

doubt, has largely given him his success in preaching and teaching. He is no half-way theologian, no semi-Christian. For him Christ is the ever-living Saviour of sinful fallen humanity, and the *only* Way of Life. This he believes; and this he will preach and teach with all the power and vigor which the consciousness of having grasped the truth can give. He has no sympathy with would-be-liberal Christians who are willing to sacrifice some of the grandest principles of Christianity, in order to win an approving smile from some garrulous, half-educated, patronizing sceptic. But towards other Christian bodies he exercises the broadest charity; and neither in the pulpit nor in the class-room does he encourage bigotry or sectarianism.

Having clear and definite ideas himself, he seeks to develop the same excellent trait in his students. And, as a Professor, he probably, cannot be excelled in ability to *teach*. The clearness with which he presents truths makes his classes exceedingly pleasant and profitable to his students. Abstract subjects are placed in such varied light that they are readily grasped by even the most ordinary intellects.

Perhaps in no phase of his life does the thorough-going, practical turn of Dr. MacVicar's mind show itself so clearly, or so advantageously, as in his administration as Principal. The success of this College, almost unparalleled in the College world, is largely due to his faithfulness and good judgment.

Principal MacVicar, being still a comparatively young man, is but rising to the fulness of his power; and future students will see lights and shades in the picture of his character which will make his individuality still more complete, and give a broader basis upon which to build, and more definite lines by which to bound, the story of his life. Writing the life of a man who has fought his way to the front, and who is yet in the prime of life, is like following the course of a river, through tangled forests and over rocky rapids, from its fountain front head till it reaches the open country and fertile fields of civilized life; and then leaving it, just as it has reached the beginning of its sweep and grandeur. Yet we leave it with a certain degree of satisfaction, knowing that the volume of its waters is now such, that, however much it may have had to curve around the objects which opposed its progress while it was a stream, its course must now be comparatively straight, and its surface unruffled by the rocks which line, and lie buried in, its channel.

After this attempt to anticipate the coming years, let us say a word in concluding this biographical sketch: Dr. MacVicar has always had too much to do in this College. During the first eight or ten years the labor of finance was scarcely less burdensome to him than class work. And now, without dictating to College authorities or Church courts, we venture to think that it would be but an act of justice that he should be expected to conduct the work of only one or two, instead of three departments, as hitherto, along with the discharge of the duties of Principal—which are far from being light. This is probably a question of funds, but it would surely pay the College and the Church to set him reasonably free to deepen and extend the researches in which he is constantly engaged.