

Sheriff of United Counties of Lanark and Renfrew—James Thompson.

Mr. Brooke then said it would doubtless be expected that some information would be given as to the prospects of the new church, as to what it was expected to cost, what had been subscribed, &c. The church was expected to cost, when finished, about £5,000. There had already been laid out on the foundation about £1,000, including labour expended. The farmers had been very ready to turn out with their teams, and assist in drawing stone, &c. About £2,000 had been subscribed, leaving a large balance still to be provided for, rendering it necessary to make exertions in every part of the diocese of Toronto, and, perhaps, Huron, to raise the amount.

After Mr. Brooke had concluded, the ceremony of laying the corner stone was performed by the Rev. Dr. Lewis, of Brockville.

The Rev. R. L. Stephenson, A.M., Rector of Perth; then addressed the assembly. After making a few remarks relative to the commencement of the church, he went on to say that the low order of church building in this part of the country could not but be noticed by the merest tyro in the science of architecture. It was intended to make the proposed edifice an exception in this respect. This was not, however, from a spirit of rivalry, and because they saw other spires arising around them; but for the purpose of putting up a building that would be a credit to the church to which they belonged. He alluded to the fact that her Majesty had chosen the city of Ottawa as the Canadian Seat of Government, and as Perth was in a section of country which would be immediately benefitted by this choice, this church was to be somewhat commensurate to our altered and improved circumstances. He then called upon the Rev. Dr. Lewis, who proceeded to express his sense of the honor which had been conferred upon him by selecting him to lay the corner stone of this beautiful church. The Rev. Dr.'s address was eloquent and impressive; but owing to the crowd and the heat of the day, we are unable to give even a sketch of his speech. He spoke of the veneration always evinced by David for the House of God; of the love with which churchmen always regarded their parish church, and encouraged the members of the church in his vicinity to push on the work with every effort until it was completed—not to be afraid of a little expense or trouble—and not to be satisfied with presenting unto God a sacrifice which would "cost them nothing."

The hundredth Psalm was then sung by the assembly, and the ceremonies of the day ended. The day was extremely hot, nevertheless great numbers of persons were present, and took part in the proceedings.—*Perth Standard.*

#### EPISCOPAL CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The anniversary of the Sunday school in connection with the Episcopal Church in this town was celebrated on Thursday, the 24th. In the forenoon the children attended in the procession for the purpose of witnessing the laying of the corner stone of the new church. They then proceeded to the delightful grove in front of the residence of the Rev. R. L. Stephenson, where every thing possible had been done to make them comfortable and happy. A large number of ladies and gentlemen were also present, and were hospitably entertained. Refreshments were provided in abundance, and of the choicest description. The afternoon was passed most pleasantly, owing to the excellent arrangements and the untiring exertions of the excellent Rector, his amiable lady, and the committee of arrangements. The

children were addressed in the evening by the Rev. Dr. Lauder, of Nanapan. Addresses were also delivered by Thos. Brooke and R. Douglas, Esqrs. The assembly dispersed about six o'clock. We understand the Sunday school is now in a flourishing state.—*Perth Standard.*

### DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

#### CONVOCAION OF BISHOP'S COLLEGE, LENNOXVILLE.

(Reported for the Montreal Gazette.)

The Annual Convocation of Bishop's College was held at Lennoxville, on Wednesday, June 30, and was as usual well attended. There were present, besides the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Justice McCord, their Lordships the Bishops of Quebec and Montreal, the Principal and other Professors and Officers of the College; also the following clergy and gentry:—The Rev. Canon Bancroft, Dr. Lewis, D.C.L., of Brockville, the Reverends Messrs. Slack, Lonsdell, King, Robinson, D. Lindsay, R. Lindsay, W. Bond, C. P. Reid, L. Doolittle, J. Godden, R. L. Stevenson, J. W. Williams, M.A., Rector of the Junior Department; and Messrs. E. Chapman, Hale, Bowen, Freer, Henneker, T. Tait (of Melbourne), — Foster (of Richmond), J. Wilson, W. Wilson, H. B. Padden (of Compton), A. Stinson (of Compton), &c.

The Bishop of Vermont had been expected to attend; but some unforeseen cause disabled him from giving his valuable assistance on the occasion.

Divine Service was held in the College Chapel at half-past eleven. The Revs. J. H. Nicholls, D.D., J. H. Thompson, M.A., R. L. Stephenson, M.A., and F. Robinson, M.A., of Abbotsford, officiating. The Lord Bishop of Quebec preached the sermon, in the absence of the Bishop of Vermont, from Proverbs ix., 4 and 5; after which the Holy Communion was administered by the Lord Bishop of Montreal.

About half-past two o'clock in the afternoon, the Convocation Hall was densely crowded, and at three o'clock the Convocation was duly opened by the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Justice McCord. The learned Judge, in a few preliminary remarks, apologized to the ladies for the narrow accommodation which had been provided for them. He trusted that this would be remedied next year, as they had applied to Government for a grant for that purpose; and he thought that they deserved it, as this was the only institution in the Province which had not hitherto availed itself of Government assistance for building purposes. He regretted that circumstances over which they had no control had prevented two undergraduates from taking their degrees this year—the first having been deterred by illness, and the second by severe family affliction. He trusted, however, that by the aid of the Junior Department, which was now established, the sphere of action of the University would be greatly increased before another year. It was a great disappointment that the Bishop of Vermont had been detained. The warm interest which he took in the University, and his great talents, rendered him a valuable addition to the Institution.

The following Degrees were then conferred:—Rev. Dr. Lewis, D.C.L. *ad eundem gradum*; the Rev. J. W. Williams, M.A., Oxford, England, *ad eundem gradum*.

Rev. Dr. Lewis then addressed the meeting as follows:—

*My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen:*—I have been requested to address you on a subject of great

importance and interest to us all, and in complying with the request I feel somewhat embarrassed. The fear of inability to do the subject justice would certainly have deterred me from the attempt, were I not under strong temptation to recommend to others what I admire myself; and indeed an opportunity so seldom occurs of saying a word in favour of classical education, that when the occasion presents itself, it should be embraced by every one who entertains such strong feelings of veneration as I do for a system of education to which we are indebted for almost every gem which sheds lustre on English literature. Whatever may be the cause of the fact, it is but too true that classical education is an exotic that does not thrive on this continent. The utilitarian despises a plant which appears to be more ornamental than useful. The money-making public can see no beauty in what bears but little fruit in dollars, and the consequence is that the fair and fragile flower is choked with the weeds of worldliness, and if sometimes allowed a place in the garden, yet it is rather from an undefined feeling of respect for its character at home than from appreciation of its healing virtues or its intrinsic beauty. The causes of such neglect of the classics, in the education of the youth of our country, are various. I shall not attempt to enumerate or combat them all, but will briefly glance at a few which, from their prominence, deserve our notice—not that I hope, from merely refuting objections that may be urged against the utility of classical education, to convince the objector of the great advantage of such education, because, though I am prepared to defend the system on utilitarian grounds, yet I am also free to confess that to my mind the utility of it in a great measure consists in the pleasure of taste and refinement of feeling derivable from the classics, and that pleasure, I need hardly remind this audience, in order to be known must be felt, and to be appreciated must be experienced. There is, however, one objection urged against that system of education called classical, which may be summed up in the word "antiquated." It is assumed that the system is obsolete, once an approved one, but now becoming gradually superseded as unpractical. Now if I have summed up the objections to classical education as they arise in the mind of the great majority of the people, in the word "antiquated," I would express the answer to the objections of this nature in the sentence—"*vox et præterea nihil.*" If there is one characteristic which marks the people of England more definitely than another, it is this—that they are a practical people; so that we may assume it as a fact, that the system of classical education must have a practical tendency, or it would long since have been exploded in Great Britain. Never was a greater mistake than to suppose an incompatibility between a classical and a practical education. On the contrary, they are convertible terms. Have we not a remarkable illustration of the power of classical training in fitting a man for the most practical avocations of life, in the fact that he who now leads the oratory of the House of Commons and lately as Chancellor of the Exchequer, managed the finances of Great Britain, could find time among his many duties to write a work on the Homeric age, which henceforth takes the position of a standard authority with every scholar who desires to appreciate the greatest classic of antiquity. This is a species of illustration that I wish to dwell on, because who can deny that it is practical? Who can require a more practical training than the man who aspires to regulate the complicated machine of the Exchequer, and is it not full of significance that the last three financial Ministers of England have been distinguished alike for practical ability in