

is to make the school room agreeable in aspect and this can only be obtained by the occasional renewal of worn out materials, and the purchase of those new appliances which are daily being added to facilitate the work of instruction.

In making these remarks I must not neglect to bear witness to the willingness of the Society on all occasions, to provide everything necessary for the efficient working of the school, but as the expense attending an entire refitting of the school apparatus, will involve a serious outlay, I thought it best to mention it specially in my annual report.

The school still consists of three departments,—the Boys', Girls', and Infants'; and as the children of the latter advance in years and attainments, they are drafted into the two former, and are thus to a great extent prepared for studies of a higher character. The Boys' School during the past year has lost the services of Mr. Empson. I must not neglect to speak in the highest terms of his kind and gentlemanlike conduct to all with whom he came in contact during the time he continued an agent of the Society; and also of the respect with which he is remembered not only by the children, but also by those who were his fellow workers in the cause of education.

The Boys' School at the present time is under the temporary but able charge of the Rev. T. Fyles, who at the request of the superintendent will continue to hold the school till the end of the session. I cannot refrain at the present time from expressing a fear, that the many changes that take place as regards the teachers of our Boys' School, will, in the end prove detrimental to its best interests. That this is a subject over which the Society can have little control, I am aware; neither can any one regret that those who have talent should use it for their own advancement; yet, still, I must not fail to state, that a frequent change of teachers, even where the most efficient are obtained, will at all times prove injurious to the school.

Since I sent in my last report, Miss Gamble has been appointed assistant of the Boys' School, and appears to give every satisfaction by her attention to the duties of her situation. Miss Gamble was formerly one of the scholars of our Girls' department, where her exemplary conduct won for her the esteem of her teachers. Having shown aptitude for teaching, she was advised to enter the McGill Normal School, where she successfully graduated and obtained a Model school diploma.

The Girls' School remains under the valuable care of Miss Middlemiss, who devotes herself entirely to the advancement of her scholars, and reaps her reward in seeing the continued and steady progress of her school. This year again she has had the satisfaction of seeing 5 of her scholars obtain diplomas from the McGill Normal School, and during the present session several girls from her school are competing for a like honor.