

## VI. Educational Intelligence.

—ALBERT UNIVERSITY. — The Annual Convocation of our local University for the reception of new students, the conferring of degrees, and awarding of prizes and honours, has gradually become one of the most important events of the season. Year after year has Ontario Hall been crowded with audiences comprising the beauty and fashion of the town and surrounding county, to watch the bearing of the successful competitors for prizes and honours, and urge others on who saw the reception of their more laborious fellow-students, who were ahead of them, so far on their way to the goal for which all were striving.

Though the weather on the 17th was against the hopes of those who wished to see a full turn out of the friends of the institution, yet there was no falling off in the attendance of the public. In fact, the contrary seemed to be the case, as, ere the exercises commenced, seats were not to be had, spacious as the hall is, and numbers of persons were obliged to stand. The audience, too, was to the full as brilliant as usual, the ladies being present in force.

Seated upon the platform were the Chancellor and Senate of the University, and the students, and amongst the gentlemen who occupied seats we observed Attorney-General Mowat, Hon. Robert Read, and Hon. Lewis Wallace, Messrs. James Brown and Walter Ross, M.P.s.; H. M. Deroche and K. Graham, M.P.s.; Messrs. W. R. Aylesworth and A. A. Farley, County Councillors; the Mayor, and Messrs. Wm. Sutherland and W. J. Diamond, Town Councillors; Drs. Palmer, Hope, Holden, Wilson, and Nichol; Rev. Messrs. Wild, McLean, Benson, Curtis, Aylesworth, and others; the Police Magistrate; Messrs. Thos. McIntyre, M.A., Henry Taylor, L.L.B., Thos. Holden, John Rowe, R. W. Dawson, and a number of other gentlemen.

Convocation was opened by prayer by the Venerable Bishop Richardson, after which the matriculants were admitted, the number, it will be seen, being in excess of any previous occasion:

IN ARTS.—G. H. Porter, Sen. Soph., A. W. Bannister, F. W. Davis, I. Wood, B. N. Davis, B. F. Austin, M. M. Brown, M. H. Davis, A. C. Crosby, E. N. Baker, J. M. Ashton, W. J. Maybee, T. P. Green, J. B. Carman, H. A. Row, G. N. Wilson, J. Van Wyck.

IN CIVIL ENGINEERING.—S. M. Brown.

IN AGRICULTURE.—W. F. W. Fisher.

The Chancellor then addressed the young men at length upon their duties and responsibilities in entering the institution, after which they formally signed the roll, and the ceremony of admission was complete. Prizes were then awarded, the victors in the contest for these substantial honours being severally introduced to the Chancellor and appropriately commended by him:

MATRICULANT PRIZEMEN.—A. W. Banister, the Scott Prize, First Proficiency; B. F. Austin, the Senate Prize, Second Proficiency; F. W. Davis, the Holden Prize in English. MATRICULANT HONOURMEN.—*First Class—Mathematics*—A. W. Banister, B. F. Austin. *Classics*—A. W. Bannister, F. W. Davis, B. F. Austin, B. N. Davis, J. Wood. *History and Geography*—M. M. Brown, B. F. Austin, F. W. Davis, I. Wood, R. N. Davis, A. W. Bannister, M. H. Davis. *English*—F. W. Davis, M. M. Brown, A. W. Bannister, B. F. Austin. The list of honoumen in the second class was then read by the Registrar, Prof. Badgely, as follows:—*MATHEMATICS*.—B. N. Davis, A. C. Crosby, I. Wood, M. M. Brown, M. H. Davis. *English*.—I. Wood, M. H. Davis. The Latin salutatory was delivered by Mr. B. N. Davis in a very commendable manner, and Mr. F. W. Davis gave an English Oration, in which the *personnel* of the matriculating class was happily sketched. Prof. Whish's anthem, "Domine, Salvum Fac," was sung by a choir of ladies and gentlemen of the University, accompanied by the composer on a cabinet organ. *THESES* for B.A.—J. English, "Social Inequality;" G. D. Platt, "Mental Development;" F. MacAmmond, "Positivism;" B. M. Brisbin, "A Plea for the Sciences," and Valectictory.

The above Theses were all of a high character, Mr. MacAmmond's oratory being especially worthy of note. Mr. Brisbin's Valectictory, though rather long, was yet well conceived, and delivered in a manner to win applause. The ceremony of admission to degrees was now proceeded with, and the following gentlemen had these honours conferred upon them:—B.A.—Foster MacAmmond, Bernard Mannon Brisbin, Gilbert Dorland Platt, John English. LL.B.—Thomas Nichol, (M.D., Montreal.) LL.D.—Henry Taylor, (Brooklyn, N.Y.)

UNDERGRADUATE PRIZEMEN—SENIOR SOPHISTERS.—F. MacAmmond, the Senior Prize for General Proficiency; F. MacAmmond, the Senate Prize in German Prose; B. M. Brisbin, the Hope Prize in Geology. JUNIOR SOPHISTERS.—J. W. Wright, the Senate Prize for General Proficiency; J. W. Wright, the Senate Prize in Latin Verse; T. W. McVeity, the President's Prize in Metaphysics; T. W. McVeity, the Professor's Prize in Oratory. SENIOR FRESHMEN.—A. M. Morris, "Harry Nichol Memorial Prize" for General Proficiency; A. M. Morris, the Gold Prize in Mathematics. JUNIOR FRESHMEN.—F. W. Merchant, the Burdett Prize for General Proficiency; R. I. Warner, the Clapham Prize in Physiology and Comp. Anatomy; R. I. Warner, the Sills Prize in English Prose. In presenting one of the prize winners, Dr. Wild stated that Dr. Taylor, upon whom they had conferred the honorary degree of LL.D., had determined to present an annual prize of \$25 for at least four years, and a donation of \$50 to the library. This announcement was received with loud applause. The business having been concluded, the Chancellor introduced, with a few remarks, Hon. Attorney-General MOWAT, who proceeded to deliver a short address. He first expressed himself gratified with the reception he had met with, and proceeded to remark upon the thriving and prosperous appearance of our city—if not yet a city, he said, correcting himself, at least sure to be so in the near future. When a youth, Belleville, then a small village, was the end of his journeyings westward, and he remembered that even then it contained many kindly people, more of whom doubtless resided here now. The question of aiding denominational colleges was one on which the opinions of politicians were divided. For his part, he believed that a great deal of good had been done by these institutions in affording the advantages of collegiate training to those who otherwise could not have obtained it. He rejoiced to

see so many talented young men connected with Albert University, and feeling sure that such abilities as they possessed would win them a way to wealth and fame, he counselled that some of them should establish prizes, and the richest of them expend a portion of their wealth in establishing chairs in their *alma mater*. After a few other remarks of a general character in praise of the institution, the speaker resumed his seat amidst loud applause. The proceedings were then closed in the usual manner.

The annual dinner of the Alumni Society of Albert University, was held at the Dafee House in the evening. Mr. S. B. Burdett, LL.B., President of the Alumni Society, presided, and on his right were seated the Hon. Mr. Mowat, Premier of Ontario, Dr. Hope, and Rev. Dr. Wild; and on his left, Rev. Principal Carman, the Mayor, and Mr. H. Taylor, of Brooklyn, N.Y. Mr. Morden, of Napanee, occupied the Vice-Chair. After the edibles had been removed, the CHAIRMAN said, that before proposing any toasts, he would read the following telegram, which had been received from Hon. A. McKellar:—"I was from home and did not receive your kind invitation till to-day. I can assure the professors and students that they have my best sympathy and wishes for the success of the Institution which they represent." The first toast of the evening was "The Queen," which was responded to by the singing of "God Save the Queen" by the company. "Prince of Wales and Royal Family." "The Governor-General and Dominion Government," was the next toast given, coupled with the name of Mr. Diamond, Police Magistrate. Mr. Diamond was surprised that he was called upon to respond, as he was neither a member of the Dominion Parliament nor of the Government. He was a Government official, and therefore couldn't be; but as representatives were not present, he was obliged to respond to the toast. As to the Governor-General, it was, he thought, the unanimous opinion that he belonged to the "old stock" and was a just and excellent Governor. If he had made mistakes, he certainly did what he thought was right and proper. Besides being a statesman and a nobleman, he was a literary gentleman, a yachtsman, and a sportsman, and he occupied a warm place in the hearts of the people. As to the Dominion Government, he believed they had done what they considered to be for the best interests of the country. He was glad to see that the Hon. Attorney-General was present, and that he took such a strong interest in Albert College, which deserved more attention than it got. He trusted that the success and prosperity which now attends it would be but an augury of the future.

"The Lieut.-Governor and Government of the Province of Ontario," was drunk amid cheers. Hon. Oliver Mowat, Attorney-General, responded. He felt obliged for the kind manner in which he had been referred to by the Chairman and the last speaker, though not quite so grateful for the announcement that he would make a speech to-night, as he had already addressed an audience in the afternoon. The toast which had just been drunk looked very much like a political one; but he didn't intend to make a party speech, as it would ill become him in a gathering of this kind. In the intelligent assembly before him, he had no doubt there were good Reformers—and no doubt either that there were good Conservatives, too. He had found the Lieutenant-Governor to be all that he could wish him to be. He had ever received a cordial and willing assistance from him at all times, and he performed his duties well. The next part of the toast related to the Local Government. He was happy to say that the differences which had formerly existed did not now exist. He felt proud to say that however factions might disagree in some instances, in one thing they were all agreed—loyalty to the Queen and the mother land. If they were called upon to fight for their country, they would all go; and battling shoulder to shoulder, they would forget, for the time being, which were Reformers and which Conservatives, and not remember it again until peace had been restored. He was pleased to see that there was very little party spirit in regard to this Seminary. The Hon. gentleman dwelt upon the Education Bills which had been brought before the House, and upon the Toronto University question, and closed his speech by expressing again his thanks for the heartiness with which the toast had been given from the chair and received by the learned body, and by observing that he would have pleasure in communicating the fact to the Lieutenant-Governor and his colleagues upon his return. He was loudly cheered on resuming his seat. "The Legislature of Ontario" being the next toast given, Mr. DEROCHE, M.P.P., was called upon. He felt the honour done him by the Chairman in being requested to respond to the toast, and he deemed it a great honour to represent the Legislature of Ontario. To-day had been the first time he had had the pleasure of being present at the University, though he had met several of its Professors and graduates. He was greatly interested in Albert College, because it was a good help to Education. The present Legislature of Ontario took a strong interest in Education. It had now a School Bill of which it had reason to be proud; it would bear fruit in good season. He admired the course the M. E. Church had taken in regard to denominational Colleges. Although he was not a Methodist Episcopal, their views in this matter were his. The College did the Church credit. He hoped the training the students would receive in the College would only be preparatory to the training they would receive in the world. He was applauded on taken his seat. Mr. GRAHAM, M.P.P., also spoke on behalf of the Legislature of Ontario. Whether he attended the dinner as a Conservative or a Reformer, he would say that, as a member of the Local Parliament, he thought it was the right course for him to pursue when he placed himself under the leadership of Mr. Mowat. He did not regret having cast his lot with this Christian gentleman, the Attorney-General, and acknowledged him his leader. Mr. Graham referred to the happy facilities for education that the country possesses—to the Toronto University, and to the duty parents owed to their children by way of giving them an education. He would "follow his leader" and take his seat. "The Prosperity of Albert College" was the next toast in order, coupled with the names of Principal Carman and Dr. Wild. Rev. Principal CARMAN said that the College was endowed with University powers by the Legislature, and it was his opinion that public men should visit the institution not only to show their interest in, and sympathies with Albert College, but to see that they (the authorities) didn't abuse those privileges conferred upon them: Therefore he was rejoiced to see the Hon. Attorney-General here to-day. He