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## The Presbyterian Review.

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Toronto, October 4, 1894.

### Fifty Years Ago.

IT will be acknowledged that the jubilee celebration of Knox College was worthy of that institution. The Senate, the Alumni and the Church at large are to be heartily congratulated on the unqualified success which marked the historic event. How few remain with us who saw the birth of Knox College fifty years ago? Will there be any of those present yesterday who will see the centenary? These two thoughts bring home the rarity of a jubilee occasion. Half a century is a long stretch of the human journey; but it is a still longer period in the history of an active, useful institution, and when it is reached, it is but natural that rejoicings should fill the hearts of those who stand in close relationship to it, and that they should seek to emphasize the event by appropriate ceremonies.

The manner of honoring the College was happily conceived. Seldom have more fitting exercises been put on a programme. The time and manner were suitable. At the opening of the session the students and Alumni turn their steps to their Alma Mater. The men who delivered the addresses were distinguished men and they were quite at home under the shadow of Knox. It was quite natural that the minds of Knoxonians should turn to Rev. President Patton, as the best selection that could be made for the opening sermon. Nor could there be a more felicitous choice than the venerable Dr. Reid, who was entrusted with the historic paper, a paper full of interesting facts and reminiscent allusions which revived memories dear to many who heard him. Tracing the college from its origin, dealing gently and appreciatively with the causes which gave it birth, he

dealt lovingly with its development, and with the chief personages that figured in its career. Its relation to the church was made clear, the number of its graduates and the positions occupied by some of the more eminent of them, was referred to, its present condition and work in many directions and its hopeful future expatiated upon. The paper was full without being long, terse without lacking in raciness, and as a historic sketch of the College, will prove very valuable. The greetings of Queens University were conveyed by the esteemed principal, Rev. Dr. Grant, whose intense love for the institution to which he has devoted his life enabled him to speak with a depth of sympathy and brotherliness and a genialty withal, which invested his message with a charm all its own. Then came a crowning glory not to be forgotten as long as they live by six loyal sons of the Church, over whom the Doctor's hood was deservedly thrown. Their faces and brief sketches of their careers appear upon another page, and it is not necessary to speak of their attainments and services here. That a graduate of Queen's should have been selected for honor on such a memorable occasion is only what would have been expected. It will be taken as a tribute to a minister of the Gospel held in singularly high esteem, and as a graceful recognition of the fraternal claims of his *Alma Mater*. The University of Toronto was strongly represented by the Chancellor, Mr. Edward Blake, by the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. W. Mulock, and by President Loudon. The mutual advantages of affiliation with the University were ably shown, and in a manner that showed they were highly appreciated by the University representatives. The institutions of learning of the Anglican Church found dignified and able representatives in Hon. G. W. Allan for Trinity, and Principal Sheraton for Wycliffe, while Chancellor Rand represented McMaster University. For the province, the Lieutenant-Governor spoke, and for the city Mayor Kennedy. Nor were the hospitalities for which the Presbyterian leaders of Toronto are famous wanting, the honors having been done at the residence of Mr. W. Mortimer Clark, M.A., Q.C., chairman of the College trustees.

A very pleasant feature of Wednesday's proceedings was the presentation of a portrait of a distinguished friend of the College. The Alumni Association through their president, Prof. Thomson, B.D., presented the portrait of the late Prof. Young, of Toronto University, and it was accepted by Mr. Mortimer Clark, Q.C., on behalf of the College. The portrait has been hung alongside that of the late James MacLaren, a generous benefactor of the College, and that of the late Principal Willis. The strong position Knox College occupies in the hearts of the people was made pleasingly manifest by the liberal manner in which many subscribed to the Jubilee Fund. The spirit thus shown will doubtless