

distinguished in every branch of philosophy and literature, especially of the number, the diligence, the frugality, selfdenial and success of her college students. In this way he soon led me to tell him of my parentage, past life and efforts, present hopes and aspirations. His manner was so gracious and paternal, his sympathy so quick and genuine, his counsel so ready and cheering, his assurances so grateful and inspiring that not only was my heart his from that hour, but my future career seemed brighter and more certain than it had ever appeared before." Dr. Ryerson was at that time in the prime of a magnificent manhood, his mental powers vigorous and well disciplined, his attainments in literature varied and extensive, his experience extended and diversified. His fame as a preacher of great pathos and power widely spread. As a teacher he was earnest and efficient, eloquent and inspiring. His methods of examination furnished the very best of mental discipline, fitted alike to cultivate the memory and strengthen the judgment. All the students revered him, but the best of the class appreciated him most. His counsels were faithful and judicious, his admonitions parental and discriminating, his rebukes seldom administered but

scathingly severe. No student ever left his presence without resolving to do better, to aim higher and live in his approval. Dr. Ryerson's presidency extended from 1841 to 1844. He was followed by Rev. Dr. McNab from 1845 to '49. He in turn was succeeded by Rev. Dr. Nelles from 1850 to 1887. The true university history of Victoria is the record of the life work of Dr. Nelles. His monument is the life and success of 500 graduates in arts, 100 in law, 80 in divinity and nearly 1,400 in medicine—over 2,000 in all. But time would fail me to-day to describe at full length the history of those thirty-seven years of heroic work. The record has been written already, though imperfectly. I must be satisfied with a mere summary of the statistics of the fifty years now closing. Students matriculated in arts, 1,225; graduates in all faculties, 2,433; graduates in arts (M. A., *ad eundem* and honorary, 32), 611. I thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for your presence with us to-day. Very few now present will see the convocation of 1941. What numbers will then represent the work of Victoria? Who can tell? But they will be written in the educational history of our country, and many of them in that of other lands.

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### THE SHADOWS WE CAST.

EVERY one of us casts a shadow. There hangs about us a sort of penumbra, a strange indefinable something which we call personal influence, which has its effect on every other life on which it falls. It goes with us wherever we go. It is not something we can have when we want to have it and then lay aside when we will, as we lay aside a garment. It is some-

thing that always pours out from our life, like light from a lamp, like heat from flame, like perfume from a flower.

The ministry of personal influence is something very wonderful. Without being conscious of it we are always impressing others by this strange power that goes out from us. Others watch us and their actions are modified by ours. Many a life has been