

In the afternoon Mr. Crooks visited the St. George's Ward Primary School, the Central School East, the Victoria Ward Primary School, and the Central School West. At the latter, the model departments were closely inspected, the ordinary school exercises being proceeded with as if no strangers were present. Mr. Crooks briefly addressed the pupils, and complimented both teachers and pupils upon their proficiency in the various branches of education, and expressed his gratification at his visit.

Leaving the Model School, the party, which consisted of a number of the members of the School Board, went to the Wellington Ward Primary School, and a thorough inspection was made of it.

In the evening a reception was given to Mr. Crooks in St. James' Hall. It was crowded with the parents and friends of the pupils of the Public Schools. A number of distinguished gentlemen, members of Parliament and others, occupied seats on the platform. Mr. Robinson, the chairman of the Board, presided.

Some of the pupils were present, and were examined in Music, Arithmetic, History, Geography and Book-keeping. Mr. Le Sneur, chairman of the Committee on School Management, read an address to Mr. Crooks, who replied in a highly complimentary manner.

Mr. Crooks visited the Ottawa Normal School on the 18th of April, and was received by Prof. MacCabe, Principal of the institution, and the other members of the staff of teachers—Prof. Riddell and Prof. Baptie. Mr. W. G. Ross, M. P., and Mr. J. C. Glashan, Inspector of Public Schools, both on the Board of Examiners, were present.

Mr. MacCabe stated to the Hon. Minister of Education that they had not prepared to give him a formal reception by presenting an address, but welcomed him as the head of the Educational Department, paying an informal visit to one of the principal institutions under his care. The Normal School system had only been carried out during the past few years, having previously been doing common school work, and the result was very satisfactory. It gave students who had received a literary training a chance of going through a professional course at a very light expense. He returned thanks on behalf of the students, and other teachers, and himself, for the honour of the visit.

Mr. Crooks, in reply, said that it gave him great pleasure to meet them. The school here had been established on the recommendation of the late Superintendent of Education, Rev. Dr. Ryerson. It was intended to establish a model school as well, but the Normal was first necessary, hence it had been constructed. The department was very liberal, and gave every encouragement to teachers to take a professional course. The expense was only \$40 for a term. In England it cost £200. The school here has done its work as well as the one at Toronto, and the benefits of the Normal Schools would become more apparent year by year. He spoke of the County Model Schools as institutions which would do much good. Messrs. Glashan and Ross also addressed the students.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The schools and colleges are already preparing for the terminal examinations, the sessions of most of the colleges ending early in June. Dalhousie College closed on the 24th April, leading the way in this, according to the Scotch system. It has had a very successful session, and will turn out a good graduating class. One of its graduates, D. C. Fraser, of New Glasgow, who was two or three years ago President of the Dalhousie Alumni Society, was this winter appointed a member of the Legislative Council and of the Executive Council. The Premier, Hon. P. C. Hill, is a Fellow of the University of Halifax, and D.C.L. of King's College, Windsor; Hon. E. Farrell, also a member of the Government, is a Fellow of the University and a graduate of St. Mary's College, Halifax, so that educational interests ought to be, and are, well looked after by the Government.

The University examinations for the year begins this month, May, with the first M.B., second M.B., and M.D. examinations, followed in June by the Gilchrist Scholarship examination. Arrangements have been made by the University of London to hold its First and Second B.A. examinations here simultaneously with those in London.

Mount Allison Wesleyan College and Acadia College close in the first week in June. The former will send a large class to the examinations of the University of Halifax.

The Halifax Medical College closed its session on the 13th of April, when the degree of M.D., C.M., was conferred on Thomas Malcolm and D. M. Johnson. Messrs. N. E. McKay, Moore and Johnson passed the primary examination. Mr. T. Malcolm took the prize for best final examination, and Mr. McKay that for best primary examination, Mr. Moore obtaining honourable mention.

Dr. George Law Sinclair, has been appointed assistant-physician at the Provincial Hospital for the Insane.

A movement is on foot to establish a training ship at Halifax, for the education of homeless and destitute boys.

The 'Technological Institute has proved a surprising success, the classes being largely attended.

Professor George Lawson, M.D., Ph.D., has been delivering a course of lectures on Agriculture, which was well attended.

The High School site difficulty has been overcome, and building operations have begun.

According to the "Notarial Act" all candidates for admission to the study of the Profession of Notary must produce a certificate, signed by the Director of a Seminary or the President of a College, that they have gone through a complete course of studies, including Latin elements, syntax, method, versification, elocution and philosophy. It does not appear plainly what is included under the various subjects here specified, nor yet whether this group of studies constitutes a complete course, in the sense intended by the framers of the Act. From what can be gathered on the matter it would seem that the article in question had been made to meet the requirements of those institutions, where French methods of education prevail. Those institutions where English methods have the ascendancy would gladly substitute one or more branches of Mathematics for some of the literary subjects in the list.

The annual Convocation for the conferring of degrees in the Faculties of Law and Medicine in connection with McGill University was held on Saturday afternoon, the 30th of March, in the William Molson Hall, McGill College. The attendance was large. The Hon. C. D. Day, Chancellor of the University, presided. The number of graduates in Medicine was twenty-seven, in Law twenty-nine. The whole number of students during the session in both faculties was 161, of which number 90 were from Ontario. Of the twenty-seven graduates in Medicine, nineteen were from Ontario. The winner of the prize for the final examination was T. W. Mills, M.A., of Hamilton. The winner of the Elizabeth Torrance gold medal in Law was P. B. Migneault.

On the 11th of April a Convocation for the purpose of conferring the degrees in Medicine was held at Bishop's College, Lennoxville. Mr. K. W. Heneker, Vice-Chancellor, presided. The number of graduates was ten; number of students during the session forty-three. During the examination Drs. Paquet and Gibson, representing the College of Physicians and Surgeons, were present. The Vice-Chancellor and Prof. Lobley appealed for assistance to the College, which had recently suffered great losses by fire. Among those present on the dais was Sir F. Hincks.

The following are some of the chief provisions of the Act of last session to amend the Laws respecting Public Instruction. An appeal lies from the decisions of the Chief Superintendent to the Council of Public Instruction, or to one of the Committees. Each of the Committees can appoint sub-committees, and can alter or fix the date of the holding of the meetings of the Board of Examiners. The Lieut-Governor in Council can alter the limits of, or subdivide, existing school municipalities, and erect new ones. School Inspectors are ex-officio visitors of Academies and Model Schools, under the management of Commissioners, in their district of inspection. The Superintendent, and by his appointment the Secretaries of his department, the editor of the *Journal de l'Instruction Publique* and the School Inspectors have power to examine witnesses under oath in all enquiries respecting schools. Saturday is declared a holiday. The Superintendent is to have a copy of every engagement of teachers sent to him. The Principal of the Polytechnic School is to make an annual report. In accordance with this report the Superintendent is to grant the diploma of C.E. Commissioners cannot raise more than \$3000 in any one year for school building purposes; not more than \$1000 in any one year for the requirements of such superior schools as may be under their control. An Auditor of school accounts may be appointed by Commissioners. Minutes of proceedings of the sittings of Commissioners are to be kept. The account books are to be of the form and formulae established by the Superintendent, and not otherwise. Educational institutions not receiving aid from municipalities are exempt from taxation for municipal purposes. In case of absence the Superintendent can delegate his powers to one of the Secretaries of the Department.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Matters and things educational in this Province are pursuing "the even tenor of their way" notwithstanding the recent attempt at retrogression by discontinuing the Victoria High School.