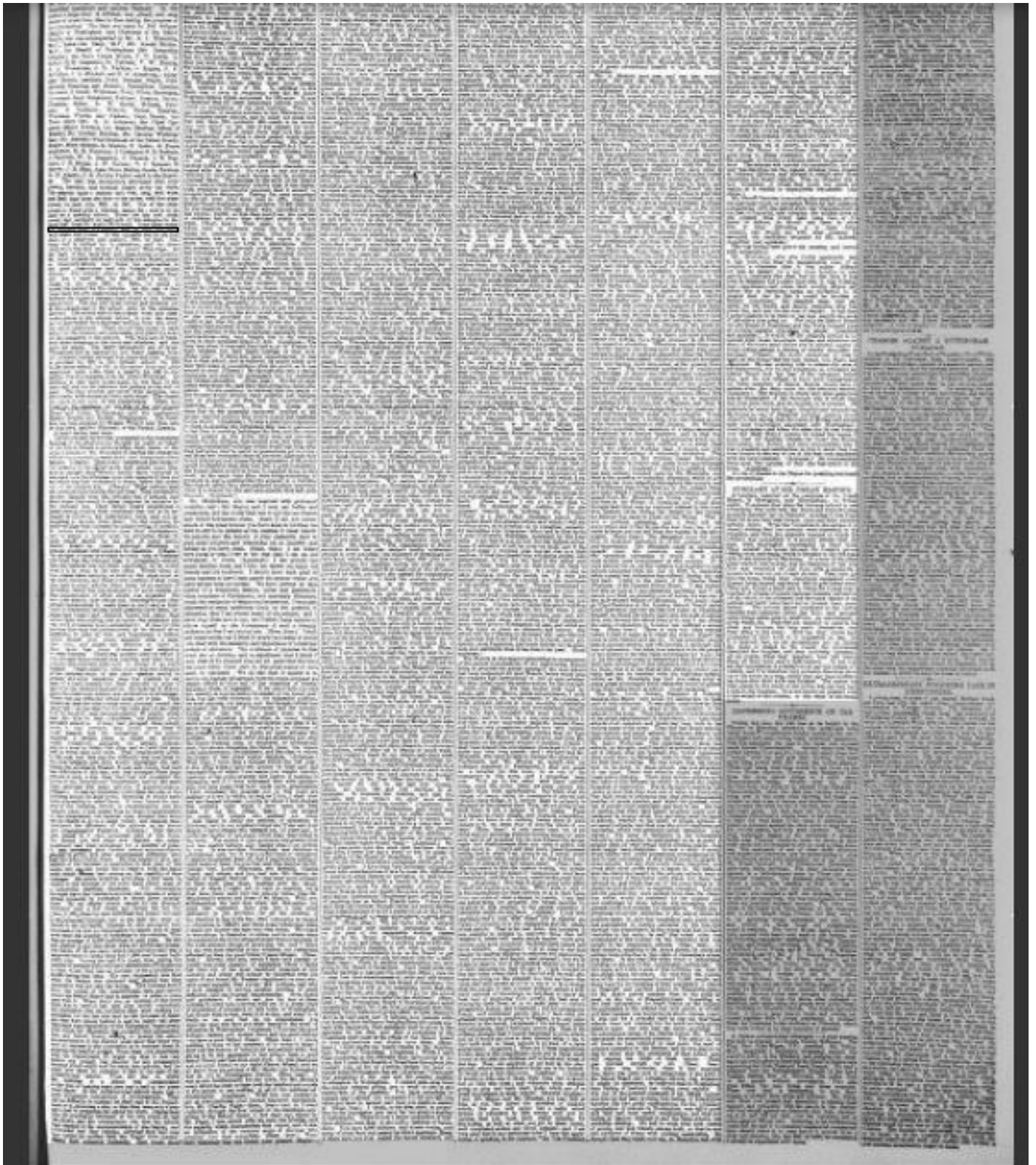


OPENING UP OF NEW BOARD SCHOOLS IN NOTTINGHAM



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ADDRESSES BY MR. MUNDELLA, COL. SEELY, AND MR. A. MORLEY.

The Board Schools which have recently been erected in St. Ann's Well-road, Nottingham, were on Monday afternoon formally opened by the Right Hon. A. J. Mundella, M.P. The ceremony took place in the central hall of the new buildings, which was crowded to excess by interested spectators and anxious listeners. In the gallery a large choir of children was placed, and sang pieces of music from time to time during the progress of the proceedings. The chair was taken by Ald. Gripper (Mayor of Nottingham and Chairman of the School Board), who was accompanied by Mr. A. J. Mundella, M.P., Lieut.-Col. Seely, M.P., Mr. Arnold Morley, M.P., the Sheriff of Nottingham (Mr. Councillor Cropper), the Revs. Canon Morse, J. D. Lewis, C. Sewell (H.M. Inspector), H. Tebbutt, V. W. Hutton, F. A. Wodehouse, J. E. Phillips, — Rogers, J. F. Sylvester, I. Smith, Wilkinson, Ford, Oliver, Stevenson, Loverseed, Bray, Blackburn, Pullman, Gregory, Raven, Priestley, Miller, R. W. Smith, Holmes, Froggatt, S. Robinson, Wilcock, Baines, Simkins, Wainman, Wilson, and Vickers; Capt. Starey, the Town Clerk (Mr. S. G. Johnson), the Chief Constable (Major Poyntz), Dr. Seaton (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. Coroner Browne, Mr. Coroner Whittingham, Mr. Ashwell (Vice-Chairman of the School Board), Messrs. Mark Mellers, R. Mellers, S. Butler, R. Evans (architect), H. E. Thornton, J. Cockayne, G. B. Rothera, J. Hancock, W. B. Baggaley, J. Peacock, J. H. Hayward, J. E. Bryan, J. H. Farmer, C. J. Spencer, E. Barber, J. E. Ellis, Jesse Hind, Mallet, Sands, Dowson, H. H. Adams, J. E. Flower, Packer (clerk to the Board), &c. The hall was handsomely decorated with evergreens, banners, and mottoes placed along the walls. The schools have a central hall, 85ft. long, 40ft. wide, and 34ft. high from the floor to the eaves, with five classrooms on each side, 28ft. by 20ft. One of the classrooms is fitted with a kitchen range, &c., and is to be used as a cooking school. There are cap and cloak rooms and lavatory on each side of the entrance to the large hall from St. Ann's Well-road. Over these rooms and entrance there is a gallery 40ft. by 18ft., and fitted with desks and forms. At the opposite end of the hall there is a platform and gallery, 30ft. by 24ft. The large hall is lighted by a clerestory, and by three windows in the end next to St. Ann's Well-road. At

the back of the large hall and class-rooms, a corridor, 8ft. wide, extends across the building from Edwin-street to Duncombe-street, and forms the approaches to the girls' class-rooms and the infants' and mixed schools. The infants' school is on the ground floor, and has a room 56ft. by 22ft., with a wing or recess on one side 22ft. by 22ft., in which is placed the gallery for the infants. At the end of this room there are two class-rooms each 20ft. by 16ft., and between the rooms a passage leads direct to the infants' playground. The cap and cloak-rooms and lavatory are at the opposite end of the school, next to the entrance corridor. The mixed school has a large room and class-rooms similar to the infants' school, is over the same, and is approached by a staircase leading from the corridor before mentioned. There are private rooms to each school for the masters and mistresses, and there is a room for the managers of the schools. The walls are of brick, with stone dressings to the doors and windows, and the roofs are slated. The stairs throughout are of stone. The schools will be warmed by hot water passing from two powerful boilers through iron pipes and coils. Space is provided for 292 in the infants' school, for 222 in the mixed school, for 550 in the senior boys and girls class-room, total 1,064, with a reserve for 120 in the gallery over the entrance from St. Ann's Well-road. In addition to this there is the space on the floor of the large hall, and on the platform and gallery at the end of same. The play grounds are paved with asphalt, and have sheds, with entrances from each street. The closets are placed at the ends of the playgrounds. There is a house for the caretaker on the side of the playground fronting Delacombe-street. The architects are Messrs.

Evans and Jolley, Nottingham, and the contractors Messrs. Bradley and Barker, Nottingham. The furniture has been supplied by Messrs. Wright and Son, also of this town, and Mr. Hammer, of the Strand, London.

A hymn having been sung,

The MAYOR said before they proceeded to the immediate business of the afternoon he thought he ought on behalf of the School Board to acknowledge their sense of the great kindness of Mr. Mundella in leaving his numerous official engagements to come down and inaugurate these schools. (Cheers.) They could understand something of the pressure of the official work that rested upon him, and he thought they should hardly have ventured to encroach upon his kindness upon this occasion if they did not think they had something to bring before his notice out of the common way. (Cheers.) These schools were not arranged upon exactly the old lines. They deviated in certain respects from the ordinary run of schools, and they hoped they would in those respects be superior to the ordinary run. Their School Board entertained a pretty strong opinion that excellence was not to be attained by following the stereotyped lines, and not attempting to deviate from them. On the contrary, he believed their duty consisted in endeavouring, if possible, in various ways to improve upon their predecessors, and to attain a better mode in producing those results which should be the aim of every active School Board—he meant thorough efficiency in schools, combined with economy in operation. (Cheers.) He thought it must be evident to every man of business who went into the ordinary class of elementary schools that the business was not there conducted as he would