

4. Steps taken to procure Premises for the Normal and Model Schools.

In my "Special Report" of June, 1847, I detailed the steps which had been taken to procure and fit up the Buildings and Premises formerly occupied as the Residence of the Lieutenant-Governor in Upper Canada, the appointment of a Head-Master, and the selection of suitable Apparatus for the illustration of Lectures in Chemistry and Natural Philosophy. In the Statistical part of this Report, Table G., will be found an account of receipts and expenditures of moneys granted for the Establishment and support of the Normal School. The legislature made a special grant of £1,500 for "procuring and furnishing suitable Buildings." There yet remains to be provided, under this head, the fitting up of the Playground and Gymnastic apparatus in connection with the Model School. It will be seen that there was expended, under this head for the year 1847, the sum of £1,002 12s. 10½d. There were considerable contingent expenses in procuring proper Apparatus, Books, etcetera, at the establishment of the Institution, which will not soon occur again. The Premises and Apparatus are admirably adapted to the objects of the Normal School, as your Excellency was pleased to state, on your personal examination of them during your welcome and gratifying visit to Upper Canada, in the autumn of 1847.

The Establishment consists of the Provincial Normal School proper, and the appended Model Schools. The former, the School of Instruction, by Lecture; the latter, the School of Instruction, by Practice. The pupils of the former are Teachers-in-training; the pupils of the latter are 120 children from the City of Toronto, who pay two-pence a week each. In the former two Professors, or Masters, are employed; in the latter there are two regularly Trained Teachers, under the superintendence of the Head-Master of the Normal School. In the Model Schools each of the Students of the Normal School, under proper oversight and direction, teaches an hour a day, during three days in the week; so that from six to twelve Pupil-Teachers are employed in the Boys' Model School during the greater part of the time. The Model School is designed to be a practical exemplification of the system of school teaching and discipline practiced in the Normal School.

The Model School was opened in February last, (1848,) and the applications for admission into it have, from the beginning, been far more numerous than could be entertained.

5. The Opening of the Normal School in November, 1847.

The Normal School was opened on the first of November 1847, in the presence of a large number of influential Gentlemen from different Municipal Districts of Upper Canada. After a brief explanatory statement by the Chief Superintendent of Schools, the Head Master, (Mr. T. J. Robertson,) delivered an admirable introductory Address, on the "Importance of Normal School Instruction," and the system intended to be pursued in the Upper Canada School; and Mr. H. Y. Hind, (late Scholar of Queen's College, Cambridge), Mathematical Master and Lecturer in Chemistry and Natural Philosophy, gave an able and lucid explanation of the subjects of instruction appertaining to his own department, and of their adaptation to the pursuits and employments of the people of this Country. Twenty students presented themselves, with the requisite certificates of character, etcetera, at the opening of the Normal School; but their number increased in a few weeks to fifty-four.

The first Session of the Institution was closed in the middle of April, (1848,) by a public examination, which, notwithstanding the disadvantages incident to the first session of a new Institution, gave the highest satisfaction to the many distinguished and Intelligent Gentlemen who witnessed it, and received the unanimous and warm eulogiums of the public press.

The second, or present, Session commenced in the middle of May, 1848; and there are now 118 students in attendance, of whom 20 are Females;—a Female Department having been established at the commencement of this Second Session. Upwards of

nl
No

Or

Ph

Hi

wit

ing

Ma

the

Bin

and

Ele

in t

vari

Und

isol

and

Che

refer

the

the

on t

Mast

as a

imme

rural

comp

of W

Comm

been

I

is of

under

reason

thinkl

tion c

conne

head

and st

is mos

appert

*On

sanctio

System

Volume

the

adopted

teachin

Instruc

Educati