

The motto of the English Journal is: "*Labor vincit omnia*," that of the French Journal: "*Rendre le Peuple meilleur*," but both exhibit their chosen *cri de guerre* encircled by the Canadian emblems of the beaver and the maple-wreath; within which, and resting against the symbol of our common christian faith, is the open volume, inscribed: "religion, science, liberty, progress," as the means which,—notwithstanding the differences separating those of English and French language and origin from each other,—they thus acknowledge to be, each and all of them, indispensable as the allies and coadjutors of national education, by which all difficulties must be overcome, and all obstacles removed which would hinder the making of the people better. That these, the true elements of a people's greatness and prosperity, may advance simultaneously as the fruits of the great blessing of a wise national education throughout every section of our Province, is, and must be the earnest desire of every one who believes that the "people are destroyed for lack of knowledge;" but that "righteousness exalteth a nation, and sin is a reproach to any people."

We would gladly see both of these Journals obtain an extensive circulation in our upper section of the province. The more we learn to take an interest in all which pertains to the welfare of each other, the better will it be for our common country and the success of all in the progress of which we have a mutual advantage to reap, and we gladly cherish the belief that the common ground on which we can meet and exchange sympathy is neither narrow nor straightened. Views of the Jacques Cartier Normal School, illustrate the first number of the one Journal, and of the McGill Normal School the other. Already papers are introduced as the first of a series, on questions interesting to all engaged in education; while another series devoted to "the Colleges of Canada, begins with the history of Laval University, and with a view of the extensive but singularly unacademic looking range of buildings which furnish accommodation for that Institution at Quebec. This will be followed by similar notices of the other educational institutions of the Province, and is not to be confined exclusively to Lower Canada. Incidents of early Canadian history are also introduced in a pleasing style, and addressed as these are in the *Journal de l'Instruction Publique* to those of French origine, they are presented in a form calculated to give piquancy and interest to us, who, when considering them at all, are apt to overlook some of the minuter points best calculated to awaken an interest in our historic past. Altogether we gladly welcome these Education Journals as most useful and acceptable additions to the periodical literature of the Province.—*Canadian Journal of Industry, Science and Art.*

Our Normal Schools.

We publish in this number a report of the proceedings had at the close of the first session of the Jacques-Cartier and McGill Normal Schools.

Our readers will see that 7 diplomas for model schools and one for elementary schools were granted to male teachers at the Jacques-Cartier Normal School, while eleven diplomas have been given to female pupils and five to males in the McGill Normal school, the latter all for elementary schools.

It is well to account for the granting of those diplomas after a session of little more than four months. The young ladies in the McGill Normal School, had all been pupils of the Colonial Church and School Society's Normal School which has been blended with the new school. Nevertheless it is expected that most of them will not be satisfied with their elementary school diploma, but will remain one year more in order to obtain a model school certificate.

In the Jacques-Cartier school, the gentlemen who have obtained the diplomas were all actual teachers who had obtained elementary school diplomas from some board of examiners. Their object in attending the normal school was to perfect their studies, to become aware of the improvements in the art of teaching, recommended and adopted by the department of public instruction, to add to their experience

and finally to deserve and obtain a diploma for a model school. This, under the able tuition of the professors, seven of them have been able to achieve, and we must say that the examinations though conducted with the utmost care and strictness, have given in all these cases, a most satisfactory result.

The fact that so many teachers have attended the Jacques-Cartier normal school, during its first session, is one of the best augur, for the improvement of our elementary schools and for the success of the great undertaking of normal school instruction. It is evident that a more prompt and a more direct remedy, could not be applied to any deficiencies that may exist in our present schools than the improvement of the present body of teachers; and if the good example set forth by those who have attended this year some at great sacrifices and inconveniences, is followed by others, there is no doubt that a remodeling of our system will be effected in less time than could have been imagined.

It has been thought necessary to enforce a strict discipline in the schools at the outset and a strong view of that necessity having been taken both by the Principal and by the Superintendent, it has resulted in the expulsion of one of the pupils of the Jacques-Cartier normal school.

The Laval school at Quebec, having been in operation, only during two months, though the vacations have necessarily taken place on account of the great and intolerable heat of the month of July, there has been no public examination of that school, and as one may well imagine no conferring of diplomas. The principal speaks most cheerfully of the good conduct and good dispositions of the 20 pupils who have attended, all of whom intend returning after the vacation.

The total number of pupils who have attended the normal schools during this session is 102 and about 300 have frequented the model schools attached to them. These numbers will be greatly increased so soon as the girls department of the Laval and Jacques-Cartier normal schools will have been organised. This we expect will take place before the end of the year.

Conferring of Diplomas and Distribution of Prizes at the Jacques Cartier Normal School.

The first session of the Jacques Cartier Normal School, was closed on the 16th of June last, by a public sitting for the conferring of diplomas and the distribution of prizes.

The meeting was presided over, by the Hon. the Superintendent of Education, supported by the Revd. Father Schneider, of St. Mary's College, and by the Revd. Mr. Verreau, Principal of the school.

We noticed among the audience several Revd. gentlemen of the Seminary of Montreal, the Revd. Mr. Tassé, superior of the college of Ste. Thérèse, W. C. Baynes, Esqr., secretary of the corporation of McGill College, A. Howe, Esqr., rector of the High School, and a number of other gentlemen and ladies.

The proceedings were opened by an address from the Superintendent, which was followed by the reading of the semi-annual report of the Principal. In addition to that report, the Principal furnishes the Education Office with a bulletin in which the progress of each individual student in each branch of instruction is carefully noted together with such remarks as are deemed necessary.

The pupil teachers had previously undergone their examinations both orally and in writing; and the examination papers were laid on the table for the inspection of the public.

Those who were entitled to diplomas were called, and the Superintendent presented each of them with the diplomas and with valuable books as rewards of their studies.