

Martineau were requested to prepare essays for the next convention.

Moved by Mr Boudrias, seconded by Mr Cassegrain, and  
*Resolved*,—That the meeting be adjourned to the last Friday in August next, at 9 A. M.

### McGill Normal School.

The distribution of diplomas and prizes to the teachers in training at this Institution took place in the Hall of the school yesterday afternoon at 3 p. m. The Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau, the Superintendent of Education, presided, and there was a very respectable attendance of the friends of Education. On the platform were: Prince Dawson, Prof. Hicks, Prof. Davey, Prof. Robins, Prof. Andrews, Prof. Baynes, and the following members of the Protestant Board of Examiners: Rev. Dr. Jenkins, W. Lunn, T. A. Gibson, M. A., and A. N. Rennie. After prayer by the Rev. Dr. Wilkes

The Hon. the Superintendent delivered a very appropriate address, before the prizes were presented. He dwelt upon the advantage of good school teachers, which like a good mill would bring people to patronize it. The Council of Public Instruction had done what it could to extend the work of Education, but the matter was left to a great degree in the hands of the teachers themselves. He deprecated over zeal on the part of those charged with the education of the young. There was a good deal of diplomacy required in a school. The teacher must make himself beloved and popular,—liked by the parents as well as the children. He gave the teachers about to receive their diplomas some very sound and practical advice. And in conclusion, he congratulated the Principal and Teachers upon the work that had been done, and the success attending it for the last ten years. He referred to the penuriousness of the School Commissioners generally, who expected the Government was to pay the Teachers everything, and the people gave nothing. He had, in districts where he knew the people were able to pay, to exert his authority and teach the Commissioners a lesson. He had stopped the supplies, not a very pleasant way of doing business, or very agreeable to any of the parties concerned, but still the only way to bring them to their senses. It was his anxious desire to raise the character, the status and position of the Teacher, to the utmost of his power. Nothing would give him greater pleasure than to assist them in their good work—in their noble mission. He hoped they were up to the importance of it—that their hearts were disposed to fulfil it, and he prayed that they would have all success and all prosperity in the work they had taken in hand. (Applause.)

Principal Dawson read the list of Diplomas as follows, and he made the following statement as to the progress of the School: One diploma had been given early in the Session to a graduate of McGill University, under the regulation of the Council of Public Instruction, and forty would be given to day, making forty-one in all. Of these, three are for Academies, eight for Model Schools, and twenty-nine for Elementary Schools. The total number of diplomas granted by the School since its commencement in 1857 is 396, and the total number of persons who have received diplomas is 302. Of these more than 200 are known to be, or recently to have been, engaged in teaching, and it may be estimated that not less than five thousand children throughout Lower Canada are directly through their agency, at this moment, receiving benefit from this School; while the whole number that have received such benefits during the nine years of the existence of the School must be vastly greater. In this, the tenth year of the School, it may be allowable shortly to sum up the good it has done in various ways. It has greatly improved the qualifications of teachers; it has sent out as useful educators, fully equipped for their work, a large number of young persons who might otherwise have been of comparatively little value to Society. It has contributed largely to the establishment of good schools in localities which might otherwise have been destitute of such influences. It has offered an honourable profession for the daughters of widows and of persons reduced in circumstances, and for young women of more than average talent, and under the necessity of providing for their own support. It has contributed to raise the remuneration of the teacher, and the estimation of his services. In short, it has furnished a centre of educational light which has extended its influence throughout the whole extent of this Province; for we have had pupils from all parts of Lower Canada, and have sent teachers to its extreme limits East and West, North and South. It is the grand distinguishing characteristic of a school of this kind, that it trains minds, not for the pursuit of ordinary professions or for the prosecution of selfish ends, but for the advancement of the great work of education itself; and I feel the utmost confidence that our pupils go out from us with an enthusiastic desire to advance this great cause. It is well known to the Superintendent of Education, who has steadily fostered these schools,

that all that I have said of this school may be equally affirmed of the other Normal Schools of Lower Canada. To the influence of such schools, either directly or indirectly, the British Provinces owe the greater part of the good elementary education now being communicated, and on them to a great extent depend all rational hopes of its future progress. My first experience of Normal Schools was in visiting those of Massachusetts and New York in 1851, with the view of collecting information for the establishment of such a school in Nova Scotia. One of my last educational offices in that Province was in acting as a Commissioner for the foundation of its Normal School, which has been so successful under my friend Dr. Forrester. I had not been many weeks in office as Principal of McGill University, before it was intimated to me by a person high in authority in this country, that one of the things expected of me was to take an active part in instituting such a school here. I felt then that such a work would be most important,—scarcely second to that of the University; and from year to year I have become more and more fully convinced of the paramount importance of this work, and that well-appointed Normal Schools must be the vital centres of good education for any country; and that no expenditure, whether of the public money or of the higher kind of educational talent, is more profitable. I would further add, in regard to this school in particular, that its success is mainly attributable to the zeal and ability of its professors and teachers, who have throughout its whole existence worked with the most earnest and self-sacrificing energy for the benefit of our teachers in training; and have in this furnished one of the most important elements of the efficiency of such a school,—setting an example of disinterestedness and zeal to the young people under their care.

The Prizes were distributed by Hon. Mr. Chauveau as follows:

### LIST OF DIPLOMAS GRANTED IN THE MCGILL NORMAL SCHOOL. JUNE 1866.

#### ACADEMY DIPLOMA.

Edward H. Kranz, B.A., of Fielighsburg.  
 John Morrin, B.A., of Waddington.  
 Ezra Bull, of Bolton—hon. mention in Trigonometry.

#### MODEL SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

Duncan McCormick of St. Louis de Gonzague—Prince of Wales Medal; hon. mention in English Grammar, English Literature, Writing, Geometry, Natural Philosophy, Natural History, Agricultural Chemistry, Drawing and Latin.

James Alexander Hume of Leeds—hon. mention in Geometry, Natural Philosophy and Agricultural Chemistry.

Elora Curry of Oshawa—hon. mention in Mensuration and Arithmetic.

Letitia Barlow of Montreal—hon. mention in Reading and Latin.  
 Lucy Maria Gillies of Eaton—hon. mention in Agricultural Chemistry.

Henrietta Fuller of Newcastle.  
 Mary Grahame of Montreal—hon. mention in Reading.  
 Louisa Teresa Coates of Montreal.

### McGill Model School.

Yesterday afternoon the distribution of prizes took place at the Model School, Belmont Street, the examinations having previously taken place in the morning. Before the proceeding commenced the boys of the Model School Drill Association, together with the other boys of the school, were put through a course of drill, by their drill instructor. The Drill Association, with their carbines and grey uniforms, look very neat, and the whole of the boys went through a series of company and battalion movements in a very creditable manner, a large number of the friends of the boys being present. At 3 o'clock an adjournment was made to the upper hall of the building, where the pupils, of both the girls and boys departments, were assembled, together with a large number of their friends. The Chair was taken by Principal Dawson, and upon the platform were Professor Robins, Mr. McGregor, Mr. Fowler, and other teachers of the school.

The proceedings commenced by a song, sung very well by the younger children, Mr. Fowler presiding at the piano. The subjoined prize lists were then read, the proceedings being varied by several songs by the pupils, whose discipline and appearance we may add reflected every credit on their teachers.

#### PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

##### JUNIOR SECTION.

*Good Conduct*—Harry Woodcock, Samuel Grant, Barbara Slate, Annie McLaren, Ellen McLaren, Marian O'Grady, Martha Craig,