

To this Sir John Young replied :—

I beg to thank you very sincerely for the words of loyal welcome with which you are pleased to greet my arrival amongst you as Her Majesty's Representative, and I am permitted by His Royal Highness, Prince Arthur, to express the satisfaction he feels in attending here to-day, and the interest he takes in this and kindred Institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In young communities the mass of the people will ever be engaged in developing the material wealth of the Country, but all honour is due to that smaller band who devote their time and energies to that nobler work of developing its mental resources; who inculcate early lessons, not merely of knowledge, but of deeper and more important truths, of the inestimable worth of honour and integrity, of the priceless value of liberty when tempered by respect for the rights of others, of the utter worthlessness of the utmost freedom when unguarded by self-restraint. Turning to the younger Members of your College I would, if a passing word of mine may dwell in the memory, beseech them to avail of the golden opportunity placed within their reach, to sow now the seed that hereafter they may reap the harvest, as others have done before them, whose names lately on the College books, are now honourably enrolled in the books of fame, a credit to themselves, to the Institution, and to their Native Land, and a worthy example to those who may seek hereafter to emulate their achievements. I can very truly assure you, one and all, Masters and Pupils, that I watch with deep interest the progress of this and similar Educational Establishments throughout the Dominion, and I know that I am only expressing Lady Young's wishes when I join her name with mine in wishing you all possible success, and in fervently breathing a prayer for your mutual co-operation in the discharge of your allotted duties.

When His Excellency had finished reading his reply, Prince Arthur turned round to the Boys and said :—

With the permission of Principal Cockburn, I am glad to be able to intimate to you that the remainder of this day will be given you as a holiday, and I hope sincerely you will all enjoy it thoroughly.

At this unexpected and gracious speech, the Boys once more gave vent to their feelings, and made the welkin ring with another Royal cheer.

Before the Royal party left they inscribed their names in the Council Minute Book as follows :—Arthur, Adelaide Young, John Young, W. P. Howland, J. S. Macdonald, Lieutenant-Colonel McNeill, Military Secretary, F. Turville, H. Bernard, A.D.C., William Morley Punshon, Anson Green, Edwin G. Curtis, A.D.C.