

River style, and was beautifully situated, looking out on the sweep of the river at Kildonan. As will be seen from the plate, Kildonan church, the cyonure of the Selkirk settlers, afforded a substantial background. It was a log college. Perhaps as the "old log college," which was an historic land mark in American Presbyterianism, became the great Princeton college, so this may be the prestage of the future greatness of Manitoba College.

WORK BEGUN.

On the 10th of November, 1871, classes opened and seven students were enrolled. The first recitation in Manitoba College was made by Mr. John Macbeth, a well known citizen of Winnipeg to day. Dr. W. R. Sutherland, of Stony Mt., Mr. James Black, of Shoal Lake, Mr. Hugh D. Fraser of Grassmere, Mr. Francis Heron, and Mr. F. H. Koipe, now deceased, were members of this first class. Instruction had been given in classics for two years before by Mr. Black, and Mr. Whitmer had assisted in other branches. For a short time at first the class met in a room of the Kildonan schoolhouse, but as the accommodation became too small a change was made to the comfortable stone residence of Mr. Donald Murray, Kildonan (Plate 1), and this may be called the first Manitoba College building. At the end of the session seventeen students were in attendance. The staff of this first session consisted of the writer, the only regular professor, Rev. Mr. Black, who took several classes in Latin and Greek, in which department he was well versed, and Mr. John Bell, afterwards M. P. for Springfield, teacher in commercial subjects. The conditions were somewhat against the young college, in the unsettled state of the country, and the imperfect appliances for teaching, but the "perfidium ingenium Scotorum" of both teachers and students brought the session to a close with a hopeful feeling for the future.

A UNION COLLEGE.

At this date (1872) Presbyterianism in Canada was divided. The maritime provinces were occupied by two distinct Presbyterian churches, and in Ontario and Quebec the Canadian branch of the Church of Scotland and the Canada Presbyterian church were yet separate. The Presbyterian work in the Northwest had, up to this time, been done by the Canada Presbyterian church, but the other branch was anxious to be represented in the west as well. It was the good fortune of Manitoba college to be an example of brotherly love several years before the union of 1875. This came about in the following way: The Canada Presbyterian Assembly was meeting at Hamilton, Ont., in June, 1872, and the Church of Scotland Synod at the same time in Kingston. Though the two bodies were negotiating for union, yet they were coy in taking any steps toward co operation. With the advice of a number of the leaders of the Canada Presbyterian church, the writer went down to Kingston and met with the committee of the Church of Scotland. The result was that the Synod very generously agreed to become responsible for the support of an educational

missionary, who should co operate in the College. In pursuance of this action Rev. Thomas Hart, M. A., was appointed, and even before the time of union was made a regular professor. The result of the wise and statesmanlike action on the part of the two churches was that Presbyterianism was never divided on the prairies of the west, and this fact played no unimportant part in hastening the union which took place three years after.

THE NEW BUILDING.

In the autumn of 1872 the college opened in the new building (plate 2), and during the second session 24 students were in attendance. The work of laying out a curriculum was now undertaken. The general line of study was that followed in Upper Canada College, Toronto, along with a somewhat fuller course in the natural sciences. Three written examinations were held in the year, one at the end of each college term. The boarding department of the college was begun in 1872, but the new building in which it was accommodated was not in a well finished condition. While the salaries of the professors were paid from the east, yet the work of building and furnishing taxed heavily the few people then in Manitoba. The college at this time knew the meaning of the expression "angustus res."

INCORPORATION.

In the General Assembly of 1872 steps were taken to fully organize the college. A committee was appointed, of which the present Chief Justice of Manitoba, then of Toronto, was convener, for the purpose of drafting an act of incorporation. The act prepared was introduced in the Legislature of Manitoba in the spring of 1873 and passed. In the following June the Assembly appointed the first board of management. It may be of interest to give the names of that board: Hon. A. G. B. Bannatyne, chairman; Rev. John Black, Rev. Professor Bryce, Hon. Wm. Fraser, Hon. Donald Gunn, Hon. John Sutherland, Rev. Alexander Fraser, Rev. Samuel Donaldson, Rev. John McNab, Duncan Macarthur, Gilbert McMicken, John F. Bain, John Fraser, John Sutherland, M. P. P., Duncan Sinclair. Of this board of fifteen of eighteen years ago seven members are now dead and only three of the survivors belong to the board to-day. In this year (1873) the General Assembly passed the code of by-laws for the college, and Manitoba college was recognized as one of the regular institutions of the church, though having her course open to all, and respecting the religious tenets of all her students.

REMOVAL TO WINNIPEG DISCUSSED.

Winnipeg was now becoming a place of some importance. In the first year of the writer (1871) it had contained only 300 people, in the second year it had increased to 500, and in 1873 it numbered 1,000. In the last named year action had been taken for its incorporation as a city; and as being the centre of government, law, education, religion and business, its people were ambitious to have as many progressive agencies as possible placed within it. A petition of leading