

Wells, Rev. Prof. Duclos, Rev. J. Watson, Huntington; Rev. R. Campbell, Rev. Dr. Burns, Rev. J. M. Gibson, Rev. Mr. Fortin, Trinity Church; Rev. A. McNish, B. D., Cornwall, Ont.

Rev. Principal MacVicar read letters from the following, expressing their regret at not being able to be present: The Bishop of Montreal and Metropolitan, Rev. Principal Cook, of Morrin College, Quebec; Rev. Principal Snodgrass, of Queen's College, Kingston; Rev. Dean Bond, Rev. Canon Bancroft, Rev. A. Henderson, Rev. A. Young, Rev. C. Chapman, Rev. Dr. Wilkes, and others.

The Hall was crowded to excess, large numbers being unable to obtain standing-room. The meeting was opened by singing the Hundredth Psalm, reading of Scripture by Rev. J. M. Gibson, and prayer by Rev. Dr. Burns. Principal MacVicar then proceeded to deliver the following opening address:—

Ladies and Gentlemen—The happy circumstances under which we meet to-night, require from me a few sentences regarding the origin and progress of this College. The Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, having resolved to establish a Theological College here, and a charter having been obtained, the three Presbyteries of Montreal, Ottawa, and Brockville, were set apart for the support of the institution. The work of instruction was commenced in the winter of 1867, under the care of Rev. Messrs. Gregg and Aitken, each delivering lectures during three months. Since then, till to-night, our classes have been held in rooms generously granted free of expense, in the basement of Erskine Church. In 1868 I was appointed Professor in the College, and accepted the office, leaving for this purpose one of the strongest congregations in our Church. It is not surprising that the work was looked upon as purely tentative, when you remember that we set out amid the openly expressed doubts and fears of not a few, with a mere handful of students, with no library, no scholarships, no endowment, no buildings, and only one Professor.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

After five years of arduous toil we find ourselves in possession of assets amounting in all to between eighty and ninety thousand dollars. We have a library of over five thousand volumes; twenty scholarships of the value of from \$50 to \$60 each; two medals, one in gold, founded by the students last session, and the other in silver, founded by A. Saadham, Esq.; and an endowment fund of twenty-four thousand dollars. We have three Professors, and the services of an able lecturer, Rev. J. M. Gibson, M. A., and tutor, W. J. Dey, B. A. We have 40 students and 17 graduates; and to-night we rejoice in taking possession of this beautiful and commodious building, of which I shall say more presently. We train men speaking English, Gaelic, and French, special provision being made for the education of the last named, so as to fit them for missionary service throughout our country. Our students come from all parts of the Dominion, and some recently from the United States and Scotland. They are graduates in Arts of Toronto University, Queen's College, Kingston, McGill College, and other similar institutions. As to their talents and literary attainments, suffice it to say that a reasonable number of them have taken the highest honors in their Arts Course, and I can speak confidently of their devotion and success in their Theological studies.

MISSIONARY ASPECTS OF THE WORK.

In this connection I have to mention the pleasing fact that ere long several of our young men will, by the grace of God, be found in the foreign field. Equally important is our French missionary work, which is now beginning to be better organized and understood. One of our French students is on the list of graduates, and now labors in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in connection with the Presbyterian Church there, which Church, I hope soon to see united with our own. The missionary spirit of all our students manifests itself in various ways; such as the formation of a Missionary Society among themselves, which sustains five or six missionaries annually, during vacation; and I could point in and around our city where the labors of professors and students are having a most