

ADDRESS

AT THE CONVOCATION OF

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, TORONTO,

OCTOBER 16TH, 1885,

BY

DANIEL WILSON, LL.D., F.R.S.E., PRESIDENT.

In renewing the busy life of the College after the rest of a welcome long-vacation holiday, there is generally some new phase of our work which invites attention. At times we are called upon to define the bearing of modifications suggested by experience; oftener it becomes necessary to scrutinise the worth of novel theories, advocated too frequently from a mere hankering for change. But, happily, now, the anniversary of this College once more brings with it elements of encouragement for its friends.

The matriculations of the University are every year assuming greater importance, alike as tests, and as a standard of efficiency, for the Collegiate Institutes and High Schools of the Province; and to one who, like myself, can look back to a time when it was found difficult to procure a satisfactory matriculation scheme which would bring the College within reach of the High Schools as then constituted: the contrast which recent examinations demonstrate is a gratifying evidence of the progress achieved in the interval. Two hundred and thirty-four candidates, not only from the Collegiate Institutes and High Schools of the Province, but from schools and colleges beyond its limits, entered as competitors in the recent University examinations, of whom one hundred and eighty-three, representing sixty-four edu-