

Dundee College is in affiliation with St. Andrews, and has done much to infuse new life into that historic university. The college has made its reputation through its scientific and engineering departments. The names of Ewing (Engineering) now of Cambridge, of Carnelley and Frankland (Chemistry) and of Geddes (Botany) are sufficient indication of the standing of those departments.

Principal Peterson, who occupied the Chair of Classics, ruled with tact and forbearance. If report be correct, he belongs to the Rosebery, not the Gladstone type of leaders—or, to come nearer home, to the Bowell, not the Macdonald type.

Every Canadian must regret that the governors of perhaps our foremost university found it necessary to go abroad for a principal. One does not know whether it was scarcity of suitable men or local difficulties which forced them to this step. An outsider almost hopes that it was some local difficulty which sent the governors abroad. For it is not flattering to a Canadian to know that there is no available Canadian equal to the task.

If a Master of Balliol or a Principal of Edinburgh or Glasgow were coming out, Canadians would feel greatly honored, and gladly admit that in Canada there is no one such as he.

But Canadians have no reason to humble themselves. They have already given McGill a Dawson, and Queens a Grant, Princeton a Patton, and Cornell a Schurman. To Johns Hopkins, Harvard, Cornell, Princeton, Chicago and many other American universities and colleges, Canada has given able and excellent professors. Even Oxford and Edinburgh have chosen Canadians for professors.

In earlier days, perhaps, it was wise to prefer a Scotsman or an Englishman for the more prominent positions in our colleges. Then the range of choice was limited. And further—a most important consideration—new ideals of university work were brought to Canada. Our early principals and professors practically created miniature Oxford, Edinburgh, Dublin, and London universities in our Canada. But all this is now changed. The lines of our universities are already drawn. Their ideals are already adopted. Our own men have gone abroad, and are as familiar with university ideals as any German or British professor. In fact, they have the advantage of absence of prejudice in their observation of other universities. Further, we have learned by experience that a foreigner is seldom content to remain here. Too often his position here is regarded merely as a means for making a little money. Australia is retreating from the policy of offering large salaries and seeking for men abroad.

There are other reasons for not passing over a Cana-

dian because he happens to be a Canadian. When the highest positions are within the reach of our own men, the inducements to remain at home are greater. One somehow feels that Schurman's and Patton's early promotion would have been impossible here. Perhaps one is wrong.

Then a Canadian has a more intimate and accurate knowledge of the needs and capacities of our country for university work. He knows the tendencies that make for and against university training. Imagine a German called from Berlin to preside over Balliol College; and yet many Germans have as accurate knowledge of Oxford life as some Englishmen have of Canadian.

Again there is another consideration which becomes most important when we consider the general effects of the appointment of a foreigner. An omnipotent principal is apt to favor unconsciously the men from his own university in filling academic positions. Naturally he knows these men and the value of their recommendations better than those of other universities. But Canadians in scores are filling academic positions to the south of us, and we see no reason why our own universities should discourage their own students who are fitted and anxious to qualify themselves for academic positions. Of course, one would not go to the other extreme and advise the appointment of an alumnus to a chair simply because he is an alumnus. Nor would one advise that the men from one university or country be invariably chosen. Universities should be cosmopolitan, yet not anti-national. The greatest benefit is received by that university which has within its walls great diversity of gifts and ideals, and is presided over by one who knows intimately his country's needs and capabilities, and is thoroughly in sympathy with its aspirations. M.

#### TALKS WITH TEACHERS.

It is reported that it has come to the notice of the N. B. education department, that there is considerable laxity prevailing in regard to teacher's and trustee's affidavits in connection with school returns. This is not to be wondered at, considering the timber from which most magistrates are made, but unfortunately it does not lie wholly with them. Teachers are supposed to possess more intelligence than average citizens, and any disregard on their part for such a solemn thing as an oath, strikes one in a very uncomfortable manner, especially in connection with their vocation—the instruction of the young.

The manner of offending seems to be something as follows: The teacher signs the affidavit without attesting, and the justice fills it in as sworn to. Teachers