

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

UNIVERSITY OF KING'S COLLEGE, WINDSOR.

King's College has recently entered on a second year of quiet and steady work under the staff appointed by the Board of Governors in August, 1885. The only changes that have taken place since then have been these:—In June, 1886, the Acting President was appointed President; in August, 1886, the Professor of Mathematics was appointed Vice-President. The staff now consists of the following:—The President, who holds the Chair of Divinity; the Vice-President, who is Professor of Mathematics and Civil Engineering; a Professor of Science, including Chemistry, Geology, Mining, etc.; a Professor of English and French Literature; and a Lecturer in Classics and German. The Vice-President is also Bursar of the College, and the Professor of Science is Librarian and Curator of the Museum. The Divinity School, in addition to the Professor of Divinity, has Lecturers in Apologetics and Pastoral Theology, the former of whom, the Rev. Dr. Partridge, has rendered material aid to the College by his valuable courses of Lectures, and by his services as Examiner.

Since October, 1885, a considerable change has taken place in the body of the students; no less than twelve have left during the past Collegiate year; most of these have completed their course of study, and some are expected to return to complete it later on. A large class of freshmen has almost brought up the numbers to those of October, 1885. The outlook, too, as regards the future supply of students is more hopeful than it was. Several boys in the Collegiate School, who two years ago were designed by their parents for another University, are now preparing for entrance to King's College. All the students now in the College either have taken or are taking the course in Arts. Some are taking also the honor course in Civil Engineering.

The Calendar of the College, recently issued, hardly represents (especially in the departments of Science and English and French Literature) the course of study pursued by the students. The Professors in those branches have a higher standard than is at present indicated by the Calendar. This is partly owing to the anomalous fact, for which the Alumni of the College are responsible, that the Faculty are wholly unrepresented on the Board of Government. This is a fact without parallel in the Educational Institutions of this Continent. The new Calendar contains, what has never appeared in print before, a full statement, duly audited, of the present financial condition of the College, including the new Endowment and Restoration Funds. This financial statement has been printed separately from the Calendar, and is now being widely distributed. Such a statement has long been a felt need. Men of business, when called to support a public Institution, naturally ask for a clear statement of its financial condition; and contributors to its funds rightly require acknowledgement of their donations.

Thanks to the way in which the friends of the College in Nova Scotia and elsewhere have responded to the appeal of the Restoration Committee, the College buildings wear a very different aspect to-day from that which they wore a year ago. Then they appeared neglected, and seemed in some parts hastening to decay. Now, the "oldest inhabitant" in Windsor says that he has never seen the College buildings looking so well. During the past summer the Restoration Committee have expended nearly \$2,000 on the external repairs of the College. Externally, the buildings are now in a state that reflects credit on the Governors and friends of the College. Extensive internal repairs, however, are imperatively called for; these the Restoration Committee hope to carry out another year, if the friends of the College will enable them to do so. Several graduates of the College in the Maritime Provinces and elsewhere, have as yet done nothing to aid the Restoration Fund of their Alma Mater. Let them stir themselves; let them send in their donations and collections to the Secretary of the Restoration Fund, Charles Wilcox, Esq., Windsor.

Another great improvement must be noticed, the carrying out of which is owing to the exertions of the Restoration Committee; the water service from the town of Windsor has been introduced into the College; and before the three new houses for the Professors are entirely finished, the water will be ready for introduction into them also. These three new houses will, it is hoped, be ready for occupation before the winter sets in. They are well built, and are sufficiently commodious. Two are situated close to the College woods, with the front towards the College; the other is situated close to the College, in what used to be the President's garden.

S. C.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

SNAPS AND SCRAPS.

A short time ago a correspondent of the *Chronicle*, signing himself "English Conservative," criticized Justin McCarthy's lecture on the home rule movement, and another correspondent replied, giving certain information that had been asked for by the former. It has been suggested with some plausibility that the second correspondent, who signed his letter "B," was probably pointing his kind hints at my humble self. I certainly had been sadly addicted to quoting "English magazines and reviews" (which he denounces) in my "Snaps and Scraps"; I had posed, by my signature in your columns, as an "over-grumbling critic"; and, besides, the letter of "English Conservative" happened to be broken into paragraphs in the manner affected by your truant and "selfish" contributor. If "B" had me in his mind's eye, he was honoring me far too much. I am not an "English Conservative," and must disclaim the authorship of the gracefully written letter which bore that signature. On the contrary, I have been in sympathy with almost every reform movement in British politics—being conservative only in liking to see the power and glory of the Empire maintained, its enemies met with prompt and effective rebuff, and the fair fame of Ireland and her

honorable struggle for home rule untarnished by the dirty dollars and foul deeds of miscreants. To my mind the main defect in Justin McCarthy's admirable lecture was his omission to denounce the dynamiters and repudiate them as allies. The co-operation of these Yahoos insults the memory of the noble men who died for Ireland when she was sorely oppressed, and loses for the cause of home rule the support of many who approve of the principle, but would rather be the victims than the comrades of cowardly assassins.

If "B" were a bishop, I fear he would fail to convert me to his prejudices against English periodicals.

Talking of bishops, His Grace the Archbishop of Halifax is right in saying that this is "the age of apologies." On the surface it would seem that the apologist for Judas Iscariot would have a hopeless task, beyond arguing that his protégé showed some conscience by hanging himself. A better case might be made out for Pontius Pilate. He was the Roman Procurator, and a pagan. He may have seen nothing in the condemnation or acquittal of the accused Galilean that could affect the imperial interests which it was his duty to guard. The Roman governor doubtless thought it a dangerous policy to interfere with the apparent wishes of the provincials in a matter gravely affecting the provincial religion. For all that we know, he may even have believed in the principle, as well as in the policy, of home rule.

We are certainly quite abreast of the times in the ultra-charitable tendency which His Grace so strongly deprecates. A worthy citizen of this city has devoted much learning and ingenuity to the task of white-washing Satan himself. This aspersed being, according to his apologist, is not a fallen angel at all, but performs his unenviable, though necessary duties, under divine orders.

It has, however, caused a good deal of surprise that an archbishop should have thought proper to place a man who defends the expulsion of the Acadians in the same category with a man who defends the betrayer of Christ, or to condemn a society because its president, after minute and careful study of a subject, has come practically to the same conclusion as the greatest living historian on this continent.

His Grace has not been very cautious in the parts of the following statement which I have italicised:—"But the expulsion was a deliberate act, executed after mature consideration, *under no excitement of provocation*, and carried out in a barbarous manner. *This much is outside of controversy.*" It is recorded, notwithstanding, that a large number of Acadians were found among the garrison of Fort Beauséjour in the preceding June; while the fresh news of Braddock's defeat and the subsequent atrocities may have increased the irritation of the British and colonial officers. SNARLER.

COMMERCIAL.

The business is practically unchanged from previous reports. The movement in the leading branches of wholesale trade has been and is very satisfactory. The volume of goods that has changed hands so far this season is considerably larger than it has been for the same period for at least two or three seasons, and promises to continue for some time longer. The prices for the chief staples of merchandise are very firm, and in some lines further advances are confidently looked for. Dry Goods are in active demand, as the anticipation of higher prices, especially in cottons and woollens, stimulates the call for them. This expectation is well founded, as it is based on the fact of a short supply of the raw materials at the sources of production everywhere, and the enlarged financial ability of consumers to pay for what they buy.

The work of building the new Dalhousie College has already been vigorously begun. About forty or fifty laborers are engaged in excavating for the foundations. Quarrymen have been contracted with, and are preparing to supply the stone that will be needed as fast as it is wanted. It is intended to push the work vigorously through the winter so that the building will be ready for occupancy early next spring. As soon as the foundations are dug, masons and other artisans will be put on in considerable numbers.

There is a large quantity of vacant land in the vicinity of the new college, and the owners will, doubtless, find it quite profitable to erect thereon a considerable number of cottages or other dwellings suitable for small boarding houses, as most of the students will certainly prefer to live near the scene of their labors to going "into town" for their meals and lodgings.

The three new school-houses building by the city in the western suburbs are nearing completion, and will all be ready for occupancy on the first of the new year, or very soon after. They are all greatly needed, and the fact of their being opened cannot fail to increase the value of, and to stimulate the demand for building lots in their neighborhood.

As winter approaches there is an increased activity in coast shipping, especially between Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton ports and the mainland. The small vessels that are engaged in this trade are hurrying to make their final trips before their harbors are closed for the winter, as most of them, on economic grounds, prefer spending the close season in their respective home ports to being caught elsewhere, and be obliged to pay wharfage and other charges for several months with no certain prospect of obtaining freights that will be profitable.

BREADSTUFFS are in good demand, but prices do not advance, as it has been definitely ascertained that the crop everywhere safely harvested has been a very large one. In the great grain markets trade has been dull and prices weak all along the line. The large operators have been obliged to make considerable concessions to effect sales of any amount.

PROVISIONS.—The trade in beef and hog products has been relatively less active than other lines of business. The great strikes and lock-outs in