give them the necessary time to carefully think out a respectable amount of its vast store of forms. It is a great mistake to suppose that because French bears a certain resemblance to English there is no difficulty experienced by an Englishman in its acquisition, and consequently no culture afforded by its study. On the contrary, the differences between the two languages are sufficiently numerous and marked to exercise the talents of the ordinary student through a longer period than most people are able to devote to them. French is not so different from English as Greek, but that is no proof that French may not be more useful as mental culture than Greek.

Rather the reverse. French is not so difficult as to make it impossible for persons of average ability in a reasonable length of time to acquire a knowledge of it sufficient to enable them to read French books with profit, and it is difficult enough to call for the exercise of all the talents the most of us possess. But the very points of apparent resemblance between French and English are those which present the greatest difficulty. Many words in the two languages have the same orthography, but few of these have the same signification. It is rare indeed that words in English can be translated into French by words which bear the same outward appearance: the very resemblances are genuine pitfalls for the unwary.

To be continued.

THE CORNWALL HIGH SCHOOL—THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL, 1803.

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THIS school was begun by the Rev. John Strachan (afterwards Bishop) in 1803, and in 1807 became the Eastern District Grammar School. It remained under the management of Mr. Strachan until 1812. In 1806 he built the old wooden school-house on lot 18, south side of Second Street. It is still standing, but is now a stable for horses instead of a school for boys.

After Mr. Strachan's departure, John Bethune, one of his pupils, took charge of the school until 1815. Mr. Bethune was afterwards Dean of Montreal.

The school was vacant until 1817, when the Rev. Joseph Johnston, a Presbyterian minister from the north of Ireland, took charge of it until 1820. He was succeeded by the Rev. Henry James, who remained until 1822. The next master was the Rev. Harry Leith, a minister of the

Kirk of Scotland, who held the position until the autumn of 1826, when he went to Scotland to take charge of the parish of Rothiemay. After his departure the Rev. Hugh Urquhart, a minister of the Scottish Kirk was appointed Principal. He entered on his duties on the 18th February, 1827, and continued in this position until the close of 1840. Under his management the school maintained the high reputation which it had gained in the time of the Rev. Mr. Strachan.

The next teacher was Mr. Charles Beresford Turner, the son of an English Church clergyman. He taught for about three years, when he returned to England and entered the Church. His successor was Mr. Wm. Kay, who had been assistant to Mr. Urquhart. He was appointed in 1844 and held the position until 1858.