

At this point, Misses L. Bryson, Ella Ryckman, Bradley and Ready favored the audience with the sacred piece entitled "Heaven."

"One Hundred Years 'go" was the subject of Miss Josephine Bongard's (Prince Albert) composition. She turned back a chapter in the world's history, and in so doing displayed considerable research and powers of observation. This essay was nicely read, the accenting being admirable. Flowers in profusion were also Miss Bongard's portion.

Miss Mary E. Pears (Toronto) came next with a well written anticipatory essay on "1979," which illustrated the progress that would take place during the next century: the increase of woman's influence, the perfection to which inventions would be brought and the advent of aerial navigation. Amongst other things the last brandy barrel was buried. Boquets were showered upon the fair reader as she finished.

Mrs. Keltie sang "One Sweetly Solemn Thought," and was obliged to reply to a hearty encore.

"The Present Age" was then handled by Miss N. T. Coatsworth. In the course of her essay she contrasted both the past and future with the present. The first was dead and the last was merely an anticipation. She spoke of the prosperity of Britain under our gracious Queen, and the late wars on either side of the Atlantic. Lovely flowers rained down upon her as she ceased.

The Valedictory entitled, "Greetings and Good-byes," was then delivered by Miss Minnie J. Erb, of Preston, and we really regret being unable to do it anything like justice. A greeting, the fair speaker said, and a good-bye were widely different. The one is the incident of an hour, the other comprises the extreme of life. From cradle to grave was but a span. To-day we saluted the sleeping infant with a kiss, to-morrow follow silently behind a mournful burthen. The whole essay, if such it may be called, was undoubtedly clever and exceedingly well delivered. Several very witty hits were made—some pretty hard ones too—anent election times, and other timely topics. In the purely valedictory portion of the paper, Miss Erb spoke with great feeling, holding the entire audience with the magnetism of

her words. Her farewell to her *alma mater*, directors, Principal and his wife, and friends, was feelingly spoken and when she had said her last good-bye the applause was tremendous, and flowers literally rained upon her from all quarters.

Professor Wright then presented Miss Pears, of Toronto; Miss Jennie Davis, of this city; Miss Erb, of Preston, and Miss Bongard, of Prince Albert; Miss Coatsworth, of Toronto, and Miss Smith, of Glanford, to the faculty to receive the degree of Mistress of English Literature. As the graduates stood up in the order mentioned the applause was great.

Dr. Burns rose to address them. They must not think, he said, that they were now finished in education. There was as yet no master or mistress about it. They had only learned to handle themselves, as it were, and learnt *how* to study. He would regret nothing more than to hear that any of them during the next decade had ceased studying. He then presented them with their well-earned diplomas and pronounced each of them Mistress of Arts amid prolonged applause.

Presentation of prizes was next in order. and Miss Lily Bryson and Miss Georgiana Sutton were invited on to the platform to receive them.

Dr. Burns explained that the "Dennis Moore" Prize had been instituted three years ago. The subject this time had been on "The influence of music," and the prizes had been won by the young ladies mentioned.

Hon. Edward Blake then rose to present the prizes. It is needless to say that he was enthusiastically received. He began by saying that when his good friend Mr. Sanford asked him to come there he could not resist the pleasure of coming and expressing his warmest approval of the Wesleyan Female College as an institution for the higher female education in Canada. It had long been his desire and that of some who were associated with him in the Toronto University, to see State aid in some shape accorded to the higher education of women. Some steps had, he was happy to say, already been taken toward the ultimate admission of ladies to the University at Toronto. Already had examinations been instituted in various parts of the province which six or more ladies could