

PROFESSOR ROBERT BELL.

We publish to-day the portrait of Dr. R. Bell, Assistant Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, on the occasion of his reception of the degree of LL.D. from Queen's University, Kingston. Under Professor Selwyn, (whose portrait and biography have already appeared in the News). Dr. Bell labors assiduously in original scientific researches with a view to the development of the resources of the Dominion. He is a native of the Province of Ontario and is nearly forty years of age. We understand that the present honor was conferred upon him at the request of his friends of the Geological Survey, by whom he is highly esteemed. Dr. Bell is a man of culture, having enjoyed a very thorough university and scientific training. He is a graduate in Engineering, Medicine and Surgery of McGill University. As a Representative Fellow from the science department, he has been for some years a member of the corporation of this university. He completed his studies in practical chemistry under Dr. Lyon Playfair, K.C.B., at the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Bell was Professor of Chemistry and the Natural Sciences in Queen's College from 1863 to 1868, retaining at the same time his connection with the Geological Survey, on which he was appointed in the beginning of 1857, at the recommendation of the Hon. Alexander Morris. During the twenty-six years which have since elapsed, he has made geological and often at the same time, topographical surveys over the vast regions stretching from southern Ontario to the McKenzie River and Hudson's Straits, and from Gaspé to the plains of the far west. On his arduous journeys he has frequently suffered severely from fatigue, cold, wet, etc., and on some occasions, owing to accidents, from want of food. Having a strong constitution, however, he appears as yet, to be little the worse of these experiences.

On the 3rd of March the Senate of Queen's



ROBERT BELL, M.D.,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA.

University, Kingston, unanimously and cordially granted the honorary degree of LL.D. to Professor Bell, and when the title was formally conferred in convention, Professor Williamson read the following statement:

"Dr. Robt. Bell, Assistant Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, is one of the few native Canadians who have devoted their entire lives to scientific pursuits. He comes from a family the members of which have always been remarkable for the interest which they have taken in the objects of natural science, and the valuable geological and mineralogical collections presented by his late father formed the nucleus of the museum of this University. Dr. Bell graduated with distinction in McGill College, Montreal. While still a very young man he was employed on the Geological Survey, and enjoyed for many years the teachings and example of the distinguished geologist, Sir William Logan, its first director. He is now the oldest geologist of its staff, having been appointed more than a quarter of a century ago. Dr. Bell is a practical naturalist, geologist and geographer. A large proportion of what is definitely known of the geology of Canada and of the topography of the more remote parts of the Dominion is due to his assiduous labors. His accounts of these investigations contained in the annual reports of the Geological Survey, and numerous articles on zoology, botany, geology, and mining published in other forms, have added greatly to the credit of Canadian science. Dr. Bell is a Fellow of the Geological Society of London and of the Royal Society of Canada, and a member of various other learned societies; but it has been deemed peculiarly fitting that he should receive from this University, in which he was formerly one of the professors, the honorable academical degree of doctor of laws."

Dr. Bell, in a few well-chosen remarks, acknowledged the honor, after which the proceedings came to a close with the words "It is finished" by the Principal.



SUGAR-MAKING AMONG THE INDIANS IN THE NORTH.