

PRINCIPAL MacVICAR'S CLOSING REMARKS.

In closing the proceedings, Principal MacVicar remarked:—

We open this session under circumstances for which I am profoundly thankful. It is the twentyfifth session since I began my work in the College as its first and sole Professor in the basement of Erskine church. Through the energy and liberality of our many friends, things have greatly changed for the better since that date. We had then little beyond our charter and faith in God and his people to undertake the founding of the institution. At the outset, it fell to my lot to teach nearly every branch of the curriculum, and for twenty-four years I have had three departments in my hands. Gradually we were enabled to make a division of labour; and to-night through the large-hearted munificence of one of our friends, I rejoice in being privileged to place two of my departments and one of Mr. Scrimger's in charge of Professor

Ross. We have now four English and one French Professor, and four Lecturers. We have one hundred and ninety-nine alumni by whom we are most worthily represented on Foreign Mission Fields and in all parts of this Dominion. We have nearly one hundred students; and of our Library, Buildings and other equipments it is unnecessary to speak except to say that we expect their continued enlargement. Our determination is, by the Divine blessing, to keep abreast of the age in all respects—to be thoroughly progressive in the best sense of that term; and I feel confident that we have in Professor Ross, whom I most cordially welcome as a member of our staff, a gentleman who, by his christian character and spirit, his ability and scholarly attainments, will greatly aid us in carrying out this determination and adding lustre to the fair fame of our institution.