

David Morrice Hall and Library.

OPENING CEREMONIES.

A FULL HOUSE, AND ENTHUSIASTIC ADDRESSES.

PRESENTATION OF DEED OF DONATION AND ITS ACCEPTANCE.—THE DEDICATION HYMN.—THE ADDRESSES TO THE DONOR AND HIS REPLY.—THE CONVERSATION A BRILLIANT SUCCESS.—UNITED WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER-MEETING.

The 28th of November was a day eagerly looked forward to by many expectant eyes. At first fears were entertained that the buildings would not be finished in time, and, for several days, they were truly the scene of bustle and no little confusion. Painters, glaziers, gas-fitters, carpenters, all put forth their best endeavors to give the finishing touches before the 28th arrived. Perhaps their work was, to a considerable extent, hindered by the busy activities and excitement incident to the removal of our entire library to its new quarters, before the paint on the shelves had fairly dried.

The 28th dawned very propitiously, and the forenoon passed swiftly away. A tremendous and final effort was made by the contractors to have everything completed at the hour of opening. Their faithful foremen and laborers deserve no little commendation for the success in that direction—keen as was their contest with Father Time! Both the exterior and interior of the buildings presented a very handsome appearance and elicited untold praise.

THE OPENING CEREMONIES.

Shortly after two o'clock the professors, students and graduates, in full academics, assembled *en masse* in the corridors and class-rooms of the original building, where they were successfully marshalled by the various *censors* previously appointed by the registrar. Presently the joyous peals of the Wiman bell summoned us to the Hall. The procession proceeded through the court in the following order:

Beadle carrying Bible to reading desk.
Literary Students (*Juniors priores*).
University Students.
Divinity Students.
Graduates.

The Rev. the Moderator of the General Assembly.
The Rev. the Principal, and Heads of other Colleges.
Professors, Lecturers and Senate.

Upon entering the Hall, and marching up the aisle, we found an *élite* and influential audience, patiently waiting for the ceremonies to begin. The body of students occupied the first three rows of benches, which had been carefully reserved for them by vigilant ushers. The remaining portion of the procession filled the seats on the platform, Principal Macvicar taking the chair.

The proceedings commenced. The vast assembly rose to their feet and heartily sang:

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!"

The registrar, Rev. Professor Campbell, approached the reading desk, and read a portion of Scripture on the dedication of Solomon's Temple, after which the Rev. A. B. Mackay, of Crescent Street church, led in the Lord's Prayer.

The Hall and Library were then formally presented, Mr. Morrice handing the deed of donation to the college treasurer, Rev. R. H. Warden, who, in acknowledging its receipt, said he believed it to represent the largest contribution to our Church from any one individual. (Applause.)

DEDICATION HYMN.

Immediately after the acceptance of the deed, the entire audience joined in the following hymn of dedication, specially composed by Principal Macvicar, and sung to the tune "French:"—

Do Thou, O God, this house accept,
Erected to Thy praise;
And fill it with Thy glory now,
And in succeeding days.

Here may Thy truth be held supreme;
And fill each soul with night,
To pray, to toil, to wrestle hard,
And conquer in the fight.

Here may Thy Spirit come with power,
And heavenly light impart,
Inspire with courage, faith, and love,
Each earnest waiting heart.

Forth from these halls let many go,
To preach the Christ of God,
To glory in His Cross alone,
And spread His name abroad.

Through all this great and favored land,
Their message may they bring:
And far beyond, on distant shores,
Exalt their Saviour King.

To those whose generous gift, O Lord,
Is offered now to Thee,
Let mercy, grace, and truth abound,
To all eternity.

Dedication prayer having been offered by the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, the following

ADDRESS FROM THE COLLEGE BOARD

was read by the Secretary, John Stirling, Esq.:-

To David Morrice, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Management of the Presbyterian College, Montreal:

SIR,—On this the occasion of your presenting to them the noble pile of buildings to be known henceforth as the David Morrice Hall and Library, the College Board desire to give formal and permanent expression to the feelings of gratitude with which they hail your generous gift.

To you and to Mrs. Morrice, whose name it will ever be their privilege also to link with the beautiful structure, the Board and all connected with this institution of sacred learning are under no common obligation. You have not only given to the world tangible and most valuable testimony of your united devotion to the Church of your fathers, of your self-sacrificing solicitude for the welfare of its candidates for the holy ministry, and of your appreciation of the work of instruction which has already been carried on within the narrower sphere now enlarged by your bounty; but your zeal has provoked many, and has been the occasion of drawing forth rich streams of Christian liberality toward this and sister institutions throughout the land. It will ever be the aim of the Board, over which you, sir, so honorably preside, to foster the spirit of which you have been so worthy an exponent, and to make of the college and the hall which bears your name a lasting monument of the active principles of that Presbyterian faith which not in vain has claimed your loyalty.

It is the earnest prayer of the Board that you, sir, with Mrs. Morrice and all your household, may continue to enjoy in even larger measure the temporal blessings and heavenly graces of the Giver of all good whose faithful stewards you have approved yourselves; that you may long be spared to witness the growing prosperity, the advanced efficiency and the still wider extension of the work which owes so much to your generosity; and that when at last all earthly structures shall have passed away you may have your place in the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Management of the Presbyterian College, Montreal.

JOHN STIRLING, Secretary,

Montreal, November 28th, 1882.