

scattered and inefficient action where united action is necessary. This spirit of insubordination—for that is its true name—is widespread, and it is a pity that the college training, which should show us some of its imperfections, only sets us in it. Defiance of superiors is not a sign of manliness. Is the human product of nineteenth century freedom superior in manliness, courage and sturdiness to the Elizabethan who stood cap in hand to his betters and fought the Spaniards five to one, and explored unknown seas in ten-ton yachts? Even now, the rigidly disciplined soldier is not generally supposed to be the most spiritless of mortals. True, at college we are men, and as men we will be treated; we will suffer no unreasoning dictation, for we have minds and the right to use them; we will submit to no imposition, for so doing would wrong our own personality; but that does not say that at college we shall not likewise learn the advantage of disciplined trained cohesion; that we shall not find that others sometimes know more than we do; that we should not learn to waive our own preference and act heart and soul with the majority, and that we shall not discover that true independence is learned as well by obedience as by defiance. Too little of that goes at Queen's to make up that precious out of door education which a university gives. The minority is too ready to secede and weaken the hands of college or year; individuals are too prone to allow their own preferences to over-ride every consideration of college loyalty, or year fraternity. There is, we are firmly convinced, a crying need for a strenuous effort to overcome these evils; to ensure greater respect for seniors, greater loyalty to college or class, greater willingness to sacrifice personal preferences for the good of the whole. We trust that such an effort may soon be made, and that Good Old Queen's progress in that direction may be as satisfactory as it is in all others.

COLLEGE NEWS.

THE REV. GEORGE BELL, B.A., LL.D.,
REGISTRAR OF QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.

DR. BELL was the youngest son of a large family, and was born in Perth in 1819. His father came from Scotland in 1817 to be minister of the Presbyterian settlers there. His mother was also Scotch, but was a lineal descendant of Huguenot parents, who fled from France after the massacre of St. Bartholomew, in 1572. He was prepared for the University partly in private and partly in Hamilton at the Gore District Grammar School, which was then taught by Dr. Rae. He was the first registered student of Queen's, and her first graduate, having received the degree of B.A. in 1845. The degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him in 1872.

He was ordained and inducted into the pastoral charge of Cumberland and Buckingham in 1844, and was translated in 1848 to Simcoe, in 1857 to Niagara Falls, and in 1874 to Walkerton. In all these pastorates he gained the affection and respect of his people by his instructive preaching, his consistent life, and the practical interest he took alike in their temporal and their spiritual welfare. Owing to the failure of his health he gave up the active work of the ministry in 1881, and in the following

year was appointed to his present position in Queen's.

He was married in 1846 to Miss Whiteford, of Montreal, and in 1855 to Miss Chadwick, of Simcoe. By each marriage he had two children. The eldest of them distinguished himself highly at Woolwich, standing first in the most difficult subject at the final examination, and is now a Major in the Royal Engineers; the second is Mrs. R. S. Dobbs, of Kingston; the third is a graduate of Queen's and a prosperous Barrister in Toronto; the fourth is Mrs. C. N. Bell, of Winnipeg.

In 1867, Dr. Bell obtained the first prize from the Provincial Sabbath School Association for an Essay on S. S. Conventions, the second prize being awarded to the Rev. John Wood, the excellent and well-known minister of the Congregational Church at Ottawa.

In the sessions of 1877-8 and 1878-9 he gave a course of lectures to the Theological Students of Queen's on the "Relations of Science and the Bible." This was a subject which he could handle *cou amore*, the natural sciences having long been his favorite study. A penchant for science seems to be a characteristic of the Bell family. His late brother, the Rev. Andrew Bell, was one of the best geologists in Ontario; his nephew, Andrew Bell, B.A., C.E., is a mining expert; his nephew, Dr. Robert Bell, is Assistant Director of the Geological Survey; his nephew and son-in-law, Charles N. Bell, of Winnipeg, is a diligent student of the archaeology and geology of the North-West.

When the Chair of Church History was established in the Presbyterian College of the Maritime Provinces, the Minister of St. Matthew's, Halifax, and others strongly recommended Dr. Bell for the appointment, but he was not an applicant, and the present occupant was chosen, being equally well qualified, and better known in Edinburgh to the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland with whom the choice rested.

Dr. Bell's reputation for familiarity with ecclesiastical law and history led to his being selected by the Church of Scotland Synod to the Convenership of the Committee to whom was entrusted the framing of a Book of Forms and Procedure. The same honour was conferred upon him by the General Assembly after the Union.

In fulfilling the duties of his present office he has kept up the neat and orderly habits for which he has always been noted, and conducts his extensive and sometimes troublesome correspondence with unflinching promptitude and unvarying courtesy. When bewildered Freshmen arrive they find him patient and obliging in answering their numerous enquiries, and all students who come to him with their difficulties must acknowledge that he does his best to relieve them. To be or to do anything that is not honourable, courteous, considerate and kind is simply impossible for our excellent Registrar.

He has passed his three score years and ten, but his health is better than in his middle age. Long may it continue so! Long may he and his admirable wife be spared to dispense the hospitalities of their genial home, and to occupy their place in the Church and in society, where they would be sadly missed if we should lose them, and their absence would leave a blank which it would be very difficult to fill!