

## THE CLASS OF '97

---

There is always a peculiar joyousness about our Convocation Day, which, in so many ways, is Commencement Day as well to the one over whose shoulders is thrown the ermine, and in whose ear are whispered the mystic words of Latin lore, but with the gladness there is mingled somewhat of sadness for the under-graduate is losing a friend and fellow-student, and the old graduate is bidding adieu to beloved Alma Mater. In the case of Miss Sparling, however, we are pleased to learn that a post-graduate course will be the means of retaining for us the bright, happy face with which we have become so well acquainted during the last three years. Miss Sparling was born in Ottawa, and before coming to Manitoba lived for short periods in Montreal, Quebec and Kingston. On coming to Winnipeg in 1889, she at once entered the Carlton school, from there passed to the Collegiate, and after three years steady work entered Wesley College as a previous student. The following spring she passed a very successful examination, and last May was so fortunate as to carry off a scholarship in the Modern Language course. Were it not that we have the pleasant prospect of retaining her among us, we fear our Literary Society should feel very dleful in losing one of its finest essayists and most accomplished pianists.

When Miss Maude McCrossan passes from the ranks of undergraduates, Wesley will lose one of her most familiar, most highly respected and most faithful students. After taking a course in the Collegiate, Miss McCrossan entered Wesley in the fall of 1890, and in the two succeeding years passed her preliminary and previous examinations very successfully. The following year she commenced her junior work, with the intention of taking the General B. A., and until Christmas pursued the studies that course requires, when, yielding to the wishes of friends, she changed and took up Modern Languages instead. This of necessity made

the work for the rest of the year very heavy, but the spring examinations showed her third in the list, and within an ace of a scholarship. Owing to illness she was unable the following year to take her senior year's work, and last year took the teacher's Normal course. This year we have been delighted to have Miss McCrossan with us again, and have much appreciated her work, perhaps most especially in the Y. W. C. A., in which society she has ably performed the duties of president.

Mr. S. T. Robson was born at home many years ago. He was characterized by those qualities which are indicative of future greatness. During his earliest days he was indebted to his parents for such pecuniary assistance as was necessary for his maintenance. But not many years after he started to walk, he commenced a Republic on his own account. At Richmond Hill High school, County of York, Ont., he received his first instruction in the classics. We next find him at Albert College, Belleville, where he won a prize on Junior Matriculation, and the following month wrote for a second-class certificate. The ink was scarcely dry before our enterprising partner had reached the Prairie Province. One year he taught school with acceptance, and the two following years he preached under the auspices of the folk called Methodists. For the past three years S. T. has been in attendance at Wesley, where he has won for himself fame as a student and preacher, so that we can conscientiously say for him that "he has competent abilities for our itinerent work." Last year Mr. Robson won a scholarship in Classics, and this year we know he will be among the medalists. He intends to complete his B. D. before being ordained and received into "full connection." On the football field he is also an active worker. Here he is Calvinistic in doctrine, believing that, however slippery the field may be, that he cannot "backslide." He is somewhat of a