

**DIVINITY HALL.**

The editor of this department of the JOURNAL feels that some apology is due those whom he is supposed to represent for the scarcity of matter that has appeared under this head. At the time of his appointment, however, it was expressly stated that the main purpose in creating this department with a responsible head was with a view to keeping out articles that were not consistent with the dignity and sacredness of Divinity Hall. To keep articles out of any department of the JOURNAL does not require any great amount of vigilance; quite the reverse, so much so, that all the articles that have appeared in this department, with one notable exception, have been from the pen of the editor himself. For that one exception he takes the full responsibility. The literary wealth of Divinity Hall has been pretty well exploited in other columns and little was left for the editor but to record the few incidents which have this session redeemed the life of the Hall from monotony. When he did essay to write an article which made some pretensions to length it was coolly appropriated to another column. Having been mainly instrumental, however, in getting out two numbers of the JOURNAL in the absence of the other members of the staff he feels that he has in some measure atoned for the seeming neglect of his own department.

A wise selection has been made for editor of this department for next year, and we have every confidence that it will receive ample justice at his hands.

This issue will reach members of the Hall in different parts of the world. Some are located in mission fields in out-of-the-way places in Ontario, others have gone to Manitoba and the North-west, and some to British Columbia. Others have crossed over to the old sod to disseminate their "views" and cultivate a taste for art among the natives. Some of the final men are still in the Limestone City preparing for the ordeal of the presbytery examination from which they will emerge full fledged divines and ready for the congregations which are eagerly awaiting them.

John Munro, B.A., has gone to Winnipeg to attend the summer session at Manitoba College.

V. M. Purdy has gone to Alberta for a year and will finish his course at Winnipeg.

R. Burton, M.A., will assist the Rev. Donald McGillivray, of Toronto, this summer.

The students will be pleased to learn that the board of trustees has appointed Rev. R. Laird and Rev. W. G. Jordan as lecturers in Theology for next session. The latter is to give a course of lectures on the Old Testament.

**IN MEMORIAM.**

In the midst of the turmoil of examinations came the news of the death of Rev. Dr. Bell, in Toronto. His death was not unexpected as he had been suffering for some time, but as we looked up at the well-known kindly face on the canvas in Convocation Hall it seemed hard to realize that he who had been with us so long was gone forever. We take the following biographical notice from the *Westminster* of April 23rd:—

The fathers, where are they? One by one they are passing from the earthly scene. On Saturday last, April 16th, the Rev. Geo. Bell, LL.D., one of the oldest ministers in Canada, died in Toronto at the residence of his son. He was the youngest son of the Rev. Wm. Bell, one of the pioneers of Presbyterianism in Canada, who came to this country from Scotland in 1817 and settled at Perth, where many of his descendants still reside.

Dr. Bell was born in Perth in 1819. When Queen's University was established by the Church of Scotland in Kingston in 1841 he was the first student to register, and he became the first graduate, receiving his B.A. degree in 1845. He was subsequently a trustee of the University, and he delivered several courses of lectures to the students, his special subject being "Science and Religion."

On completing his College course Dr. Bell was ordained and settled in the charge of Cumberland and Buckingham on the Ottawa River. From there he moved to Simcoe in 1848, and thence to Clifton, now Niagara Falls, in 1857. In 1873 he resigned this charge on account of ill-health, but having recovered he was called to Walkerton in 1876, where he remained until 1881, when he retired. In 1882 he was appointed Librarian and Registrar of Queen's University. This work soon became too onerous for one officer and he gave up the library, retaining the Registrarship until 1897, when he resigned and removed to Toronto, making his home with his son, Mr. Geo. Bell.

During his fifteen years as Registrar at Queen's University, as indeed in all his undertakings, Dr. Bell was courteous, obliging, systematic and painstaking, and the University had no more devoted and loyal son than her first graduate. He was regarded as an authority on Church law and procedure, and his *Alma Mater* fittingly recognized his services to herself and to the Church by conferring upon him, in 1872, the honorary degree of LL.D.

While in Muskoka last summer he suffered a stroke of paralysis, from which he never wholly recovered, and which finally resulted in his death.

Dr. Bell was twice married, first to Miss Whiteford, by whom he had two children, Mrs. R. S. Dobbs, of Kingston, and a son, who, after a course