

Many Famous Men.

Many well-known names are associated with the foundation of Queen's, both clergymen and laymen, such as Rev. John Machar, Honorable William Morris, Rev. Dr. Matheson, Rev. Prof. Mowat, Chief Justice McLean, and Honorable James Crooks. At the Jubilee meeting of Queen's in December, 1889, Sir John Macdonald recalled the organization meeting in 1839. Sir John gave his reminiscences of this meeting in which he had taken part, and he concluded his reminiscent speech in these words:—"I look forward with great hope to the future of the University. I stood at its cradle, and am proud to see such a healthy child. You are yet young, but you are healthy, strong and active, and can look forward with hope to the years of strong, vigorous manhood before you in the future."

Around the training school of the Church of Scotland there grew up a great university with faculties in Arts, Science and Medicine. The Imperial authorities realizing that the Church of Scotland was an established church showed interest in the establishment of Queen's.

Queen's Traditions.

One of the best traditions in the history of Queen's University is that from the beginning it was an absolutely tolerant institution, and even in the early fifties, Anglicans, Methodists and Roman Catholics availed themselves of her advantages. There is not more remarkable evidence of Scottish tenacity and courage than in the fact that when the disruption of the Church of Scotland took place in 1843, affecting equally the Canadian Church, and the free Church students withdrew from Queen's. She was left with eleven students and most of the staff gave up the struggle. But the trustees were determined, and by 1850 there were forty-one matriculated students. Queen's, like all other institutions, has had her periods of strain, but having survived the disruption she can be hopeful of surviving anything.

The foremost men of Queen's have been known in quarters far outside the boundaries of the Presbyterian Church. The names of men like Principal Snodgrass, Professor McKerras, Professor Watson, and above all, Principal Grant, are household words in Canada.

Standing Misfortune.

The outstanding feature in the history of Queen's is the marvellous power it has shown of withstanding the accidents and shocks of ill-fortune. First, there was the disruption of 1843,—it survived this. Then, it lost the government grant in 1868, when the province, under Sandfield Macdonald, adopted the policy ever since followed, under which policy no grants of public money can be made to what for the want of a better name are called "Sectarian Colleges." Then the College, by the failure of the Commercial Bank, lost a large part of its revenue. It is evident from the history of Queen's that whenever it was thrown most on its own resources it threw the best and I suspect that this is true of other institutions as well as individuals. Under