

THE CANADA
EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY
AND SCHOOL CHRONICLE.

NOVEMBER, 1880.

AN EPOCH IN THE HISTORY OF QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY,
KINGSTON.

IF it be matter for congratulation when an individual, after a long and laborious struggle, attains to desired success and a happy and honourable position, much more must a similar success attained by a University, after a long and brave conflict with adverse circumstances, be a matter for hearty rejoicing to every thoughtful man and lover of true culture. For such a University must represent no small portion of the intellectual life of a people, and its success is the success of the higher element in a nation's life. And if the consecration of new and spacious halls to the highest intellectual uses be an interesting occasion even when such halls have been erected with little effort out of a rich endowment, how much deeper interest attaches to the occasion when they have been raised by the voluntary contributions and self-sacrifice of citizens, many of whom have not themselves had the advantage of a University education, but who none the less have shewn their value of it for their chil-

dren. Such a building, indeed, embodies a victory of the intellectual over the material, and marks a higher level reached by the life of the community.

It is no marvel, then, that the recent interesting ceremonies connected with the opening of the new building of Queen's University should have drawn together large numbers of graduates and friends of the Institution, as well as some of the more distinguished friends of higher education generally. The occasion was one of no common rejoicing. Not only had the noble building, whose spacious halls were on that day thrown open, been raised as a gift to the University by the citizens of Kingston, but also, mainly through the exertions of one man, the present able and energetic Principal, its formerly very inadequate endowment has within the last two years been so increased as to place it on a sound financial footing for the future, and to give good hope that in time private liberality will supply all that is still lacking in its equipment.