

Prospectus of the McGill Normal School.

The McGill normal school is chiefly designed to train effectual teachers for the protestant population of Lower Canada. It is a provincial institution, under the control of the Government, and the Superintendent of schools. Its connection with McGill college consists in the Superintendent of Education having associated with him for its management the governing body of that university, which will enable the pupil-teachers to derive such benefits from the university as its large means of education allow it to offer.

Its staff at present consists of the principal, two english professors and a professor of french.

For practice in teaching, it will have model schools for girls and boys, in the normal school building; and more fully to carry out this important part of the work, the large and excellent model school, for both sexes already in operation under the committee of the Colonial Church and School Society, has been associated with the institution as a branch model school.

Mr. Robins, trained in the normal school of Upper Canada, where he has also acted as an assistant, will be one of the professors; Mr. Hicks, the other english professor, has studied in two of the best normal institutions in England, and has already gained a reputation in this country as the instructor of a number of efficient teachers.

The McGill normal school will thus combine with the system adopted in Upper Canada, those followed in England, and which have been successfully applied in Lower Canada.

Mr. Léon Fronteau, a graduate of the University of France, has been charged with the tuition in the french language and literature, and Mr. Principal Dawson will deliver lectures on natural history and agriculture, for which, his profound acquirements in these branches render him eminently qualified.

It is also contemplated, that such of the pupil-teachers as may be distinguished by previous education, ability and industry, shall have the further privilege of entering on the university course as free students, with the view of qualifying themselves for teaching in colleges, academies and other institutions for superior education.

The course of study in the normal school will include all the branches of a sound english and french education, with especial reference to their principles and practical application, and to the best methods of teaching them. Instruction will also be given in the art of teaching and the management of schools, in history, the elements of mathematics and algebra, natural philosophy, chemistry, natural history, agriculture, drawing and music.

In addition to religious instruction of a general protestant character, by the professors, arrangements will be made for special religious instruction by ministers, representing the several denominations with which the pupil-teachers may be connected.

No boarding house is attached to the institution, but, every care will be taken to ensure the comfort and good conduct of the pupil-teachers in private boarding houses to be selected by the Principal.

The large and commodious building, known as the "Old High School," in Belmont street, is being thoroughly repaired and fitted up by the Government, for the accommodation of the normal school, and will be provided with every modern appliance in the art of teaching.

Candidates for admission will be examined in reading, writing and the elements of grammar and arithmetic, and will be required to produce certificates of good moral character from the clergyman or minister of religion under whose charge they have last been, and also, testimony, that they have attained the age of sixteen years.

On complying with these conditions, pupil-teachers will be entitled to free tuition, with the use of text books, and also to an allowance of £8 or £9 per annum in aid of their board. Those who reside at a distance of more than ninety miles from the city of Montreal, will also be entitled to a small allowance to pay travelling expenses, proportionate to the distance.

Pupil-teachers admitted after the sum allowed for the year has been appropriated, cannot participate in any of the allowances, unless vacancies should occur.

These allowances are to be paid quarterly to all pupils who may require such aid, and who have complied with the rules of the institution.

At the close of the first year of study, pupil-teachers may apply for examination, for a diploma, giving the right to teach an elementary school, and after two years study, they will on examination be entitled to diplomas as teachers of model schools. All the preceding regulations and privileges shall apply to female as well as to male pupil-teachers.

Every effort will be made by all connected with the direction of the institution, to perform efficiently the important task of training zealous and skilful teachers, and at the same time to afford every facility to all who desire to avail themselves of the benefits of such training whether in the normal school or in the model school.

The ordinary session will commence on the 15th september, and end on the 15th July, with a vacation of one week at Christmas.

The school will be opened on the third day of March next, and as an inducement to entrance, the term extending to the 15th July, will be reckoned as a complete session in the case of all whose progress may enable them to undergo the final examination. Candidates are recommended to apply before the opening, and none will be received later than fifteen days there after; unless on examination they are found capable of taking their places in the classes previously organized.

Previous to the opening application for entrance may be made to the Principal, at Buraside Hall, McGill college, and there after at the normal school, Belmont street.

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Superintendent of Education.

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