

a new character upon the College, and deem the present a fit opportunity to do so; whether they expect to secure better teachers at the old salaries or at reduced salaries; or whether they hope that the mere fact of getting new men will restore the financial prosperity of the College, is to us unknown. The trustees have not taken the public into their confidence, and it is useless to speculate regarding their hopes or intentions.

Previous to his appointment by the Government of Ontario as Principal of Upper Canada College Mr. Dickson was Principal of the Collegiate Institute in Hamilton. In that important position his record was in the highest degree honourable to him. Under his supervision the Institute rose to a first place among similar schools in Ontario. It was the pride of Hamilton, and pupils were attracted from many parts of the Province. The celebrity of the Collegiate Institute undoubtedly called the attention of the Educational Department to Mr. Dickson as a man well qualified to succeed the late Mr. Buchan, himself an educator of high rank. Upper Canada College had, indeed, a succession of able Principals, and to follow these and come into comparison with them was no easy matter. Yet Mr. Dickson stood the test well. After filling the position for ten years there is nothing with which he can be reproached—nothing to show that a mistake was made in his selection for the office.

In 1884 the number of boarders was 111, and the number of day-boys 113. In 1885, the first year of Mr. Dickson's Principalship, the numbers rose to 132 and 140, respectively. In 1886 they were 144 and 148; in 1887, 149 and 170; in 1888, 145 and 219; in 1889, 144 and 208; in 1890—the year in which the endowment was cut off—127 and 192; in 1891, 130 and 162; in 1892, 165 and 118; in

1893, 138 and 131; and last year, 104 and 120.

It will thus be seen that under Mr. Dickson's administration the attendance both of boarders and day-pupils continued to rise until 1888, and that notwithstanding the reduction in numbers which began after 1889—due, it can scarcely be doubted, to the hard times and change of site—the entire attendance last year was greater by ten than when Mr. Dickson became Principal. The average attendance from 1878 to 1885 was 243, and from 1885 to 1894 it was 304. This is not a bad showing.

That the depression in business which has prevailed for some years would tend to reduce the number of resident pupils is highly probable; that the removal of the College to its present site, especially in view of the fact that Toronto has now three excellent Collegiate Institutes conveniently placed, has reduced the number of day-pupils, is absolutely certain.

If the revenues of the College be considered, the result is equally favourable to Mr. Dickson. As shown in the report of 1893-4, the total income of the College from 1886 to 1891 was \$381,609.37, while the total expenditure was \$344,886.97—thus leaving a surplus of \$36,722.40. In the eight years immediately preceding (against which there is no charge of mismanagement) there was a deficit of \$1,310.42. There was then no falling off, but rather decided improvement, in the finances of the College till the period at which all revenue from endowment ceased. It is unnecessary to enter more minutely into details, though the closest inspection of the official statements would only confirm the conclusion here reached.

Principal Dickson's regime is farther accredited by the reports of the High School inspectors—so long as the College was subject to inspection—and by the scholarships and honours