

SIXTY YEARS' RETROSPECT.

In this land men have their eyes fixed so constantly on the future that they may for a while turn them with profit in the opposite direction.

And in view of my lengthened connection with this institution as student, supporter, professor and principal, you will pardon me when I ask you to join with me for a little in looking backward.

Sixty-three years have run their course since Knox College was founded, and sixty-one years have passed away since a young student commenced his studies within its walls, who now has the honour of addressing you from this platform.

It will not be deemed unseemly for him to indulge a little in retrospect.

The political outlook on this continent was very different sixty years ago from what it is now.

In the United States two diverse conceptions of Government were developing side by side. The north, with its democratic