

nology in connection with Geography, and Philology in connection with Grammar. An elocution class was also formed and did good work. In English Literature our pupils have always done well, but last year the scope of their studies was broadened by the introduction in an elementary form of the history and character of French, Spanish and Italian literature. This session we have gone a step further and, in addition to the foregoing, have formed a select class of five pupils who are taking up the University Matriculation course with the prospect that, here and there, one may enter upon a career for which such preparation is essential. I must at the same time caution parents and others interested against allowing young persons, altogether inexperienced in the difficulties which inevitably lie in the path of their ambition, to throw up practical, and, as experience has demonstrated practicable pursuits for visionary ideas of intellectual achievements and fame. That, so far as passing an examination is concerned, the way may be smoothed and that, with a certain outlay of money on private tuition, a blind person may secure his degree need not be questioned. But all are not equal to the close and laborious application necessary to the attainment of that end, many cannot command the necessary funds, and then the question arises what will the blind B. A. do for himself when he has secured that coveted distinction. He may achieve honor, professional or political fame, nothing, I grant, is impossible to energy and genius, but he may turn out after all nothing but a book peddler, the least desirable of decent occupations to which a blind man can resort and envy his precarious lot the blind organist, pianist, music teacher, piano tuner or willow worker. It may, it is true, be laid down as an axiom that no blind man knows, nor do his friends know, what he can do with proper instruction and appliances; but equally true is it, that he never realizes the difficulty of doing what he has to do until he has to face the doing of it. For a detailed account of the work done by the Literary Classes the reader is referred to the Examiners' report appended.

THE MUSIC CLASSES.

The studies of the Music Classes proceeded with unbroken regularity during the last session and have been renewed with much spirit since the pupils re-assembled. A pleasant event, and one in which the institution may feel itself honored, was the winning by Miss M. A. Callaghan, one of our music teachers, of the gold medal at the second year examination for the degree of Bachelor of Music at Trinity College. This fact, among others, indicates the high class of instruction received by our pupils. One of the latter is now taking a course of musical study in the hope in due time of following in the steps of his accomplished teacher. Three of our female pupils have returned and one is yet expected to rejoin us, principally with the object of gaining further training and practice as music teachers. One of them also instructs a junior class in Theory. Another of these young persons is also under Mr. Williams attaining a high degree of proficiency as a church organist. Our organ, piano and violin classes are all in a very encouraging state and quite full. The whole of the pianos were carefully examined at the end of the late session and those needing it were thoroughly repaired. One or two, however, have, I fear, little chance of being useful for more than the present session. One new instrument will be required, and I trust the recommendation of Professor Aldous in favor of supplying the clarinet stop to the pipe organ will be favorably regarded.

THE TUNING CLASS.

This class contains the same number of pupils as did the class of last session. I have already noticed the favorable auspices under which two of the piano tuners recently graduated. The reports we hear of our ex-pupils of the tuning class are almost uniformly encouraging.

THE WILLOW SHOP.

Mention has been made of the three pupils who have graduated since my last report from this department. There are at present thirty pupils, some five or six in excess of the

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