

The great liberality of the Legislature in recently providing a fund of £500 per annum towards the relief of superannuated or worn out teachers, the Council cannot but believe, will prove a strong ground of encouragement to many to enter a profession hitherto but ill requited, while it cannot fail to provoke increased zeal and exertions on the part of those already engaged therein.

It will be gratifying to your Excellency to learn that the system of establishing free public libraries throughout Upper Canada, has been put into successful operation during 1853 and 1854. Since December of last year, nearly 75,000 volumes of books, embracing the more important departments of human knowledge, have been circulated through the agency of the township municipalities and school corporations, from which the Council anticipate the most salutary results.

As an illustration of the cordial co-operation of the people in promoting the system of public education established by the Legislature, we are rejoiced to add, that the very large sum of *half a million* of dollars was raised by their free action to promote this object, exclusive of legislative aid.

These facts, we are assured, will be no less gratifying to your Excellency than they are cheering to ourselves, and worthy of the people of Upper Canada, and we hope that, in the course of a few years, when the Grammar Schools have been effectually incorporated with our educational system, the general results of our operations will not be less satisfactory.

In welcoming your Excellency to this institution, we feel, that while manifesting that dutiful respect for the Representative of our Most Gracious Queen to which your Excellency is entitled, we are also rendering a just tribute of thanks to one whose eloquent lips and gracious co-operation have so materially aided us in the performance of the duties devolving on us.

That the blessings of a gracious Providence may ever attend your Excellency, Lady Elgin and family, is the earnest prayer of the Council.

In reply, His Excellency thanked the Council for the very kind expressions they had employed towards himself. He expressed his entire satisfaction with what he had that day witnessed in the institution, and with the general success of the department under the able administration of its affairs by the Rev. Dr. Ryerson. He concurred with the Council in the hope that the establishment of public libraries would be of incalculable benefit to Western Canada.

After the singing of the National Anthem by the students and pupils of the Normal and Model Schools in the theatre (whither the Council had proceeded with His Excellency, after visiting every part of the educational establishment,) the Governor General shook hands with the chief officials and took his leave.

At University College, Toronto, His Excellency was received in the Library by the President, Professors, Officers and students of the Institution. The President the Rev. Dr. McCaul read the following Address :

To His Excellency the Right Honorable the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K. T., M. A. Governor General of British North America, &c., and Visitor of University College, Toronto.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, the President, Professors, and other Officers of University College, Toronto, gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity presented by your visit to this city, to renew the expression of our loyalty to the Queen, and to testify our respect for your Excellency.

The interest which your Excellency has evinced in the advancement of education in this Province, while it well becomes the high reputation as a scholar which in former days you achieved, also manifests a just appreciation as a statesman of the value of this most important element of national prosperity.

In the great and good work of developing the intellectual resources of the country, and thereby conducing to the permanence of its material prosperity, it is our privilege to take part, as members of a college under your visitatorial oversight: and your Excellency will, we are persuaded, heartily join in our prayer, that success may attend our earnest desire to diffuse throughout the land the advantages of education of a high order, and our strenuous exertions to render the Institution with which we are connected a blessing to the community for whose benefit it has been established.

In taking leave of your Excellency on an occasion which we have reason to believe is probably the last opportunity that we shall have of addressing you, permit us to offer you our congratulations on the increased prosperity of the Province during your Excellency's administration of the Government, and at the same time to tender our cordial good wishes for your future happiness and success.

Signed on behalf of the College, Council, and Officers.

JOHN McCaul, LL. D., President.

His EXCELLENCY made a verbal reply, the following being the substance of his remarks:

He expressed his feelings of satisfaction and gratitude for the expressions of loyalty to the Queen, and respect for himself. He concurred in the opinion that the permanence of the material prosperity of the Province depends in a great degree on its intellectual culture. Adverting to proofs which had recently come under his notice, of the general spread of prosperity through the community, as evinced by the importation and sale of articles of luxury, His Excellency said that mental culture ought to keep pace with this advance in material prosperity, and this in Canada must be supplied by University College, and other similar institutions. He deeply regretted the discouragement

and and disorganisation produced by the frequent changes in the constitution of the University, which must of necessity have embarrassed the authorities in their endeavours to render the institution effective. His Excellency concluded by remarking, that he took a warm interest in the prosperity of the establishment, which he trusted was now settled on a permanent basis.

Address of the Normal School Students.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Students of the Provincial Normal School of Upper Canada, beg to approach your Excellency with the deepest respect, and to express our gratitude for the distinguished honor conferred upon the institution by your Excellency's present visit.

We embrace this opportunity to return our grateful acknowledgments of your Excellency's patronage bestowed on the institution for the special encouragement of agricultural science, and also for the interest manifested in promoting the cause of general education in our beloved country, the effect of which has been to elevate her to a position in the scale of intelligence that she had not previously attained. May the divine blessing ever rest upon your Excellency and Lady Elgin, and your Excellency's children, and may our country long prosper as at present under your Excellency's wise administration.

HIS EXCELLENCY briefly replied: In reference to the agricultural prizes, he said that the end they were designed to promote was not competition, but improvement in Agricultural Science, and it that end was obtained, all he had expected was fully satisfied. He remarked also that, in giving those prizes, he had not designed them for ladies, but since they had been successful in taking them, he did not regret that he had not restricted the prizes to the other sex.

Address of the Pupils of Upper Canada College.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Pupils of Upper Canada College, most respectfully beg leave to embrace the opportunity which your present visit to this city affords of tendering the expression of respect for your Excellency. We cannot but be assured, from the kind manifestation of interest for our College and its welfare which your Excellency upon a previous visit was pleased to exhibit, that your Excellency will receive the intelligence of its flourishing condition with extreme satisfaction; and that whilst learning has been cultivated, the sentiment of genuine devotion to our Queen has never, from the time of its first to that of its present Principal, been permitted to smoulder. The name of an Upper Canada College boy has always been, and we hope ever will be synonymous with loyalty—and we are proud that in many a past, as well as in her present struggle, our mother country has not required in vain even the blood of our fellow collegians to be shed in her defence.

In offering to your Excellency our respectful congratulations, we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of once more most cordially expressing the hope that health and every happiness may attend your estimable Countess.

Your Excellency, doubtless, has not forgotten the holiday-loving fault of youth, nor that of Upper Canada College, which your Excellency so kindly and so liberally pardoned in us on your previous visit; and we therefore trust that your Excellency will not consider us too importunate, if we once more crave your Excellency's patronage in interceding with our respected Principal for an intermission from our labors, the better to celebrate your Excellency's too brief visit to Toronto after a too protracted absence.

HIS EXCELLENCY was gracious enough to reply, in a note addressed to Mr. Principal Barron, in which the prayer of the students could not have been overlooked, for both Wednesday and Thursday were accorded them by the Principal as holidays.

Extract of an Address presented to His Excellency, by the Mechanics' Institute of Toronto:—

"Whilst we should be ungrateful in not acknowledging the support, which during the term of Your Excellency's Administration has been generously extended to this Institution in particular, of which you are the patron, we should be unjust in failing to regard it but as a part of the enlightened system of General Education, which, under your fostering care and energetic guidance, has been so successfully established in this Province, and which, embracing within its beneficial influences every class of the population, has nevertheless never diverted Your Excellency's active sympathy and aid from Societies specially calculated to elevate and strengthen mechanical and agricultural industry amongst us."

Extract from His Excellency's reply:—

"I have always considered it an imperative duty, whilst engaged in the administration of the affairs of the Province, to promote to the best of my ability, the education of the people; and I have always desired to render especial assistance to Mechanics' Institutes, knowing that they practically illustrate the principle of self-improvement."

Extract from Lord Elgin's Speech, in reply to a toast at the dinner given to His Excellency, by the Corporation of Kingston. In referring to a class of persons who are disposed to attribute their sufferings and disappointments, real and imaginary, to the presence of Lord Elgin, His Excellency remarked:—