

ADDRESS FROM THE STUDENTS.

The applause which followed the reading of this address having subsided, Mr. Archibald Lee, on behalf of the students of the College, ascended the platform and read as follows:—

To David Morrice, Esquire:

DEAR SIR,—We, the students of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, offer you our sincere congratulations on the opening of this magnificent building which bears your name. You have always been our benefactor, and we desire unitedly to thank you. By the untiring generosity of Mrs. Morrice and yourself you have conferred on us advantages of which we cannot be too mindful; and now, in this crowning work of your munificence, you have laid us under renewed obligation to devote ourselves with increased ardour to those pursuits in which you have shown so deep an interest. We need not tell you that you have increased our comfort, and supplied a long-felt need in our institution. You have done more than this, you have taught us the value of the gift of riches when they are consecrated to the service of the Master. We can but hope that others may catch your enthusiasm, and strive to follow your noble example. You have identified yourself with the intellectual welfare of this Province, and especially have you shown your love for that greatest of all sciences, the science of Theology. This monument of your generosity will be a possession not only to us but to future generations. You have won for yourself the thanks of every true lover of learning and you may be well assured that your name, now and always, will be enshrined with grateful remembrance in every student's heart.

The hearty applause of the students told how fully they re-echoed the sentiments of their address, and when the applause was over, Mr. David Morrice addressed the Principal, authorities and students in the following terms:

REPLY BY MR. MORRICE.

Mr. Stirling and Gentlemen of the College Board:—

I thank you very cordially for the sentiments expressed in the address with which you have favoured me. Let me assure you that it has been to me a source of unmingled satisfaction to be able to do for this institution what you are pleased to speak of in such terms of approval. I value highly your congratulations and your too kind estimate of my efforts, because I know from intimate association with you how sincere these utterances are. It has always been to me a pleasant duty to be united with you in seeking to advance a cause whose best interests you have all so truly at heart. I know well how much, under the hands of a favouring Providence, our success is due to your singleness of purpose, unanimity and perseverance, in carrying out measures for the good of our College. From the very first I can sincerely say that I took a deep interest in it, because I felt that it was destined to become the means of large and lasting good to our whole country, and especially to the Province of Quebec; and in this respect none of us have been disappointed. Many young men who might not otherwise have entered the service of the Church have been attracted to its classes, and its rapid growth convinced me years ago of the necessity of the buildings which I have now passed into your possession, and the thought of erecting which originated with Mrs. Morrice. It appeared to us both that the Church should furnish the very best appliances for the full training and proper culture of candidates for the ministry, and we entertained the hope, which has been in a gratifying measure realized, that by seeking to do our own part in this respect others would be found equally ready to do theirs, and my desire is that we, the members of the Board, should unitedly continue in this line of action until the institution is placed upon a much stronger financial basis than at present, and the work of some of the chairs has been divided by an increase of our teaching staff. I am much gratified by the expression of your appreciation of the substantial character and the utility of these buildings, which we have aimed to make worthy of the high purpose for which they are intended.

Gentlemen, students of this College:—

(Here the students rose in a body and remained standing while the speaker addressed them.)

I receive with very special pleasure your address, and in behalf of Mrs. Morrice and for myself tender you sincere thanks for it. It has always been my desire, and I trust ever will be, to promote your comfort, usefulness and success. Hence these buildings are pre-eminently for you. The pleasure you experience while enjoying the advantages of this Hall, this Library and your rooms is not greater than ours in bestowing them. I feel sure that like all your predecessors, you are loyal in heart, in speech and in action to the college of your choice, and allow me to remind you that the growth and honour of this institution are no less in your hands than in the hands of the graduates, the Board and the learned professors and lecturers who carry on the work

of instruction. I have confidence in your earnestness and devotion to the great work to which you look forward, and you can scarcely understand my delight in seeing every room in this whole college filled with such a band of promising young men. I take this as an omen for good to our country, and my prayer is that the spirit of truth and missionary zeal may rest upon you all, and that you may more and more consecrate yourselves and all your attainments to the service of our blessed Redeemer. In behalf of Mrs. Morrice, I again acknowledge very gratefully the kind manner in which the Board and you have referred to her name.

Mr. Morrice supplemented his reply by craving permission to acknowledge his indebtedness to the architect, John James Browne, Esq., whom he wished thus publicly to thank for his kind and willing assistance. The completion of the building was looked forward to with considerable anxiety, a great many changes in the plans being necessary, and Mr. Browne's readiness to meet their wishes had been highly appreciated by himself and Mrs. Morrice—for the gift was quite as much from Mrs. Morrice as from himself. (Loud applause.) He desired also to thank the contractors who had carried out the work substantially and well, each having done his part in a satisfactory manner. He referred to the early days of the College some fourteen years ago, when they met in the class rooms of Erskine Church, and said he remembered well with what misgivings the work of the College was carried forward. But they had not been without many noble friends in this noble work, and he would like to mention one who assisted them at the very beginning of this work—the late Mr. John Redpath, whose name was well known for his acts of benevolence, and it was very pleasing for them to know that his name was now linked with this college and library in the establishment of the John Redpath chair. (Applause.) There was also another name, which would always be held in kindly remembrance by the College—the late Mr. Joseph Mackay, who, in passing away, left them a very substantial instance of his deep interest in this work. But there was also another name, one who was with them now—Mr. Edward Mackay, whose noble and generous gift, supplemented by the handsome amount left by his brother, established a chair in systematic theology, with an endowment of \$40,000. This chair was not called the Edward Mackay chair, nor the Mackay chair, but the Joseph Mackay chair, which he thought was a beautiful instance of that brotherly love which St. Paul spoke about, which made Mr. Mackay pay a tribute in this way to his late brother. He concluded by expressing the hope that the work of the College would be successfully carried on in the new Hall, which was dedicated to Him from whom cometh every good and perfect gift. (Applause.)

ADDRESS BY THE PRINCIPAL.

Principal Macvicar then delivered an address. He said:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—This is to us a day of joy and thankfulness. The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad. He hath led us by a way which we knew not; and now words but imperfectly express our gratitude to Him and to those whose hearts He has moved to carry on and extend this great work. It is surely fitting that we should for a moment recall the past. We cannot say the distant past, for it is only a few years since this institution was called into existence. The first meeting to consider the propriety of founding it was held in Terrace Bank at the invitation of the late Mr. John Redpath. Subsequent meetings were held in the house of the late Mr. John C. Beckett, and the issue was that the matter was brought before the Presbytery of Montreal and through that reverend court before the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and under its direction and approval a charter was obtained in 1865. For two years after this there was nothing of the College but the charter—no endowment, no building, no library, no professors, no students. In the winter of 1867-68 the work of instruction was commenced by the Rev. Dr. Gregg, now of Knox College, Toronto, and the Rev. Wm. Anken, then of Smith's Falls, acting as lecturers. A little company of students gathered round them in the lecture rooms of Erskine Church, generously granted to the College Board free of expense. In the fall of 1868 I entered upon my duties as the first, and, for some time, the only Professor. We continued our growing work in Erskine Church till the winter of 1873, when the original college building was opened. During this period most valuable assistance was rendered in several departments by the Rev. Dr. Gibson, now of London, England, the Rev. Professor McLaren, now of Knox College, Toronto, and others acting as temporary lecturers. In 1873 the Rev. John Campbell, M.A., was appointed Professor of Church History and Apologetics; in 1880 the Rev. Daniel Cousirat, B.A., B.D., was appointed French Professor of Theology; in 1882 the Rev. John Scrimger, M.A., was appointed Professor of Hebrew and Greek Exegesis, and the Rev. Wm. J. Dey, M.A., Dean of Residence. We have thus a regular staff of four professors of theology and a Dean of Residence, together with five special lecturers, viz., the Rev. A. B. Mackay, the Rev. Dr. MacNish and Messrs. A. C. Hutchison and J. McLaren—in all ten actively engaged in the work of instruction. Such has been the rapid growth of our teaching staff. And the increase of the number of those waiting upon our prelections has been equally satisfactory, so that to-day all the room generously provided for us is fully occupied, and found to be even too limited. Our stu-