

It is scarcely necessary to add that the museum, which Robb founded, has since been greatly enriched by the zeal and energy of Dr. Bailey and his successors.

Very shortly after the first introduction of the electro-magnetic telegraph, Dr. Robb, in conjunction with Mr. Wilkinson of Fredericton, drew up a report to Lieut.-Governor Sir William Colebrooke on the mode of working it and the expense of its construction and maintenance, with a view to the establishment of a line in this province. In summing up his tribute to the work of Dr. Robb in so many departments of study the president says: "No wonder that his death should be regarded as a public calamity, and on this University, with which he was so long and so honourably connected, the blow falls with peculiar severity. He is the first of our professors whose loss we have been called upon to mourn while still engaged in the active discharge of the duties of his office. In the prime of his life and in the midst of his usefulness, it has pleased the Great Disposer of events to remove him from amongst us."

The first attempt to introduce the study of modern languages into the curriculum of King's College was in November, 1835. The College Council then engaged C. Thomassin, a French gentleman living in Fredericton, to give instruction in French. He resigned in 1848.

A more permanent appointment was made later in the year, when the chair of Modern Languages was given to Joseph Marshal d'Avray. For the next twenty-three years he lectured and taught with signal success. Professor d'Avray was a man of parts. Shortly before he took up his work at the College he opened the first normal school at Fredericton in the autumn of 1847. A similar school was opened in St. John by Edmund Hillyer Duval the next year. The Fredericton normal building was destroyed by fire in 1850 and the school there discontinued until 1870, when it was re-opened with William Crockett, M. A., as principal.

From 1853 to 1858, Professor d'Avray, without having to resign his chair in the College, held the important position of Chief Superintendent of Education. His educational reports written in fresh and vigorous English, are well worth reading after the lapse of sixty-five years. The present Chief Superintendent of Education, W. S. Carter, M.A., LL.D., is to be commended for placing on the walls of his office the portraits of all our chief superintendents, as historic memorials of men who in their generation rendered essential service to the province and to the cause of education.