

dormitory as in other respects, in consequence of which the boys are better and more comfortably lodged and fed, and the expense is, at the same time, very materially reduced. The total cost of the new arrangements was between £4,000 and £5,000 of which the Dean and Chapter appear to have contributed £700, and the Queen the sums of £500 and £300, the balance being met by the charge of £5 per annum to the parents of each scholar, until the total debt should be paid off. At the same time, the Chapter undertook that the total expense of each scholar should not exceed £45 per annum. The debt upon the new buildings having been paid off, and it having been found practicable to make certain reductions in other respects, the charge to the parents of a Queen's Scholar, has been further diminished, and now is from £34 to £35 per head, of which, as previously stated, £17 are paid for tuition. Under the new arrangements, the dormitory is divided into forty distinct sleeping places, ranged on each side of a central passage, which runs the whole length of the building, and separated from each other by close permanent partitions of about eight feet high, and from the passage by partitions in which curtains are substituted for the panels.

There have been also provided under the dormitory, by closing up what was in the original construction of the building an open cloister, two large rooms, intended for the junior elections (or divisions of the Queen's Scholars) to read in, with a certain number of small private studies partitioned off, and each holding two of the upper boys with the exception of one which is occupied by the Captain alone. On the whole, the arrangements of the dormitory, &c., appear to afford adequate accommodation. The sanatorium connected with the dormitory, and intended for the use of the Queen's Scholars, was built at the time at which the alterations were made which are above adverted to, and is very well adapted for its purpose. It is under the charge of a resident matron. The Chapter have also recently formed a covered play-ground for the Queen's Scholars at a very considerable expense.

As regards board, the Queen's Scholars breakfast, dine, and sup in the College Hall.

The boys ordinarily have tea or coffee in College after their hall supper. This is made by the juniors, but is paid for by the boys of the two upper divisions (seniors and third election), and the lower boys have what remains of it after the upper boys have finished.

The immediate charge of the College rests, under the general superintendence of the Head Master, with the Under Master, who occupies a house immediately adjoining the dormitory, and communicating with it by a passage.

The punishments in use in the school are the rod, applied either to the back of the hand, or in the ordinary mode of flogging, impositions to be learned by heart or written out, confinement to Dean's Yard, and refusal of leave out. Flogging, according to Mr. Scott, has very much diminished in frequency, there not being ordinarily more than one or two-cases in a half-year. It takes place in a room in the back of the school, and is inflicted, so far as the Upper School is concerned, by the Head Master, in the presence of one boy besides the culprit. Boys in the Under School are punished by the Under Master.

The Master is aided in the maintenance of discipline by some of the elder boys. The four head boys on the foundation are called the Captain and Monitors, and are formally entrusted with authority by the Head Master in the presence of the school, a set form of words being used on the occasion; they are specially charged with the maintenance of discipline generally, and, in respect of Queen's Scholars particularly, have a recognized and limited power of punishing breaches of discipline, or offences such as falsehood or bullying. Over the Town-boys they have, according to Mr. Scott, "a certain authority also, but there is a jealousy about this."

Mr. Scott further states, that "the head boys are responsible for the lists of absentees when leave is given, and are charged with the duty of seeing that station is kept," i.e., that, "in play hours, the boys be in the play-ground, unless some reason has been allowed for absenting themselves."

Mr. Scott considers "some such powers as are possessed by the Monitors, highly conducive to discipline, as enlisting the elder boys in support of law and order," but he appears to think that the system is one which requires watching—an opinion in which the Commissioners concur.—*English Educational Times*.

At the Paris Academy of Sciences, a paper was read on a new method proposed by M. de Littrow, the director of the Imperial Observatory at Vienna, for determining longitude at sea. M. de Littrow's method consists in determining the hour by two circum-meridian observations of the sun, one about half an hour before, and the other about half an hour after the observation at noon, universally taken to determine the latitude. This method was put to the test during the voyage of the Novara round the world, for scientific purposes, and not only found to answer, but adopted definitely in preference to the old methods.

II. Papers on Colonial Subjects.*

1. THE COLONISTS IN COUNCIL.

The Parliamentary buildings at Quebec are remarkable neither for beauty nor extent. Built to supply a temporary want, on the ruins of the stately "palace of St. Louis," they represent expediency rather than right. The shadow of Ottawa and the Queen's decision was upon them from the beginning, dwarfing and diminishing all their proportions. The very architect must have felt that he was bringing forth a posthumous child, and he might very well have written over the front entrance—"Ichabod! Ichabod! the glory is departed!"

But if the plain brick and three storied building has nothing to recommend it, either to the eye or to the understanding, the site on which it stands may challenge comparison with any in the world. Hewn out, half-way down the historic cliff, it is impossible to conceive a more commanding position. Hereabouts once stood the primitive frame-house and garden of Samuel Champlain, the founder of the city; and yonder, at the foot of the cliff, its last invader, Richard Montgomery, fell, on the last day of the memorable year 1776. Above, the citadel towers—the Gibraltar of the North. Below, Mountain-hill street dips down to the broad river, as steep as a stair or a timber-slide. The grand battery buttresses the very walls, with its hundred grim guns keeping watch upon the wide estuary, the island of Orleans and the heights of Levis. On the inner side, the spires of many churches, and the huge bulk of the Laval University, occupy the spectator's attention. A nobler site, we say, for a national palace, could hardly be found in Christendom.

In the wing of this homely edifice, so splendidly surrounded, which has hitherto been occupied by their Canadian Lordships, the members of the Intercolonial Conference assembled, on the 10th of the present month. The attendance was more numerous than had been anticipated. Newfoundland, invited at the eleventh hour, sent two delegates; Nova Scotia was represented by five, Prince Edward's Island by seven, and New Brunswick by seven. Canada was represented by its full Council: so that the whole Conference consisted of thirty-three members. A Photographer of the city has transferred the entire group to card-paper; but a pen-and-ink etching may not be unacceptable to your readers at a distance.

The Conference room, formerly the reading room of the Upper House, was tastefully but plainly furnished for the occasion. A long, narrow table, covered with crimson cloth and littered with stationery, statutes, pamphlets and books of reference, ran down the centre of the room, leaving just space enough at either side for the chairs of the delegates. The chair occupied the centre, as at a dinner party; at one extremity sat the astute leader of the New Brunswick, and, at the other, the gallant chief of the Prince Edward Island Government. The presiding officer, Sir Etienne Tache, seemed as if formed by nature and experience, for his position. An old soldier, and a finished gentleman—he might fairly be called the Sir Roger de Coverley of Canada. Under a refinement of manners only too unusual in this age, he concealed a latent fire and determination of character, which showed, how much vehemence must have gone originally to his composition. He was supported on his immediate left by his colleagues Messrs. Cartier and Galt, and on his right by Messrs. McDonald, Campbell, and McGee. *Vis-a-vis* were the remaining six of the Canada twelve, Mr. Brown between Messrs. McDougall and Mowat, with Messrs. Cockburn, Langevin and Chapais, to their right and left. The upper end of the table was occupied by New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the lower end by the members from Prince Edward and Newfoundland. The four Provincial Secretaries, Messrs. Tupper, Tilley, McDougall and Pope, were the honorary Secretaries; but the Executive work was done by Mr. Hewitt Bernard, Chief Law Clerk for Upper Canada, who was accommodated with a desk in one angle of the room.

It might be invidious to particularize the *personnel* of the Canadians. Most of the gentlemen named are familiar both by appearance and antecedents to all their countrymen. A short description of the delegates from other Provinces, will be open to no such objection on the score of good taste.

Of all the delegates, those who took the most constant share in the general work of the Conference were the Nova Scotians. Their leader, Dr. Tupper, spoke, probably oftener, though never longer, than any other member. Always forcible, keen, and emphatic, with large stores of information, and an inexhaustible vocabulary, he made his influence felt, in every branch of every subject. Their was, however, a suppressed temptation to sarcasm in his tones,

* Public attention has lately been so much absorbed in the scheme for the confederation of Canada and the maritime Provinces, that we devote some space in this month's *Journal* to various papers on the subject,