

unanimous election. (Loud applause.) He could also assure them that nothing less imperative than a public engagement, long since contracted, would have prevented his presence on this occasion. He (the Vice-Chancellor) committed no breach of confidence when he also announced that he had also authorized him to inform the Senate, graduates and undergraduates of the University that it was his (Mr. Blake's) intention, during the period of his Chancellorship, to award a Bursary or Scholarship of \$200 a year, to be employed in such manner as should appear best. (Applause.) He (the Vice-Chancellor) could not help feeling that the Chancellor was laying down an example which it might be difficult for future Chancellors to imitate, and was adding another reason for their desire that he might long be spared to fill the chair of Chancellor of the University. The people of this country had not been satisfied with the charter which had been obtained, though its original shape had been amended and modified, and at last the University had been established on its present foundation. A curriculum had been framed soon after its establishment. The framers had had very different views from those which, he dared say, had been forced on those who had framed the curriculum of King's College. However, the founders of the new course were desirous of establishing a system which, while it should secure what they believed to be the advantages of the Universities of the Mother Land, should nevertheless be more suited to the requirements of this country and this age. In truth, the problem that had presented itself to the minds of all who had undertaken to grapple with the subject of higher education in Canada was, What course of training was best suited to our own people in our own time? There was no use in being hampered by mere traditions, or in looking back too slavishly, not to say superstitiously, to the institutions of another country. In King's College the only subjects that had been taught to any great degree had been classics, mathematics, chemistry, experimental philosophy, with a little dash of ancient metaphysics. He need not say that these branches had been well taught, but the course was one entirely too narrow and confined to suit the wants of this country. When the new curriculum had been framed, there had perhaps been a rebound in the opposite direction. After referring to the continually increasing necessity for a higher standard of instruction in the mental and moral sciences, the Vice-Chancellor said that he believed the true work of University education was best effected when the student learned some one subject thoroughly; though in the ideal University a man should have the opportunity of acquiring every form of instruction. He should have the opportunity of knowing everything that was known, but he did not think that even the ablest student would be able to cover a general course during his University career. He then referred in succession to the various subjects in the revised curriculum, saying that the department of modern languages required to be raised still higher, and made more liberal in the scope of its culture, before it could occupy a place in the University correspondent to the great departments of classics and mathematics. He also enlarged on the importance of the study of the natural sciences, and said he trusted that department would be placed on a larger and more useful basis, and that the authorities would adopt the suggestion that had been made of compelling the student of the natural sciences to obtain a real vital knowledge of some one subject in that department, instead of having a mere list of scientific names and definitions. He thought he might say to the Minister of Education, without any transgression of that reticence which must be observed to public men, that he trusted that he might see his way towards assisting this cause, which, speaking on behalf of himself and his colleagues in the University Senate, they had so much at heart. They had on the statute book a provision for establishing a school of practical science. He ventured to make the suggestion that by a judicious use of the powers they now had, or by extending those powers in a manner which he thought the Legislature would be ready to sanction, a great deal might be done towards a more thorough instruction in the natural sciences. He trusted that the Minister of Education would not suppose that his eagerness in speaking of this subject indicated a want of strength of feeling on his part. He then referred to the close connection existing between the mental and moral sciences, and said that without entering into any of the discussions now going on about the origin of mind, he thought all would admit that matter had a very material influence upon the mind. He pointed out the importance in this age of an acquaintance with those subjects bearing on social economy and sociology. He had endeavoured before to impress on graduates and undergraduates the duties they owed to this new Dominion. They must all feel that it was from the institutions where higher education was given that the men should come who were to rule the destinies of the country. He was not happy enough to be among those who thought the problems of life in this country have been solved. They had not been solved in any country of which he had heard or read;

and they had some problems here peculiarly their own. It was fitting, therefore, that their young men should be well trained and prepared, and that when they went forth to the battle-field they should be well armed with the weapons of modern life, and not with the buckler and sword of the Roman gladiator. He would have them thoroughly equipped, and then we need not fear for the future of this country. The country was still young;—

"Still in its go-cart.

Patience, let it learn to use its limbs;
There is a hand that guides."

The Convention was then dismissed.—*Globe*.

2. VICTORIA UNIVERSITY—CONVOCATION

The annual exercises connected with the University of Victoria College, always full of interest, seem to be increasing in public favour every year. The institution, opened as an academy for both sexes in 1837, and chartered as a University in 1841, has furnished Canada with some of her most distinguished and useful citizens in all the departments of life.

The religious services on Sabbath, the 28th May, in the Methodist church, were in connection with the College anniversary. The sermon in the morning—an eminently practical one—was founded on Heb. xii. 1. The preacher was the Rev. T. A. Ferguson, of Bowmanville, a former tutor of Victoria College, and subsequently of the Methodist Book Room, Toronto.

The Baccalaureate discourse was preached in the evening by the Rev. Dr. Loomis, of Clifton Springs, N.Y., a gentleman of large experience as an educator in his own country, and evidently a man of great ability. His text was from 1 John v. 5:—"Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"

On Monday afternoon a meeting of the Science Association, composed of students, was held in the Alumni Hall, presided over by the President of the College, the Rev. Dr. Nelles. An admirable essay on "Wind and Weather" was read by Mr. A. P. Coleman, but the principal business was a discussion on "Materialism." In the evening the Rev. Dr. Loomis lectured on the subject of "Capital and Labour." The chair was taken by J. J. McLaren, Esq., LL.B., of Montreal.

The learned doctor discoursed for an hour and ten minutes on the relations between capital and labour, treating the subject in a philosophical, historical and practical manner.

On Tuesday evening a very able lecture on "Hymns and Hymn Writers" was delivered before a large audience in the Methodist church, by J. George Hodgins, M.A., LL.D., Deputy Minister of Education for Ontario. The chair was occupied by D. C. McHenry, M.A., Principal of the College Institute, Cobourg. The lecture embraced the following points:—1. The Songs of Thanksgiving contained in the Old Testament Scriptures; 2. Those contained in the New Testament; 3. The Hymns written before the Protestant Reformation; and 4. Those written since that period. Very valuable information as to the origin of many of those hymns and collections of hymns was given; some admirable selections were furnished, showing a nice discrimination, and great beauty of language, and no small degree of eloquence was displayed by Dr. Hodgins in several portions of his very instructive lecture. At the conclusion a vote of thanks, moved by the Rev. Dr. Nelles in a fine speech, and seconded by Mr. McLaren, was heartily adopted. After the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Richard Jones, the Alumni meeting—an annual gathering—took place. A number of the Alumni were present, and several points of interest occupied their attention until a late hour.

The Annual Convocation of the University took place in the Victoria Hall at two p.m. on Wednesday, the Rev. Dr. Nelles presiding. Prayer by the Rev. E. H. Dewart.

Valedictory oration—J. W. Annis.

DEGREES.

B.A.—Arthur P. Coleman, James Smith, Gold Medalists; Jer. W. Annis, Stephen S. Burwash, Luc. Q. Coleman, Wm. S. Jamieson, Wm. H. Jamieson, Or. J. Jolliffe, A. C. Moore, Louis C. Smith, G. B. Sparling.

B.Sc.—Wm. Riddell, B.A., of the Normal School, Ottawa.

LL.B.—C. G. Holman, B.A., Alex. Haggart, B.A.

M.A.—D. C. McHenry, B.A., Parm. A. Swinton, B.A.

M.D.—Angus R. Kennedy, John McNaughton, Louis J. Bourret, Louis N. Bourque, Alf. Bisette, Alf. Th. Brisson, Narc. Brunet, Jos. Burque, Bas. Compeau, Hit. Cholet, Vic. Cote, Pierre C. Dube, Saluste Duval, Teleph. Fafard, Hen. Groudin, James Langstaffe, James McMahon, M.P.P., John Clarke, M.P.P., Octavian Lambert, Hor. Lanthier, Roch. Leonard, Arthur Lessage,