

EXAMINATION REPORT.



The Annual Examination of this Institute was held on the 11th of this month. The examiners were the Rev. Mr. Mowatt, of Erskine Church, Rev. Mr. Bushell, of Westmount, and the Rev. Henry Kittson, of the Church of the Advent. The day was beautiful, the grounds around this most favorably-placed institution were putting on their spring attire, and the whole happy household seemed to feel the joyousness of returning summer, added to by the bright prospects of coming holidays.

The examiners expressed themselves well pleased with the result of their inquiries. They were particularly struck with the good handwriting and correct spelling of the pupils, attainments which scholars of other schools often fail to reach.

The pupils gave evidence of being familiar with the geography of the world, the history of their own country, as well as the sacred scriptures and the elementary problems of arithmetic. The answers to questions put by the examiners were given promptly and with intelligence showing that their work is not altogether mechanical, but that there is a considerable amount of mental training as well. This is evident from the marked improvement in the appearance of some of the pupils after a few months of the teachers' influence and training.

Few people are aware that there is here a department for the blind. The pupils of this class are at present few in number, but these receive the most careful attention. Their reading in raised lettered books was done with considerable ease and fluency ; difficult sums in arithmetic were correctly worked on a device which is as ingenious as it is simple. Music also receives attention in this department, one of the pupils being able to read music copied by himself with a machine devised for that purpose.

The mechanical departments were visited, where printing, carpentry, shoe-making and chair-caning are taught to those who have a taste in that way. Three of the former pupils are now working in the Government printing offices at Ottawa.

The oral work of the Institute must not be forgotten. Mrs. Ashcroft, by dint of perseverance and a patience that is beyond all praise, is able to show the best results not only among children of defective hearing and speaking, but even among those who have been always and wholly deaf. After a most