

attractive. The college opened free of debt, but the endowment is still small.

The opening ceremonies extended from Monday night, Oct. 14, till Wednesday morning, Oct. 16. On the first evening a sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. Dale of Birmingham.

Tuesday morning communion service was held, conducted by Rev. Principal Reynolds, D.D., of Cheshunt College, assisted by Rev. R. F. Horton. An hour later Principal Fairbairn delivered the inaugural address. He considered the idea and purpose of the college and its relations to the university. He urged that in the spirit of the earlier history of the university such a college had a natural place in it. The cause of its foundation was the same as that of Merton, the oldest of the colleges. As to the special causes that had called Mansfield into being, Dr. Fairbairn suggested the possible significance of the college as a religious society, influencing the life and thought of the university. It was now a vital question how religion was to be maintained in a university. The answer to this lay through the question, What ought a university to be? It ought to be the home for all the intellectual and moral and religious forces that educated and helped and lifted the people. It best fulfilled its functions when it drew from all the people that its service of the people might be more adequate and more complete. The rise of Mansfield meant the creation in once suspicious and estranged classes of confidence and interest. They came, therefore, and established a college in Oxford, because they loved the truth their fathers had lived by, and they believed that there these truths could be best studied, their ministry best formed, and their duties to the future of their people and their faith, so far as they depend on academic activity, work and discipline, be best fulfilled.

Lunch was served in a tent on the college grounds. Mr. Albert Spicer, the treasurer of the college, presided, and among the guests were a number of leading Churchmen connected with the university. Rev. C. R. Palmer spoke of the debt which America owed to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the interest taken in Mansfield College in America, and said that the American people gloried in the return of Nonconformity to Oxford after 227 years of exile. In the evening Dr. and Mrs. Fairbairn gave a reception in the college, which was largely attended.

The exercises closed with a breakfast in the college dining hall. About sixty guests were present. Greetings were read by Principal Fairbairn from Chicago Theological Seminary, Professor Harnack of Berlin and Dr. Pressensé of Paris. Among the speakers were Professor Hatch of Oxford, Professor Symonds, Principal Cairns,

and Professor Bruce of Scotland. Mr. Palmer spoke for America.

Thus ended this most remarkable event. The college is opening under most favorable auspices, and is certainly destined to play an important part, not only in the history of Congregationalism, but likewise of all English Nonconformity.—*Ex.*

Obituary.

MR. JAMES BLACKIE, STOUFFVILLE.

On the 29th of October our beloved brother, James Blackie, in his sixty-fourth year, entered his Father's house above. At the age of seventeen in Edinburg, Scotland, he united with a Congregational Church. Emigrating to this country two years later, as soon as possible he united with the Stouffville Congregational Church, under the pastorate of the late Brother L. Kribs. For forty-five years, he was an upright, devoted, earnest, loyal member of the Church. For twenty-five years he was a *good deacon*, faithful to his trust; besides filling other offices of service for the Church's prosperity. His character stood out before men during those years, blameless. The verdict of all who knew him was, he was a good man. His love to the means of grace and attendance thereon was faithful to the end. His removal from our midst is a felt loss, that will not soon be removed. Having suffered for some time with a chronic weakness, taking cold brought on an aggravation of his trouble which ended his earthly life. His mind was clear and his heart calm and peaceful to the end. In his great weakness he would say, "Jesus is so precious!" As he lived, so he died, in peace with God and man. He left a widow and two sons and six daughters to mourn his loss; all of them professing Christians.—*Com.*

Our College Column.

The Rev. Dr. Jackson is delivering his first series of lectures on the History of Dissenters.

Dan. S. Hamilton is staying out of College a year, and is employed as book-keeper, at a salary of \$1000 by McKnabb & Co. of this city.

We call the attention of the Editor to the fact