

Halifax Asylum for the Blind.

The Second Annual Report of this Institution shows that it has made a noble start, and is doing a good work. The increase of the number of those receiving instruction is very gratifying, being now 8 males and 3 females; 11 pupils in all. The pupils are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, and the various branches of a Common School Education. In addition, they are taught to do bead and wool work. The boys have been employed largely this year, for the first time, in cane work for chair-seats and backs, from which they can earn good wages. The making of brooms and brushes will be undertaken shortly; so that when a pupil leaves the Institution after a few years instruction he will be able to make a living honestly in the world.

The teaching staff is well supplied, and continues to be efficient in the discharge of the important duties devolving upon the teachers. Miss Ross, an experienced teacher, and a lady well fitted in every respect for the work, has now presided over the teaching department for some time, with ability and success. She is eminently qualified, both by disposition and accomplishments, for the duties of her office. She is well supported by Miss Dwyer as assistant; and together they discharge their duties to the entire satisfaction of the managers and every well-wisher to the Institution.

As to the material comforts, the Report speaks plainly. We give the following quotation on the subject:—

“The Domestic arrangements have been conducted by the Steward and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. Dilworth, with equal satisfaction. While the food supply has been good in quality, it has not exceeded 20 cents per day for each inmate, which shows that every care and economy has been used by them, and the Managers have every reason to believe that as much happiness and content exists under this roof, as falls to the lot of any similar Institution.”

The Treasurer's account, duly audited, shows Receipts this year from all sources to have been \$2,802 26, and Expenditure \$2,640 53: leaving a balance to credit of the Asylum in the year, of \$161 73, which will be absorbed in the payment for Books just received, and of a few outstanding accounts.

We heartily congratulate the managers of the Asylum upon the success which has crowned their efforts so far, and our earnest prayer is that God may continue to bless and prosper them in their good work.

Mr. Goodwill writes as follows under the date of May 28th:—

These Islands are beautiful as to situation, but they are very unhealthy, and life is very unsafe. The life of a man is no more regarded than the life of a brute. When we see poor miserable creatures cut down, one here and another there, by the club, bow-arrow, spear, or musket on each side of us, we wonder how good and gracious our Lord and Master is in preserving our lives that we are in no way molested. These dark and swarthy creatures are kind to us so far. But what is the kindness of the heathen? You may be well treated to-day and to-morrow you may be eaten up. All the heathen that I have met with even in Santo, are Cannibals, except two.

SOME interesting statistics have been published relating to the winding up of the affairs of the disestablished Church of Ireland. On the 1st of January, 1871, there were 2,380 of the clergy. Of these 1,459 were incumbents and 921 curates. On the 1st of January, 1873, all the surviving clergy had commuted, except ninety, of whom seventy-three were incumbents and seventeen curates. Between thirty and forty incumbents, availing themselves of the 67th section of the Act, excluded their glebe houses and land from commutation. Of the seventy-three non-commuting incumbents, about twenty have their lands let to tenants. There were 519 Nonconformist ministers on the 1st of January 1871, and all have commuted except thirty-five. The whole estimated property of the Church was sixteen millions, the compensation has amounted to about eleven millions, and it is expected that the advowsons will cost one million. The Treasury have advanced six millions to pay the compensation, and the Commissioners owe the Church Representative Body about four millions. It may be estimated that a surplus of about five millions will remain; but in order to realize it in a