

SCHOOLROOM WORK.

The accompanying "Course of study" and the "List of pupils according to classes" will indicate the work accomplished in the several grades as well as the standing of each pupil. The progress made in all departments has been very satisfactory. The classes have been well graded and definite and distinct work set down for each, so that under these favourable circumstances the teachers have striven with success to bring the children to the degree of proficiency required.

The order of examinations, conducted on June 6th, 1890, by the Revds. J. Edgar Hill, M.A., J. MacGillivray, B.D. and J. A. Newnham, M.A., was so arranged as to bring to notice the careful classification of the pupils and the distinct advancement of each class over the preceding one, commencing with the lowest or preparatory year.

The examiners expressed themselves as highly pleased with the results, and their report gives in detail their impression of the work carried on in the school under your management.

A word or two concerning the system of instruction pursued may not be out of place. Like the large majority of the schools of Canada and the United States we follow what is known as the combined method; that is, we use what is the best of the sign, manual and oral methods to impart an education. We consider our pupils *moderately* well educated when they have such a command of the English language as will enable them to understand readily what they read, and to express their thoughts fluently and grammatically by writing. This degree of proficiency may be attained by using the sign and manual methods in imparting instruction. By their aids a much more rapid intellectual development is observable than if only the "Pure oral method" were adopted. Therefore while we agree with the votaries of the sign system that children will make more satisfactory and rapid progress by its means, yet we feel that it is of paramount importance to add to their knowledge that most valuable auxiliary to their intercourse with their fellowmen, viz: Speech and speech reading, and consequently we are glad to be able to report two-thirds of our pupils able to make a profitable use of these acquirements.

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