

quantity, place under Thine Almighty Protection; and for the sanctification and success of which, we fervently invoke the aid of thy Holy Spirit. Grant, O Lord that this Seminary may ever be the means of educating, in thy Faith and Fear, the Youth of this Province, to the latest generations. Endue, in a particular manner, with thy Heavenly Grace, all those who may have here committed to them, the task of Instruction. Enable them to discharge, with zeal and fidelity, the important trust reposed in them, in humble dependence upon Thee who art the Father of Mercies and the Author of All Spiritual Illuminations, and whose countenance doth ever behold the upright. Preserve all those who may be educated here, from the baneful principles of Infidelity, Irreligion, Heresy, Schism, and false Doctrine, so that they, being early trained up in the way that they should go, may never depart therefrom; but may in all things, both in their life and conversation, adorn the doctrine of God their Saviour. Bless, in a peculiar manner, O Lord, all those who have been instrumental in promoting this Work. Behold, with thy special Favour, our most gracious Sovereign Lord King George.—“Endue him with the Grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that he may always incline to thy Will, and walk in thy Way.—“Govern Him and lift Him up for ever.” Grant that he may long reign over a free, an united, and a virtuous people; and finally after this life he may attain a Crown of Glory that fadeeth not away. And especially we pray for this Province, and herein, particularly at this time, for the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, under our most Religious and Gracious King, in their Legislative capacities at this time assembled. “Direct all their Consultations to the advancement of Thy Glory, the good of Thy Church, the safety, honour and welfare of our Sovereign and this Province. Grant, O Lord, that all among us who confess Thy Holy Name, may agree in the Truth of Thy Holy Word, and live in unity and Godly love.” And vouchsafe, O Lord, unto us all, that, being impressed with gratitude for the many and inestimable benefits which Thou hast bestowed upon us; and in humble dependence upon the aid of Thy Holy Spirit, we may in all our several vocations and Ministry, truly and Godly serve Thee, so that in Thy good time, we may join the General Assembly and Church of the First Born, in Thine eternal and everlasting Glory, Grant this for the sake of our Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; to whom, with Thee, and the Holy Spirit, be ascribed all Honor, Power, Might, Majesty, and Dominion, now and for ever.—Amen.

Dr. Somerville then seated himself, and after a short pause, during which His Excellency was evidently preparing himself to address the audience, the Chancellor rose and spoke nearly as follows:—

In the course of a much diversified public life, in which I have been called to act in many different situations, and in several capacities, I have never been more completely satisfied on the accomplishment of any public purpose—never more highly gratified on the attainment of any public station—never so sensible of the value of official influence, than now on the completion of this noble Edifice; and in the capacity of Chancellor of this Royal University, meeting you within these walls, on this most interesting occasion.

In assuming this high station, I have taken this Chair, with infinite pleasure, to preside at this Ceremonial, the commencement of an Institution which I trust shall soon be raised to excellence, and be made to produce every benefit, and every advantage, which can result from such an Establishment.

The day is peculiarly appropriate for the purpose. At this particular season we have all been accustomed, from our earliest years, to hear the voice of congratulation—to be presented with the offerings of affection—to receive the Paternal benediction. At such seasons we take occasion to bestow the benefits, and dispense the acts of grace or of favor which we contemplate to confer on those whom we regard; and, thankful for the past, we pray to Almighty God for His blessing on the undertakings and proceedings of the present. Animated by such sentiments and feelings towards the people of New-Brunswick—warmed by such associations with the kindly usages of life, and devoutly invoking that Blessing on this great undertaking. I feel that I have selected a day the most appropriate for

inaugurating this goodly work—an offering consecrated to the service and dearest interests of the Country, from the Paternal Hand of our Beloved Sovereign. In His name, and on His behalf, I present this His Paternal Benediction to His faithful and loyal People of New-Brunswick. In His name, I thank the Legislature of this Land for having enabled me to do so, in this capacious Hall, to a numerous assemblage of persons deeply and tenderly interested in the proceedings of this day; and on which I sincerely and cordially congratulate them and all the people of this Country. For myself, I shall ever reflect, with infinite pleasure and satisfaction, that the opportunity presented itself to me, to take up and to begin, in principle, this important work at the earliest period of my Government.—So early, indeed, as to form the first, as it is the greatest object of my ambition. I could not fail to endeavour to improve that opportunity, and in this favorable result, New-Brunswick will ever be deeply indebted to the King's Ministers, and particularly to the noble Secretary whose name is affixed to this great work. I shall ever rejoice that it has fallen to my lot, to lay, not only figuratively, but absolutely, and with my own hand, the Corner Stone of this Building.—That I have been spared to witness its completion; and that I am now called upon, nominally, by the King, in that Royal Deed, to proceed, in person, to form the great moral superstructure which we are now about to raise.

As the Architect of the material fabric has been careful to make his selections of the best qualities, and of natures the least perishable, and to put them together with a master hand; so I, in proceeding to this great moral work, have been careful to select, and to avail myself of qualities of the highest order, materials of the first description—persons who will perfect and adorn the whole Structure, and who will perform their duties in a manner that shall form a character and establish a system for this University, which I trust shall be subject to no decay.

I shall not attempt to enlarge upon these several great objects—near and dear interests, which will be ensured and promoted by an establishment, wisely and liberally constructed and adapted, as this is, to the wants and conditions of the Country; and managed, as I think I may safely pronounce this Institution will be. Such a dissertation on my part would on many accounts be unnecessary. Well and wisely have you felt—powerfully and effectually have you represented—the high expediency and necessity of possessing such an Institution, or never should I have been enabled to effect this. The beautiful and classical Oration you have just heard, moreover, entirely dispenses me from venturing, as I may have contemplated to do, an oration on the classic grounds which the learned Doctor has so fully and beautifully occupied. In that Oration, the learned Gentleman has most gracefully displayed the qualifications and the advantages of sound learning and useful knowledge. That Oration leaves me nothing to express, but admiration: whilst it affords us every thing to hope and to expect from the continued services of such a Professor at this Institution. I perceive, as well as feel, that we have all been sensibly touched by the characteristic, appropriate and affecting construction which the learned Doctor has given to his Discourse—by the impressive manner in which it has been delivered—and the solemn form in which the learned and Reverend Doctor has, in conclusion, led us to join with him in Prayer for the success of this Institution. I trust that Oration will be preserved to stand in letter, forming, as it does an admirable prospectus of the Constitution, and objects of this Institution; and affording a beautiful and most satisfactory specimen of the manner in which the Divinity and Ethical Classes will be conducted by that learned and exemplary Divine.

I am happy to announce that a most judicious and highly satisfactory selection has been made, and all but ratified, of a highly competent person as Vice-President, acting and resident Head of this College. We are very fortunate, also, in retaining the services of a distinguished and experienced person whom we all well know and highly esteem, and who will fill the Chair of other professorships in this University.

Nothing seems wanting to ensure the success of this Institution.—A convenient and commodious

Edifice—A salubrious situation—A convenient position, central in the Province—A liberal Constitution, under a Royal Charter—A Revenue adequate to all immediate purposes; and real Endowments which will improve in value with the improving value of the times. The situations of Instruction, filled as I have said, with highly competent Professors, and highly estimable men.—The subjects of their care, the youth of a religious, virtuous, moral, able and well-disposed people. Such, Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen of the College Council, such are the material and financial means—such the moral and intellectual Capacities, which the liberality and patriotism of the Legislature—the paternal regard and munificence of our Beloved Sovereign, and the bountiful Hand of God, Creator of all, provide, contribute and present, in trust, to us, to be zealously, faithfully, and effectually applied, used and managed, to effect the great object which we have engaged to undertake.—And what is that object?—The greatest blessing that can be bestowed upon man, next to the Divine blessing; the blessing of a good, sound, virtuous and useful education. When the human endeavour is well and properly applied to this great end, it cannot fail to be attended by that, without which no human effort availeth. May our endeavours here, and those labors which are to succeed to ours, be eminently such as to merit the favor of God, secure the estimation, and promote the best interests of these, His people!—From the domestic Circles of a virtuous, moral, religious and loyal people, may successions of well-disposed youth, nurtured in such principles, and strong in the domestic affections, beautifully termed the nurses and guardians of Virtue—may such further resort, and here, be formed to virtuous, well educated, accomplished manhood—here may they abundantly lay up for themselves, and hence carry into the world, ever retain and always display, in all the duties, relations and stations of life, the blessings and the comforts, the qualifications and the advantages, of a sound, virtuous, religious and useful education—may such as shall be spared to withdraw, in the evenings of their days, to the retirement and enjoyment of domestic life—take with them to the bosoms of their families, consciences devoid of stain, and conduct devoid of censure; and may these attractive examples of well-spent lives, serve to sustain and enforce the sound precepts, which it will be their chief pleasure—their most interesting occupation, and their bounden duty to instil into the minds of their youth. Firm may this Institution ever stand and flourish—firm in the liberal constitution and Royal foundation on which I have this day instituted it, enlarging and extending its material form, and all its capacities to do good, to meet the increasing demands of a rising, prosperous, and intellectual people—and may it soon acquire, and ever maintain, a high and distinguished reputation, as a place of general learning and useful knowledge.

I indulge myself with the hope, that, if not to witness, I may at least learn, and from authority, that such is the progress of this College; and to ensure this, I desire always to enjoy identity with this Institution. So long as I shall occupy, by right of office, this Chair, I will discharge all its Duties, to the best of my powers, for the good of the College; and I will personate it on all occasions, in a manner that shall be devoted to do it service. When no longer entitled to this Seat, I shall seek the honorary distinction of another place, still to remain a Member of this learned Body. I shall leave with you, in trust for ever, a token of my regard and best wishes. It shall be prepared in a form, and devoted to a purpose which I hope may prove an useful incitement to virtue and learning; and in periodical commemorations of this Commencement it may serve to remind you of the share which I have had in the Institution, and proceedings of a day, which I shall never forget.

With this Address, the important and deeply interesting Ceremony ended: and although our feelings had rationally suggested many observations, that might, with the greatest truth and justice, be added by us, in high commendation of the foregoing; we will, nevertheless, waive our privilege in this particular; being fully convinced that the subject cannot fail to be duly and correctly appreciated by every liberal and enlightened mind.