

lastic tone of feeling which one should bring to the performance of such a task. But first let me congratulate you, especially Father Superior on the creditable and cheering display of this day. This establishment, I understand has now seen its twentieth year, having had its modest beginning in 1847, with from 30 to 40 scholars, and staff of two priests and six Brothers of the order of the Holy Cross lately arrived from France where the order itself was founded no longer ago, than the year 1820. At first it was known as the Industrial Academy of St. Laurent, and the College Charter itself bears date only since 1863, but it is pleasant to be able to see by the College list of this day, that the pupils now number already 252, of whom I understand 145 reside on the foundation; I feel therefore, Father Superior, that I may very justly in the name of this audience, this vicinity, and this country, offer our earnest congratulations to you, to your learned assistants, and to the wide-spread, though youthful, order of the Holy Cross not only on what this house of St. Laurent already is, but on what more it promises with time to come. And you, ye happy youth of Canada, how shall I congratulate you,—you who have on all sides, under every denomination, so many seminaries of learning open to you, and so many of whose parents are enabled by the exercise of prudence and industry to afford you the advantages of that second blessing of our mortal existence—first, reason—next, the right use of reason. This occasion, ladies and gentlemen of the audience, leads me to make an observation or two on the great number, the extent and variety of organization, of the teaching orders within the Catholic Church—those orders, I mean, which make the education of youth either their principal or their sole object. I do not know any one book which gives anything like an adequate idea of their number and variety; but not to go back too far—to the antique times of St. Benedict and St. Ursula—if we only had a record of the achievements of those which have been founded within the last two or three centuries; the illustrious orders of St. Ignatius, of St. Vincent, of St. Joseph Calasaneus, of the Venerable La Salle; the female orders of the Sacred Heart, of Lorette, the Ursulines the Presentation and Visitation Nuns, the Sisters of Mercy, not to forget that celebrated Order founded among ourselves here on the opposite slope of our own mountain, by the heroic maiden of Troyes—Margaret Bourgeoys; if we had, in one *coup d'œil* the achievements of these Orders, we should have before us one of the most glorious spectacles all history can present to the consideration of the contemplative mind. It is not for me to presume to pronounce the eulogy of so many illustrious institutions, to which we must now add the Order of the Holy Cross; but I may, perhaps, be allowed to observe, as a layman, that the great source of vitality and tenacity of these orders as compared with mere voluntary associations or individual efforts, such as those of Pestalozzi and Lancaster, lay in this, that they constituted the teaching office a life long religious duty; that they solemnized the calling of the educator by the Orders of the Priests, at least by a solemn dedication of the teacher to God—even where priestly orders were inadmissible. There has been great zeal for education manifested in all Christian countries, especially of late years, though the zeal was not always, I am sorry to say for Christian education. Nothing can be said too high in praise of what has been done by associated and individual effort or the spread of knowledge in Europe and America; but the ambitious lay teacher very naturally went to the bar or some other profession; the most amiable and accomplished school mistresses, quite as naturally, got good husbands, and so the secular ranks were constantly deprived of their principal ornaments. In our institutions the experience is different; here the profound conviction, that the formation of youthful hearts and minds is God's work more than man's work has sustained members of the teaching orders through privations and trials with a buoyancy that no other motive could ever afford. Ladies and gentlemen, parents and kinsfolk of these young people, I congratulate you heartily on the spectacle of this day; and lastly, if you will allow me, Sir I will congratulate myself and my personal friends who accompanied me here, that we, also have had the good fortune of being present.

The hon. gentleman sat down amid loud applause.

Dr. MEILLEUR gave an interesting address on the "liberty of teaching," in which he adverted to the advantages enjoyed by the different schemes of the community in Canada, where each had the privilege of following out its own ideas of education. The speaker concluded amid loud applause.

The Rev. Mr. CASSIDY, of Brooklyn, N.-Y. now spoke in an interesting and earnest manner, of the necessity of religious instruction as a part of education, and shewed the consequences which were likely to result where this was not observed. His address was warmly received.

The proceedings having been brought to a close, the majority of the pupils dispersed, and were soon bowling along the country roads with their friends and parents towards home, the front of each vehi-

cle being barricaded as a rule with a trunk large enough to accompany a lady to Sarptoga.

In conclusion, we may state that an excellent dinner was provided by the authorities of the college at which the Hon. D'Arcy McGee and a number of other gentlemen were present. As the afternoon advanced; the last carriage rolled away from the college, leaving the glittering spires of St. Laurent in the distance the splendid appearance of the valley from Côte des Neiges Hill, with its healthy crops refreshed by the late rains, affording an agreeable contrast to the dusty road.—*Montreal Gazette*.

The College of Lachute.

July 1st was the birthday of our College—'Lachute College'—that day 11 years old, and it was the birthday of the "Dominion of Canada," then but a few hours old.

At half past nine the Common Council, the College Directors, the School Commissioners, the Clergy, and a few of their friends met at the Mayor's residence, when the day was ushered in by singing "God save the Queen" in a body. After partaking of refreshments kindly offered by the Mayor, we proceeded in procession to the College which had been very tastefully and beautifully decorated for the occasion. The main entrance to the ground had been arched with the evergreens of the forest, surmounted by the Union Jack; in the middle, over the College paling was erected the motto "Welcome to Lachute," in beautiful moss letters, and over the main entrance was the motto "God Save the Queen." On entering the College Room, where the distribution of prizes took place, it was found very pleasantly ornamented with wreaths and festoons, and trees of evergreens and branches of flowers, which in our fine village are found in abundance. At one end of the room was a platform, whereon the President, Directors, Principal and School Commissioners were seated; At ten the "College Commemoration" was commenced with prayer by the Rev. J. Mackie. Our venerable and worthy President of Directors presiding. The meeting was then addressed by the President.

He was followed by the Chairman of the School Commissioners, and the Chairman of the day's proceedings, Mr. Burroughs, reading the reports of the Board of Examiners, upon the results of their examination of the College on the 26th ult. The three examiners were the Rev. R. Lonsdell, M. A., Bishop of St. Andrew's and Rural Dean; Rev. J. Mackie and Rev. J. Kilgour. These reports spoke very favourably of the College, of the thoroughness, of the instructions, of the progress of the pupils, and of their moral and polite deportment. They spoke also very flatteringly of the energy displayed by the Principal of the College, Mr. G. H. Drewe, of the success which was evidently crowning his efforts, of the control he had evidently obtained over the affections of his disciples, and the ambition he had infused into them to master their studies.

After reading the prize list which followed, the Principal gave an oration in honour of the day, "Dominion Day," "Commemoration Day," closing with an address to his pupils upon the close of the term and their duties during the ensuing vacation.

S. Bellingham, Esq., the former member of our County of Argenteuil, shewed the interest he still felt by presenting the first prize to Master John Christie, of the 5th Form, to whom it was awarded, accompanying it with a few remarks, which showed the deep interest he felt in the county and in the College itself, of which he had been looked upon as the founder, he having obtained the charter for it when he represented the county in Parliament. Mr. G. Thompson the Secy., Inspector of Schools for the County, expressed himself highly pleased with the College. He contended that it should receive the public support—that it was an institution that, from the salubrity of its location, the cheapness of its board and education, would be considered as a boon to many a city family desirous of educating their children liberally, yet economically, and with a due regard to health, and away from the excitements and temptations of a large city.

A vote of thanks was then offered unanimously to S. Bellingham, Esq., for the very handsome present of Scott's Works, beautifully bound, gilt-edged and lettered, which he had presented to Lachute College Library.

The remainder of the day was spent in festivities of various kinds.—*Condensed form the Montreal Gazette*.