

HONGKONG.

REPORT ON THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE, FOR THE YEAR 1905.

*Laid before the Legislative Council by Command of
His Excellency the Governor.*

1. The total number on the Roll—1,416—was 95 less than the previous year, while the average daily attendance was 1,015, or 15 in excess. These comparative figures establish the facts, that Queen's College was as full in 1905 as in 1904, but that there was a further improvement in regularity of attendance, and that fewer boys left in the course of the year, which is moreover supported by the fact that only 373 new boys were admitted, as against 453.

2. The Estimates provided \$68,694 for 1905, but of this only \$60,535 were spent. The amount of School Fees was \$31,387 covering nearly 52 per cent. of the total Expenditure. There was an increase in Fees of \$2,339, of which \$1,660 are directly due to the extra half-dollar a month charged to each scholar in the Upper School. The balance \$679 is assignable to the improved attendance mentioned above.

3. The following changes in the Staff took place during the year :—

Mr. RALPHS, returned from leave, 18th September.

Mr. GRANT went on leave, 1st November.

Mr. LI UN-LUN, Articled Pupil Teacher, resigned, 28th February.

Mr. LUK SIK-KWONG, 3rd C. A., died, 1st April.

Mr. LAI U-LIM, 11th C.A., invalided from Service, 31st May.

To fill the three vacancies thus caused, necessary promotions were made and three new Pupil Teachers were articled.

4. The results of the Oxford Local Examinations in 1905 as regards Queen's College show considerable improvement, 27 Good marks being obtained as against 11 in 1904. Six Senior, 4 Junior and 12 Preliminary—22 Candidates in all—obtained certificates. The following percentages in subjects may be of interest :—Arithmetic, 80; Shakespeare, 80; Freehand Drawing, 79; Algebra, 78; History, 70; Geography, 54; Composition, 50; Book-keeping, 44, Grammar, 44, Geometry, 29.

5. The results of the Annual Examination, held by me under Standing orders from the Governing Body, are as follows :—

Upper School,.....	247 boys examined,	223	or	90 %	passed.
Lower School,	539	„	„	476	„ 88 % „
Preparatory School,	224	„	„	194	„ 87 % „
Total for the College,	1,010	„	„	893	„ 88 % „

The following Table shows the percentage of passes in each subject :—

CLASS.		Percentage of Passes.	Chin.-Eng.	Eng.-Chin.	Reading.	Conversation.	Dictation.	Arithmetic.	Grammar.	Geography.	Composition.	History.	Algebr.	Geometry.	Mensuration.	Book-keeping.	Shakespeare.	General Intelligence.	Hygiene.
Names.																			
I,	A, 17.....	100	100	100	100	65	82	88	94	94	100	100	59	59	59	35	100	100	94
	B, 28.....	54	90	75	96	54	32	68	64	46	93	93	29	32	...	14	54	61	75
II,	A, 50.....	98	100	100	100	62	98	84	58	80	100	94	82	54	76	54	...	...	92
	B, 25.....	76	60	80	100	52	68	88	52	32	84	88	80	44	48	36	...	...	48
III,	A, 53.....	96	97	100	100	42	98	74	72	64	100	98	91	55	...	...	...	...	91
	B, 49.....	96	96	90	100	35	90	71	41	53	98	88	96	59	...	...	Map.	...	53
IV,	C, 25.....	100	91	96	100	40	100	60	64	32	92	96	80	44	...	...	...	...	76
	A, 53.....	98	79	100	100	74	89	60	76	92	100	...	...	...	...	...	94	...	79
V,	B, 52.....	94	85	88	98	58	92	65	60	96	96	...	...	...	...	...	96	...	56
	C, 32.....	91	73	100	97	47	91	50	47	81	100	...	...	...	...	...	97	...	37
VI,	D, 33.....	72	66	88	100	51	78	24	42	72	96	...	...	...	...	...	90	...	51
	A, 61.....	87	95	69	100	59	76	78	79	84	92	...	...	...	...	...	81	...	70
VII,	B, 58.....	88	57	80	98	50	98	88	84	45	55	...	...	...	...	...	47	...	36
	C, 34.....	85	53	56	97	65	100	88	88	74	53	...	...	...	...	...	68	...	56
VIII,	D, 36.....	75	56	62	92	61	80	92	78	44	67	...	...	...	...	...	67	...	42
	A, 33.....	96	...	...	100	69	93	69	67	93	...	...	...	...	...	...	84	...	...
IX,	B, 57.....	97	...	...	100	61	100	70	77	89	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	...	...
	C, 30.....	93	...	...	97	57	97	70	67	93	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	...	...
X,	D, 60.....	78	...	...	99	43	77	68	62	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	...	...
	A, 60.....	98	...	...	100	60	98	95	85	88	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
XI,	B, 35.....	83	...	...	97	32	75	83	75	91	Writing.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	C, 56.....	86	...	...	91	57	93	93	80	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
XII,	D, 35.....	63	...	...	91	46	69	86	69	40	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	A, 38.....	91	...	...	92	63	97	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

6. It gives me pleasure to find myself able to report a considerable improvement in the following important English subjects—Composition, Geography, History, Dictation, Reading, Conversation and Translations from and into Chinese. The Composition exercises, especially in all sections of Class IV are the best I ever remember correcting. Map-drawing seems to have been neglected in all sections of Classes II and III, but Geography throughout the College was excellently taught, and the few searching questions outside the text-books were well answered. Mathematics with the exception of Algebra continue poor. As there are several new subjects requiring more detailed report, I cannot deal further with the usual subjects of instruction, beyond referring to a very interesting report made by the Second Master, Mr A. J. MAY, after correcting the Translation papers from English into Chinese. He considers the unseen piece well attempted in all five classes, but awards the palm of excellence to Class II, with Class I next. The latter class was puzzled with the expression “nations are all arming to the teeth”, and misled by the occurrence of the word “teeth” employed as an equivalent a classical phrase “the lips having been lost the teeth grow cold”, *i.e.*, it will be our turn next.

7. In congratulating the Masters on a successful issue, I should be failing in my duty, if I did not draw attention to the excellent manner in which the Masters of III C, IV C, V C, and VI C have worked up backward boys so that their results compare favourably with those of the A sections of the same classes. Of 72 boys in Class II B & C last March only 25—and these naturally not the best—remained to be examined in II B. The Master of this section has wrought wonders with very indifferent material. What he can do with apt pupils is exemplified in II A where he took Mensuration and both Translations.

8. Of the five Pupil Teachers examined twelve months ago, two are now Ex Pupil Teachers and the other three have left. The Normal Master, Mr. B. TANNER, in spite of raw material in his staff, has maintained the excellent reputation of the Preparatory School. Geography was examined as a separate subject in Class VII with great success.

9. Though there is as yet no perceptible improvement in the attainments of Chinese boys in their own language on admission to this College, the larger proportion of boys examined in the top standard—Class V—109 instead of 57, is evidence of good steady work done by the five Masters. Only one boy in English Class IV is debarred from promotion to the Upper School through failing to pass in Vernacular Class II, a disqualification required by the Governing Body.

10. By Circular in 1904 the Secretary of State urged on the Crown Colonies the importance of teaching Hygiene. The Governor of Hongkong at once made Hygiene a compulsory part of the School curriculum, and to stimulate the necessary interest until the novelty of the subject should have worn off, His Excellency provided several prizes, which for value compare rather with scholarships. I am pleased to report that HUNG IU-CHI, a genuine Queen's College product, was bracketed third in the Schools' competition in the Advanced Course, while by the success of our team of ten boys in the Elementary Course, the name of Queen's College will head the list inscribed on the Shield. ROBERT EASTLACK of III A and IP U-PIK of IV B were selected by the Examiners for prizes as having obtained the highest marks in their respective classes. In the Spring of the year there were in Queen's College over 700 boys receiving instruction in Hygiene, but this number dwindled through boys leaving school, until there remained for the Annual Examination 606, of whom 386 or 64 per cent. passed. The result is better exhibited in tabular form:—

Class	I.	45 boys examined,	37	or	82%	passed	I.A.	94%
	II.	75	"	"	59	"	79%	IIA.
	III.	127	"	"	93	"	73%	III.A.
	IV.	170	"	"	100	"	58%	IV.A.
	V.	109	"	"	97	"	54%	V.A.
								70%

It is thus evident that all the English Masters, who alone teach this subject, have entered with spirit into the teaching of Hygiene, and I may add that in the College examination the boys themselves exhibited in their answers an amount of interest that quite surprised me. Since a first year's work can produce such satisfactory results, we are justified in supposing that in another three years after a progressive course of education in this subject in the Third and Second Classes, the boys in the First Class may really acquire Advanced knowledge in Hygiene.

11. A special class of 27 boys was taught in Trigonometry by myself two afternoons a week. We stopped short of Solution of Triangles, having only been able to reach Relations between Sides and Angles of Triangles. The boys seemed to find the subject interesting, but the dozen that remained for the Annual Examination disappointed me, as their work was inferior to that shown at Mid. Term examinations. CHEUNG TIM of I B headed the Seniors with 75, and FUNG KWONG-YAP of II A the Juniors with 52 marks.

12. Mr. DEALY took a special class of about 50 boys on two afternoons a week in Drawing. The results in Freehand were excellent, but Geometrical Drawing chiefly owing to absence of Text-books, was poor, KWAN IU-KI of III A distinguished himself with 118 out of 200 marks, the highest total. We hope next term to proceed to Model Drawing.

13. It will be remembered that six years ago, the Hon. Mr. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART when he distributed the prizes here said that Queen's College ought to have a Gymnasium. In 1901 affairs had reached so advanced a stage that a plan for the building had been made, but it was discovered that the Government could not at present afford the expense, and it was proposed temporarily to utilise the basement of the College for gymnastics. At length votes were included in the 1905 Estimates, \$400 for gymnastic appliances and \$270 for an instructor. Through the kind services of the Military Authorities an excellent instructor has been provided in Sergeant D. TAYLOR, R. G. A., and 80 boys have been under instruction since last April: but what are they among so many?

14. Last February, I submitted a scheme for forming a Collegiate class above and beyond the curriculum of Class I in Queen's College. No response worth mentioning has been made indicative of a desire on the part of the Chinese to avail themselves of the opportunity. It is now to be hoped that Evening Extension Classes may meet the want in this direction, that ought not to be purely imaginary.

15. Reviewing the immense number of papers, 7,430, that have passed under my own personal inspection in the recent examination, I have arrived at the conclusion that we examiners are liable to overlook a certain element which produces most extraordinary errors, that might at a superficial glance be attributed to gross ignorance or crass stupidity. It is not surprising that after laboriously thinking and expressing himself in a foreign language during several hours of a protracted examination, the Chinese boy should find himself so weary, as not to have his mental faculties under complete control. It is to this *brain-fag* that we must assign the occurrence in otherwise highly commendable papers of such freaks as "serpon" for person: "gentleman" for Germany and perhaps the astonishing statement 256 - 1 = 251.

16. The usual Tables of Statistics are annexed. Lists of Donors of Prizes and Winners of Scholarships will appear in the College organ, the "Yellow Dragon".

GEO. H. BATESON WRIGHT, D.D., (Oxon.),
Head Master.

16th January, 1906.

ATTENDANCES IN 1905.

Month.	Number of Scholars.	Number of Attendances.	Number of School Days.	Average Daily Attendance.	Remarks.
January,	1,016	17,848	19	939	
February,	1,130	4,407	4	1,102	
March,	1,139	28,986	27	1,074	
April,	1,143	12,706	12	1,059	
May,	1,123	26,095	25	1,044	
June,	1,069	24,087	24	1,004	
July,	1,032	20,613	21	982	
August,	986	5,731	6	955	
September,	1,094	17,703	17	1,041	
October,	1,075	24,395	24	1,016	
November,	1,047	24,875	25	995	
December,	1,036	20,870	21	994	
		228,316	225		

Total Number of Attendances during 1905,.....228,316
 Number of School Days during 1905,..... 225
 Average Daily Attendance during 1905,..... 1,015
 Total Number of Scholars at this School during 1905, 1,416

AVERAGE EXPENSE OF EACH SCHOLAR AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE, DURING 1905.

Expenditure:—

Cash Book,	\$43,242.07
Do., Exchange Compensation,	15,324.45
Crown Agents,.....	1,969.32
Total,.....	\$60,535.84

Deduct:—

School Fees,	\$31,387
Sale of Books,	19
Refund,.....	12
.....	\$31,418.00
.....	\$29,117.84

Average of each Scholar:—

Per Number on Roll,	\$20.56
Per Average Daily Attendance,.....	28.69