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J. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Manager and Editor

Ottawa, Wednesday, 29 June 1904.

## OTTAWA LADIES' COLLEGE.

In another column will be found an account of the graduating exercises of the Ottawa Ladies' College. We congratulate the College on its successful work. We scarcely know where to turn for an educational home for young women where the teaching is so thorough and the tone so good. Mrs. Ross, the retiring lady principal, is well known as a woman of strong christian character, and from the universal testimony of those who know the new lady principal she has eminent qualifications for the position. The college is our own and we wish it all success.

Referring to the Presbyterian General Assembly of Canada, which met recently in St. John, N. B., the Louisville Christian Observer says: "Altogether, this Assembly seems to have been a vigorous, practical and earnest one, and the future of the Church in Canada seems bright." Referring to the fact that the commissioners from the Northwest and British Columbia had to travel some 3,500 miles, the same paper says: "As there is only one Presbyterian body in the whole of Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the church is wonderfully compact in its spirit and work, though widely scattered geographically."

A striking centenary celebration took place at Picton, N. S., a few weeks ago—that of Rev. Thomas McCulloch, D.D., the first pastor of Prince Street Church in that town, inducted June 6, 1804. In the one hundred years which have elapsed that congregation has only had five pastors, and the fifth is still in harness. Here is the record: Rev. Thomas McCulloch, D.D., 1804-1824; Rev. John McKinley, 1824-1850; Rev. James Bayne, D.D., 1851-1876; Rev. Wm. McDonald, 1878-1886; Rev. A. Falconer, D.D., 1886. Dr. McCulloch was also the father of the first Presbyterian Theological College in Canada, established at Picton in 1817, in connection with the famous Picton Academy and now the Presbyterian Theological College at Halifax.

## REST SEEKING.

We have entered into the holiday season and everyone who can, is seeking rest and refreshment in cool and quiet resting places kind nature has provided. Weary in brain, weary in body and weary in heart, what a blessing to get away from the strain and the worry, if only for a short season. If there were a little more restfulness of desire, less rush after riches, less eager pursuit of pleasure, less feverish activity in daily life, men and women would not need so much these breaks in life's routine. There is no doubt that if we lived more simply and more quietly, and discharged our duties with more calmness of heart we would see much less of nervous breakdowns, and all life would be the better for it. We need in these busy days to get into the heart of the Quaker poet's prayer:

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
Forgive our feverish ways,  
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,  
In purer life thy service find,  
In deeper reverence praise.  
Drop Thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease,  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of thy peace.

Has not the christian church yet to hear in the fulness of its meaning the call of the Master "Come unto Me... I will give you rest." Are christians restful? Of course no one will so far misconstrue the Master's words as to suppose them to mean an invitation to indolent ease. The rest to which He calls us gives strength for life's activities and burdens. It gives quiet in the heart of the storm and permanent peace even in a busy and tired life. It tones the nerves, and braces the will for effort. But it forbids "feverish ways." It brings us into constant fellowship with that heart that was meek and lowly, and there is true rest.

At the tercentenary celebration at Annapolis, N. S., a few days ago, reference was made by some of the speakers—notably by Hon. Charles Langelier, Quebec—to the religious toleration and the absence of bitter religious strife which has long prevailed in that province. The tribute paid to Nova Scotia was well deserved. What is one of the chief causes of this happy state of affairs? Is it not largely due to the fact that there are no separate schools in that province. The children of Catholics and Protestants are brought up together and taught in the public schools of the province where they learn to respect each other's religious views and sentiments and agree to differ in a friendly manner where they cannot otherwise agree. The same happy state of affairs prevails in New Brunswick and P. E. Island, where the children of Catholics and Protestants sit side by side in the public schools. It is very doubtful if this would be the case if there young people were divided into hostile camps by the agency of separate schools. We can appreciate the sincerity of the motive which induces our Roman Catholic fellow citizens in Ontario and Quebec to maintain their separate school systems, but would it not be worth while for them to take a look at the system which prevails in the maritime provinces and which contributes so materially to the promotion and maintenance of the toleration and good will which prevail among their people.

## REFORMING DELINQUENT CHILDREN.

Address Delivered by J. J. Kelso, Toronto, at The Thirtieth National Conference of Charities and Correction, Atlanta, Ga., May 8, 1903.

Few subjects are more important and none can more worthily occupy our attention than the proper care of neglected and dependent children, especially those who through petty delinquencies are in danger of drifting permanently into the criminal class. The destiny of children is controlled by early training and environment, and life with all its possibilities may be made or unmade by the circumstances surrounding the boy or girl when he or she is emerging into manhood and womanhood. The superintendent of our Industrial School said not long ago that he very seldom received a thoroughly bad boy. There were mischievous boys and boys who from lack of proper advantages or from extra ebullition of spirits had got off the right track, but there was rarely a case where the boy was sufficiently bad to be classed as in any degree hopeless or incorrigible—and this has been my own experience. Children look to the future with eagerness and hope, and they are ready to respond to any call upon their faith or activity. Taken in the right way and by the right persons, the boy or girl who has gone astray, broken the law or given evidence of waywardness, can, if separated from hurtful environment and association, be reformed, or at least given an impetus toward reformation, almost instantaneous awakening of the soul to the realization of higher and better things by the magnetic influence of one soul reacting upon another. If we earnestly desire the reformation of a child, and let the child feel and know that we have such a desire, the response will in almost every instance be prompt and sincere.

To illustrate what I mean let me tell the following incident: Years ago when I first entered upon philanthropic work I was conducting a Fresh Air excursion on the lake for some two or three hundred neglected children. There was one girl about fourteen years of age who had given a great deal of trouble; she was bold, defiant, profane and quarrelsome, and at last after a serious dispute with two or three of the workers, a request was made to me to have her put off the boat before it started. The girl, knowing that an appeal was being made, stood a short way off awaiting the decision with a hard, sullen look on her face. After hearing the complaints I told the ladies I wished to make an experiment and asked them to watch the result. I then went over to the girl and said to her: "Mary, we have just been talking about you, and we have decided that you are getting so big now that we will make you a member of the committee. See," I continued, "here is a badge which will show that you are one of the managers, and I will pin it on your dress." At first she could hardly grasp the new idea, but in a few minutes large tears came to her eyes and rolled down her cheeks. Without taking any notice of this, she was given a special work to do, namely, to distribute milk to the