

TRINITY MEDICAL COLLEGE.

ADDRESS BY HON. G. W. ROSS.

THE following expression of opinion from an entirely independent source is of interest, as showing that others unconnected with Medical Education think with us upon the subject.

The address recently given by the Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education, in the theatre of the Normal school building, of which an extended report was given in Saturday's *Globe*, contains an interesting survey of the development and growth of Public school education in Europe and America. The address shows the results of a good deal of historical reading though from the sociological or philosophical point of view it is, perhaps, a little disappointing. From the head of the Department of Public Instruction, in the largest and wealthiest Province of the Dominion, we should have been glad of some discussion of fundamental principles. It is obvious, for instance, that the more universally education and the enlarged intelligence and thoughtfulness it brings becomes diffused among the people, the more needful will it be that the relations of the State to the work of public education shall be clearly defined and broad-based upon some principle that can be defended as just and equal. So far as the Public schools are concerned there is no room for doubt or cavil. They are for the children of all the people, and it is meet that they should be supported at the expense of all the people. It is when the Minister came to the universities that he failed to apply principles, and appealed to precedents only. After quoting numerous facts to show, what needed no proof, viz., that the "tendency across the water is to be generous with the universities, notwithstanding"—an objector might say because of—"the conservatism of those countries," Mr. Ross went on to say, "Surely we in Canada should fortify ourselves to deal liberally with the universities." If he means that this liberal dealing should be of the kind which he afterwards recommends, the outcome of the patriotism and generosity of the people, all will heartily approve his words. If the idea is that further aid should be bestowed upon the Provincial institution from the public chest, some troublesome questions will at once arise. Does Mr. Ross maintain, for instance, that it is in the interests of the whole people that students should be trained for the medical profession at the public expense? A few moments of his lecture might at this point have been well devoted to showing how it can be for the good of the people that the University, the entire resources of which are imperatively required to maintain and increase the efficiency of its Arts work, which is, *par excellence*, the department of its work which interests the public, should have been permitted by the Government to sink so large an amount of its available funds in the new Science buildings, which are admittedly far more extensive than can be required for the science work of the Arts course proper. Will not the public justly hold the Minister responsible for the mistake, not to say misappropriation, which was made when one of the six independent Medical colleges of the Province was chosen to be the ally and beneficiary of the Provincial University, to the great and, so far as appears, just dissatisfaction of all the friends and patrons of the other five thus unfairly discriminated against? The injustice of this diversion of the public funds appears all the more indefensible in view of the recent protest of the teachers in the Department of Modern Languages in the University, some of whom have been kept working as mere lecturers, with inferior status and smaller pay, for more than twenty years. It is said

that the promotion of these to the position of "professors" is impossible for want of money. Certainly, if most of them are not qualified for professorship they ought to be, and it would be little to the credit of the University to have kept incompetent men so long in teaching positions of so much importance. But, if an act of simple justice is denied or delayed for want of funds, while enough and much more than enough of capital has been sunk in buildings not needed for the proper educational work of the University, the fact is one of the kind not well adapted to encourage the public to deal more liberally with the Government institution under which such maladministration is possible.—*The Week*.

It seems but a very short time since our students gathered in the halls of Trinity Medical College, welcoming one another back at the opening of the term of '90 and '91, and yet six full months have passed. Why is it our winter session always appears so very short? It must be that one's mind is so constantly occupied, and one's energies ever strained to satisfy the one object in view, that time passes without their appreciating it. There is the daily routine of work at hospital and college, and the evenings are spent in reading, the days and weeks are thus taken up and pass faster than one can keep account of them. This may apply to the man who has to face an examination in the coming spring, but hardly so to him who is two years from such, as is the third year man.

How prone is one to lay aside one's books unless goaded by the fear of approaching examinations, though he may indeed be very fond of his work, and like to be constantly at the bedside. Yet under such circumstances he is frequently satisfied with a knowledge of his subject, not quite as broad as that he would seek were he about to enter upon an examination. Once more Trinity is about to send out into the world another graduating class. By the members of this class her name will be carried into foreign lands, to South America, Mexico, all parts of the United States, England, and perhaps even to Australia and may the men who bear that name ever remember their Alma Mater and do all in their power to further her interests, for it will be from her that they will hold the degrees that will give them their noble positions as medical men.

And now at their parting let them be assured that the very best wishes for success from their fellow-students will attend them, and that their absence from amongst us will be deeply regretted. May Trinity from time to time hear of them as she does from members of former classes, and be gratified to learn of their success, for she feels that as ever before her men will take a prominent stand in the profession, and ever be worthy of the confidence that will necessarily be placed in them as medical men.

* Personal. *

THE Primary and Final Examinations of Trinity University for degree of M.D.C.M. will commence on Friday, March 20th, and continue for one week.

THE Final Examinations of Victoria University for degree of M.D.C.M. were held in the Medical Council building, corner Bay and Richmond Streets, on March 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th, about fifteen Trinity men wrote on them.

SOME days previous to the closing of the college, Dr. Teskey sufficiently recovered from his illness to allow of his resuming his lectures both at the college and hospital. He does not as yet seem to be quite himself, but we trust it will not be long before such is the case.