

lamily can quench. And let us remember in our prayers those to whose bereaved hearts Christmas this year can bring no gladness; that the coming of the Prince of Peace may at all events shed a ray of comfort on their saddened souls. And for our motherland, and those fighting for her, let us pray for "peace with honour," peace that may be for the welfare of all parties.

But besides this more general ground for serious thought, this closing Michælnas term has brought with it, in its relation to ourselves as an Institution, more than one occasion for special sadness and disquiet.

The news of our Principal's resignation of the post which he has now held for fourteen years, though not wholly unexpected, and evidently, owing to his enfeebled health, inevitable; none the less came upon us in some sense with a shock. Who of us that can recall his marvellous energy, the wide scope of his intellectual grasp, his unwearying industry and ceaseless activity, his uniform kindness and courtesy, and his devotion to the cause of the institution which he represented, can fail to be moved with deepest sorrow for the cause which made this resignation needful, as well as sympathy with him and with Mrs. Adams under their present trial?

As our thoughts this evening have somewhat of the character of a farewell, it may not be unsuitable to glance over the leading points of his earlier history, as they are related in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography.

"Dr. Adams is a member of a Cornish family, and son of the late Rev. Thomas Adams, who for some years laboured as a missionary in the Friendly Islands, in the South Pacific. It was on his way to these islands, and at Paramatta, in New South Wales, on September 14th 1847, that our Principal was born. His father was distinguished as the translator of a great part of the Bible into Tonguese and was the first to issue a complete edition of the Bible in that language. Dr. Adam's uncle, his father's eldest brother, was the Astronomer of world-wide fame, J. C. Adams, F. R. S., discoverer of the planet Neptune, though anticipated, owing to accidental circumstances, in the publication of its existence by the French astronomer Leverrier. And on the retirement of Sir G. B. Airy the position of Astronomer Royal was offered to him, but declined by him. Another uncle, W. G. Adams, F. R. S. is a leading authority on electricity and natural philosophy, and a professor in King's College, London.

"Dr. Adams was educated at Taunton, Somerset, and afterwards at University College, London. In 1867, he joined the Geological Survey of England, but resigned in 1869 owing to a severe sprain. In 1869, he entered St. John's College, Cambridge, and in 1873 graduated as nineteenth wrangler. He held the temporary position of teacher of Mathematics in the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester, and afterwards became Mathematical and science master in St. Peter's School, York. In 1881 he took part in the Jubilee meeting of the British Association at York, and in conjunction with Dr. T. Anderson became local secretary. In 1882 he was elected out of 57 competitors as first headmaster of the High School for boys at Gateshead-on-Tyne; and left this position in 1885 to accept the principalship of our College, succeeding Dr. Lobley in this capacity, and also in the rectorship of the School."

In 1886 he received the honorary degree of D.C.L., and in 1897 he was appointed by the Bishop to the honorary canonry vacated by Rev. George Thornloe on his consecration to the bishopric of Algoma.

The progress made by the University in numbers, in money-endowments, in building, in educational extension, during Dr. Adams's tenure of the Princi-