

THE GEELONG COLLEGE.

THE first annual examination of this institution took place in the Mechanics' Hall yesterday, in presence of the committee and a large number of the parents of the pupils and others interested. Amongst those present we noticed, besides a very large attendance of ladies, the Revs Messrs Campbell, Fraser, Henderson, and Dare, the Mayor, the Hon J. F. Strachan, M.L.C., Messrs Calvert, Bell, Richardson, M.L.A., Robertson, Simson, Hope, Blair, Stoddart, Drs Carstairs, Grace, W. Shaw, &c, &c.

The Rev A. J. Campbell occupied the chair, and opened the examination, which was conducted by the Principal (Mr. Morrison), and the other teachers (Messrs Thornley and Hutton).

The classes underwent in succession a very careful and interesting examination in the various branches in which they had been instructed during the six months the College has been in operation; and the marked general proficiency of the pupils, as well as their ready answers to the varied questions addressed to them by their teachers and those of the audience who interrogated them, demonstrated at once the admirable efficiency of the Principal and his staff,

and the diligence and attention of the boys during their comparatively short curriculum of study.

The Examination closed at 2 o'clock, and His Worship the Mayor was invited to distribute the prizes which had been awarded to the most proficient students. The Principal explained that only one prize was given to each class in each department, but an exception was made in the case of three pupils who had made marked progress, and were second in several of the tranches, and who were therefore rewarded with extra prizes. He also stated that the two best scholars were James Campbell and John Garbutt, but as they had competed for Matriculation at the University of Melbourne (in which they were successful) they had declined to compete for prizes in the college. The following is the prize list, and from the applause with which the fellow-students greeted the name of each as announced by the Mayor it would appear that all were well satisfied with the decision of the masters:—

PRIZE LIST.

ENGLISH.

Fourth Class—Skene	Second—Campbell, F.
Third—Gundry	First—Cumming

CLASSICS.

Fifth Class—Gray	Third—Anderson
Fourth—Gates, R.	Second—Robinson

MATHEMATICS.—Gray

ARITHMETIC.

Fourth Class—Richardson	Second—Cowie
Third—Greenwood	First—Cumming

WRITING.

Fourth Class—Skene	Second—Strachan, H.
Third—Murray M.	First—Nankivell, F.

SCRIPTURE HISTORY.

Second Class—Greenwood	First—Roberts, R. H.
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DRAWING.—Murray, A.

MAPPING.—Strachan, J.

GENERAL PROGRESS.

Blair, Timms, Brown.

The Rev A. J. Campbell then addressed the assembly, showing the great success which had attended the opening, which now has a roll of upwards of fifty pupils. He also passed a high compliment on the principal and his able assistants for their efficient system of tuition as evinced by the searching examination to which they were subjected on such a variety of subjects.

The Mayor rose to express concurrence in the remarks made as to the results of the proceedings since they met, and his high satisfaction with the general instruction given in the college. He had been unexpectedly called to take part in the proceedings, but had listened with great interest during the day to the examination of the various classes.

The Rev T. M. Fraser said that he had often been present on similar occasions in connection with other educational institutions, but never even at the Edinburgh Academy or High School, had he listened to a more thorough examination or been more delighted with the appearance and answers of the boys. Particularly was he struck with the pupils' knowledge of history, a branch of study likely to be most important to them. He also testified to the admirable conduct of the pupils of the college during the six months he had resided close to it, conduct which reflected high credit upon them. He closed with a few earnest words to the pupils, exhorting them to persevere diligently with their studies.

Mr Richardson, M. L. A., rose to speak as a parent of pupils at the College—He had the fullest confidence in Mr Morrison, and was much pleased with the proceedings of the day. He concluded by asking the boys to give three cheers for the Principal, which they did most lustily, and followed up by giving three cheers more for Messrs Thornley and Hutton.

The specimens of maps, drawings and penmanship, were then inspected by those present, and were much admired.

The Chairman having announced that the College would re-open on the 20th January, declared the proceedings of the day at end.