

**DIGNY CO.**—Rev. P. J. Filluel writes: The state of education in this County is becoming more and more satisfactory. The people of Westport deserve special commendation for the educational spirit which they manifest; and fortunately they could not have a better representation of the excellence of the Normal School system, than they now have in the person of Mr. B. Harvey. It is satisfactory to know that the sections competing for the superior school honors, have put their houses in a very creditable state of repair, and they are now all well equipped with maps, globes, diagrams, &c. The blackboard surface in one school is 374 square feet, and this has been constructed with proper materials on the lathing. The Trustees are about to increase even this area.

**CAPE BRETON COUNTY ACADEMY.**—"C. H. II." in the *Cape Breton News*, gives the following account of the late examinations at the County Academy:—

The half yearly Examination of the several departments of the **SYDNEY ACADEMY** took place on the 25th, 26th, 29th and 30th ultimo.

The attendance of pupils at each of the Schools was good; 80 per cent. of the whole number enrolled were present,—while at the previous Examinations only 50 per cent. attended. A much larger number also, than usual, of the parents and friends of the children were present, evidencing an increased interest in the prosperity of Schools; and all the clergymen resident in town (with one exception) showed their interest by their attendance and addresses. It was very gratifying to have them exert their great influence in favor of our educational efforts, and we hope that in future they will aid the good work by more frequent visits to the schools. The law contemplates this, and, as a compensation, exempts them from sectional taxation on property under the value of \$2,000.

At the Primary School (taught by Miss Hill) out of 67 children on the register, 44 were present, notwithstanding the rain. The exercises were varied by recitations, and gave great satisfaction to the visitors present.

At the Intermediate Department (taught by Miss Harrington) 45 scholars attended out of 51. The neat appearance of the room, and the bright clean faces, and neat dresses of the little ones, made a very pleasing impression; while their earnestness in the exercises showed that their Teacher had succeeded in interesting them in their studies.

At the Preparatory Department (taught by Mr. Morrison), out of 36 scholars, 26 attended. A very great improvement was visible in this school, and the pleasure of the many visitors was very much enhanced by some very good singing by the young Misses.

At the High School (taught by Mr. Creel), 21 pupils were present—only two being absent. The improvement in this Department was more marked, perhaps, than in any of the others.

Classes were examined in Geography, British North American and General History, Reading, Grammatical Analysis, Arithmetic—date and mental, Geometry—(as far as the 6th book of Euclid,) Algebra, Mensuration, French, Latin, Greek, &c.

Several original essays of great excellence were read, and an amusing Dramatic Dialogue was spoken in capital style by five or six of the boys.

Revs. Dr. McLeod, Dr. Uniacke, J. Quinan, P. Prestwood, and W. B. Rogers, gave addresses, and expressed their gratification at the proficiency manifested by the pupils in the various branches studied, and the good order and attention to the work in hand.

It must be evident to every person present at the examination, that the schools are now established on a good basis, and that under the present Educational Act, and with the competent, earnest, painstaking Teachers now in charge of our schools, we have before us a bright educational future. Most of the difficulties incident to the inauguration of a new system, involving such radical changes, have been surmounted, and the vast improvement of the past term is but the earnest of still greater and more pleasing progress.

A FEW YEARS AGO some forty children were crowded into a private room, with no adequate ventilation, and about 60 cubic feet of air for each scholar. Now, 190 children have four large, well-finished, well-lighted, and well-ventilated school-rooms, furnished with the very best patent desks and seats, and about 160 cubic feet of pure air for each. "Look on this picture, and then on that," and if we value the COMFORT and HEALTH of the youth of our town; if we wish them to be intelligent, well-informed and well behaved members of society—fitted to take our places, as one after another of us is called away from the scene of action; if we desire our town to increase in refinement, wealth, and respectability; let us throw no obstacle in the way of the present admirable school system,—but rather let us try who can do most to develop its excellences, and to derive from it these great educational, moral and material benefits which it is so well calculated to bestow upon those communities which give it a fair and honest trial.

**DALHOUSIE COLLEGE.**—The *Presbyterian Witness* gives the following interesting account of the closing examinations in connection with Dalhousie College:—

The Session of 1866—7 of Dalhousie College, was publicly closed on Wednesday, in the presence of a very large and influential gathering of citizens and others. Among those present we observed His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, the Chief Justice, the

Provincial Secretary, Hon. Mr. Shannon, Dr. Avery, Hon. Mr. Holmes, John Tobin, Esq., M. P. P., Rev. R. Sedgewick, Rev. Dr. King, Rev. Dr. Bayne, Rev. P. G. McGregor, Rev. Canon Cochran, Rev. W. Maxwell, Rev. G. M. Grant, Rev. Thomas Sedgewick, &c. After prayer by Principal Ross, a statement of the labours of the session was read by Professor McDonald. Prizes were awarded as follows:—*Fourth year*,—Classics, A. Ross, Roger's Hill, Pictou; Chemistry, the same; History and Modern Languages, Aubrey Lippencott, New Glasgow; Ethics, John H. MacDonald, Cornwallis. *Third year*,—Metaphysics, Thomas Christie, Yarmouth; Classics, Jas. Creighton, Halifax. *Second year*,—Logic, E. Miller; Classics, the same. *First year*,—Rhetoric, J. Silver, Halifax; Classics, the same; Mathematics, Mr. Lindsay, Pictou; second prize, H. Scott. The Chief Justice's First Prize, \$25, for general good conduct, was awarded by his fellow-students of the third and fourth years to Mr. John Gow; and the second Prize, \$15, was awarded by the students of the first and second years to Mr. A. C. McKenzie; Rev. G. M. Grant's Prize of \$20 for the best Essay on the Genius of the Roman People, was awarded to Mr. Aubrey Lippencott.

The degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred, with the usual interesting ceremonial, on the following students, Messrs. Joshua Burgess, Alexander Ross, Aubrey Lippencott, J. J. Cameron, John H. MacDonald, Saml. McNaughton, Edwin Smith, David Smith, and Robert Sedgewick. Professor MacDonald addressed the graduates briefly in Latin. The Principal also addressed them in the same language, and also in English.

The students and the audience were then addressed by Dr. Tupper and the Chief Justice, with their usual eloquence and good taste. Dr. Tupper referred in strong terms to the utter worthlessness of wealth except as a means of doing good, and justly characterized the pursuit of wealth merely for its own sake as degrading and injurious. He expatiated on the career that is now open to the able and educated young men of Nova Scotia. The Chief Justice dwelt with much earnestness on the duty of continuing their studies after leaving College. Stewart Campbell, Esq., M. P. P., and John Tobin, Esq., M. P. P., were each called upon, and spoke each in his happiest vein. Rev. G. M. Grant (who is a Governor of the Institution and most assiduous in his efforts to promote its interests) made an earnest appeal for funds to secure a Library for the College. He said he had already the offer of \$100 from two men. He would, if authorized and enabled to do so, exert himself during his proposed visit to Britain to secure books on the best terms. Mr. Tobin very generously subscribed \$200 on the spot. Mr. E. Boyd offered \$25. Mr. Sinclair \$100. Dr. Tupper \$100. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor then addressed the students and the audience in a very felicitous style. We regret that thousands were not present to hear and profit by the admirable advice which he tendered. He urged parents in Halifax to send their boys to this College instead of allowing them to saunter idly in the streets. He was sure that if they were trained here they would not be found on the Sabbath standing at the corners smoking cigars and staring under ladies' bonnets. He would remind the wealthy men around him, and especially members of the Legislature, of the Scripture truth, that he that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord; and it is equally true that he that gives or votes money for education lends it to the Lord. His Excellency again and again urged on parents in Halifax the duty of availing themselves largely of the advantages offered by this institution. He then said he was sorry he should have to "extinguish" his good friend Mr. Tobin, but he could do so, and gave \$400 towards the Library. Mr. Tobin quietly rejoined, "I only hope your Excellency will extinguish me three times over." Other gentlemen subsequently put down their names for handsome sums, and we have no doubt that a fair beginning will now be made towards securing a College Library.

This closing of Dalhousie was on the whole the most pleasant meeting we have yet seen in connection with the institution. The only drawback was the overcrowded state of the room. In future the closing ceremonial must take place in some large Hall. Professors and Students and Governors, and the Governor, all appeared to the best advantage. In giving the Prizes to the successful competitors, some of the Professors gave short addresses. Dr. Lyall's addresses to the students who won the prizes in his classes were exquisite.

"DOMINION" PRIZES.—J. S. Archibald, of Halifax, N. S., received the Prince of Wales Gold Medal, and C. C. Stewart, of Musquodoboit, N. S., the Sir William Logan Gold Medal, at the late competition of the graduating class of McGill College, Montreal.

**SCHOOL PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF CONFEDERATION.**—The following are the provisions having reference to Education in the Act for the confederation of the British North American Provinces:

93 Section. In and for each Province the Legislature may exclusively make laws in relation to education, subject and according to the following provisions:

1 Nothing in any such law shall prejudicially affect any right or privilege with respect to Denominational Schools which any class of persons have by law in the Province at the Union.

2 All the powers, privileges, and duties at the Union by law