

Inspector, on a day, visited the school, he complained that the scholars paid no attention to the "stops." The "dominie," by way of apology or justification, said: "*Sur*, as I had only a few months to *tatch*, I thought it would be a great loss of time to make them stop at every little word, and I wished to push them along as fast as *convaynient*." But among his early teachers was also the Rev. Alexander Young, the present able Minister of Napanee, who was first to turn the young lad's attention to the ministry which he was himself about to enter. Young Thompson then began to take lessons in Latin and Greek from his minister, the late Rev. J. McConechy, and after teaching for a year the school where he had himself been taught, he went to Quebec to attend the High School, then under the Rectorship of the late Dr. Smith, whose attainments in classical learning had given the school a fine reputation.

Having prosecuted his studies here for some time, Mr. Thompson, in the Fall of 1853, went to Toronto to enter upon his college course, and his education here was partly at the University, and partly at Knox College. During the first year he competed for a prize given for the best examination in Greek, Latin, and English Grammar, and stood highest in all, but according to the rules, he could receive but one. The Greek prize was awarded him, and the honor of the other two. During a seven years' course, he applied himself closely, and maintained a high standing in all the classes. In the second year of his course he was appointed by the College Board a Mathematical Tutor, a position which he held until his own course in college was completed, and he has now many pleasant memories of his days and labors there. Committing Latin to memory, had been a favorite exercise of his at the High School; and during his first days at college, when a few students would be gathered together in a room, he would, by way of amusement, recite to them the speeches of Cæsar, as given by Sallust, and once, on the stake of an oyster-supper, that he could recite the whole of the First Book of Virgil's *Æneid* without a mistake; he succeeded in the effort and gained the supper.

On the completion of his college studies, Mr. Thompson was licensed by the Presbytery of Toronto to preach the Gospel. Before accepting a pastoral charge, however, he was appointed by the Board of Directors of Morrin College, Quebec, to the Chairs of Mathematics and of Natural Philosophy in that Institution, a position which he filled for three years. Some of the students who there came under his personal instruction, have attained good positions. Among these, Mr. McKenzie gained the Gilchrist Scholarship in the London University; and Mr. R. Cassels is now Registrar in the Supreme Court of Canada.

But Mr. Thompson, having qualified himself for the Church, considered his connection with the College only temporary, and voluntarily resigned in 1865. He was immediately called to St. Andrew's church, Sarnia, his ordination and induction over the congregation taking place, April 25, 1866. He has since then remained the pastor of that congregation, which has, under his care, grown to be one of the most prosperous in Ontario. Its membership has increased from 75 to 300, notwithstanding many removals and the organization of a congregation in the