

## JOSEPH I. BATES.

It is my desire in the present article to preserve part of what has been written regarding the late Principal Bates, and to give a wider circulation to the loving and heartfelt tributes of friends who have recorded their esteem for the true nobility and worth of him who was so suddenly taken from our midst.

It has been one of the crowning glories of Woodstock College that from its founding it has had at its head men of singular self-sacrificing devotion. This characteristic in the revered founder of the College was proverbial, and others who followed him seemed to emulate his example. To forget themselves in the consuming desire that the College might fully accomplish its mission, appeared to be the spirit that took possession of those whom God called to lead in this service, and of none could this be said more truly perhaps than of our late Principal. Those of us who had the honor of being associated with Principal Bates on the College staff, and came into intimate relation with him, know with what singleness of purpose he lent himself to securing the highest good, both of the students and the school, the apparently tireless energy with which he kept his hand upon every department of College work, and the ability with which he managed its financial affairs. We shared his satisfaction at seeing each yearly report from the College more favorable than the preceding, and at the last annual report so excellent was the standing of the school financially and otherwise that it elicited the warmest congratulations from the governing Board. It was felt that the prospects of the College were unusually bright, and the future was hopefully anticipated. We knew that all this had not been secured without a sacrifice of strength and health that caused us much anxiety. We hoped however, that with a period of complete rest and relaxation, his old time health and vigor would be regained, and it would seem that it was with such hopes as this that he himself entered upon the enjoyment of his summer vacation. But none of us realized how impaired his health in reality was, and how speedily he was to succumb under circumstances which, in robust health, would probably have been unattended by any danger whatever.