

Province. The progressive party appealed from this decision. The appeal was sustained without dissent and the Court decided that the appellants were entitled to the property in question. The Court was composed of Chief Justice Hagarty and Justices of Appeal: Burton, Patterson and Osler. The learned Chief Justice, in delivering judgment, said that it was competent for the Society to alter its discipline and forms, and that in reality it was the conservative section that had seceded from the regular and legal organization of the Society. The Chief Justice further declared that "attempts to crystallize, as it were, some of the most profound mysteries of our common faith into dogmatic propositions of verbal exactness and obligation have wrought more evil and caused more disquiet and discussions among Christian communities than almost all other causes or subjects of dispute." These remarks are especially significant, coming as they do from one who is universally recognized as the highest judicial authority in Canada.

The Modern Language Club has become without doubt the real literary society in connection with University College. The literary essays which are read by the members of this club in their meetings show evidences of the most careful and intelligent study and would reflect credit on many an organization of greater pretensions. This is no doubt largely due to the fact that the writers have had a whole year in which to collect their thoughts and prepare their essays. We are not sure, however, that critical writing is the best form of exercise for students. As a means of acquiring and fixing information, this plan is certainly very valuable. But it may be largely worthless when considered as an agency of mental cultivation and development. For it requires an exceptionally strong mind in such a case to resist the temptation of merely repeating the various judgments of acknowledged critics upon the author. But if criticism is to be beneficial in the highest sense, both to the writer and to the reader, it must be the writer's own. It must be original, individual, sincere. An essayist should not be a mere retailer of second-hand opinions, but a living expression of independent thought. But pure criticism of even the highest kind must forever hold a lower place than creative effort. Hence we should like to see fewer critical essays from our young writers and more original sketches based upon personal observation and personal experience. If Canada is ever going to have a national literature, it will be made up of work of this kind. We can only write well what we know well, and our best knowledge is gained at first hand. To this end our topics should be Canadian and our treatment of them individual and characteristic. If our native writers cannot find literary subjects, or natural beauties, or interesting personal experiences at home, then their writing must be done under artificial conditions and is necessarily dead and profitless. But originality and enthusiasm, even if dealing with a common Canadian every-day scene or event, is sure to inspire interest and admiration. Let us be ourselves, and not Europe or America.

Among the list of distinguished graduates of Toronto University who, by their own efforts, have come to the front in educational and scientific circles, few stand higher than Rev. John Campbell, M.A., Professor of Apologetics and Church History in the Presbyterian College, Montreal. Born in Edinburgh of Scottish parents, Professor Campbell has resided in Canada for over a quarter of a century. His father is Mr. James Campbell, the publisher, of this city. After a short residence in London, and a visit to Germany, where he studied for a while, Professor Campbell's parents came to America, finally settling in Toronto. In 1861 young Campbell matriculated in the University of Toronto, and commenced his brilliant course as a student. He won a scholarship upon entrance and in every subsequent year of his college course, taking two in his third year—for metaphysics and modern languages. He finally graduated with gold medals in both these departments, taking also the Prince's prize, then awarded for general proficiency at gradu-

ation. In addition to these honors, his literary successes were numerous. He won many college prizes, including those for three prize poems and several prize essays. During the final illness of Rev. Wm. Hincks, Professor of the Natural Sciences in University College, young Campbell, at that time a student, was appointed to fill his place temporarily. Professor Campbell was made President of the Literary and Scientific Society in 1865, also of the Metaphysical and Natural Science Clubs of his time. His University career was thus a singularly well-rounded one. He graduated in 1865, and was immediately appointed a member of the Senate of his *Alma Mater*. Subsequently he was elected to the Senate by his fellow-graduates, when the elective principle was introduced into the Senate. Professor Campbell's religious education was received at Knox College, under Drs. Willis, Burns, and Caven, and at New College, Edinburgh, under Dr. Candlish. His first charge was the Charles Street Church, in this city, during his incumbency of which he lectured on Church History in Knox College. Shortly afterwards, he removed permanently to Montreal. Professor Campbell's studies did not terminate with his college course. His post graduate studies, principally in History, Ethnology, Philology, and Palæography, have been most extensive and thorough. He has contributed the fruits of his learning and experience to various journals, in England, the United States, and Canada. He is a member of various learned societies at home and abroad, and has received the insignia of several foreign orders of merit, given for his eminent services to Science. Montreal Presbyterian College is especially fortunate in numbering among its Professors one in whom such thorough scholarship, wide culture, broad views, and a liberal Christian spirit are so happily united. Professor Campbell honors his *Alma Mater* by each successive distinction he achieves. He has paid back a thousand-fold her lavish gifts to the student, by the contributions of the scholar to the advancement of knowledge, and to the increase of culture in our Dominion. We have need of many such men.

Leading Article.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF GERMAN UNIVERSITIES DURING THE LAST FIFTY YEARS.

Felix Auerbach has recently furnished to *Nord und Süd* an interesting account of the development of the German Universities within the last fifty years, based on carefully compiled statistics of the thirty-two Universities which have existed within the boundaries of the present German Empire. The greater number were founded between the end of the 14th and the beginning of the 17th centuries—the period of the German Renaissance. Eleven of these ceased to exist between 1798 and 1816, having been unable to outlive the political storms raised by Napoleon. Among these defunct Universities were some of great note, Wittenburg having played a most important part in the Reformation, and Ingolstadt having had at one time 4,000 students, as many as Berlin possesses at present.

The geographical distribution of the 21 Universities is of some interest: Prussia has 10, Bavaria 3, Baden 2, and Württemberg, Saxony, Hesse, Mecklenburg, Thuringen and Alsace-Lorraine, each one—while the small Duchy of Baden has two, Posen and West Prussia are destitute of any, and while Giessen and Marburg, and Halle and Leipzig are almost within sight of each other.

Breslau and Königsberg are in no danger of interfering with their nearest neighbors. There is a University for every two million inhabitants, a proportion somewhat lower than that which obtains in Holland and Switzerland, similar to that in Norway and Sweden, but higher than that in Italy where there is only one to every three million inhabitants. No comparison is instituted in this respect