

### Dalhousie College.

The seventh Session was opened on the 27th October. The large Hall was filled with a most respectable audience, including a good number of the Students. About one third of the number, however, had not arrived. The Inauguration of the seventh year was entrusted to Rev. Drs. Ross and Lyall, whose remarks were heard with deepest attention and sympathy. Dr. Ross reviewed the history of the Institution as resuscitated, explained its present position, and shadowed forth some proposed changes, more especially in reference to a modified course of study, entitling to a degree, a course in which less would be required of classics and something more of physical science.

Dr. Lyall's address consisted of two parts, the first being retrospective, in which he paid a just tribute to the character and services of the late Professor McCulloch, and Andrew Mackinlay, Esq; the second part being devoted to a refutation of some of the assumptions of the Positive Philosophy.

Rev. George Hill then delivered a speech which has led to some discussion both in the secular and religious Press. The salient point in his address was, that a Provincial University in the Capital was now the great educational desideratum of the Province; a want which was only partially supplied by Dalhousie College. He advocated the union of all Denominations in the support of one secular, but not Godless University; uniting the talents of many Professors, and gathering within its walls some hundreds of students.

The Chief Justice closed, and the proceedings, which had commenced with prayer, terminated with the benediction pronounced by the President.

The number who have entered for the first year, as undergraduates is 15, the whole number of Students, 65; the Counties of Pictou and Halifax providing the greatest number. The attendance from the city is increasing.

### Theological Lectures.

During the past month two lectures of the arranged course in connection with our

Divinity Hall, have been delivered, and the Lecturers have acquitted themselves in a manner highly creditable to themselves and advantageous to the Students. The first was read by Rev. Isaac Murray, and the second by Rev. Jas. Bennet. The audiences, though not large, were highly appreciative, consisting mainly of Ministers and Students, theological and general, with a sprinkling of intelligent business men, and ladies, having a taste and desire for mental progress. On the last evening we counted twelve ministers, but, as a class, they were perhaps, the least numerous part of the audience.

Mr. Murray's lecture was on the development theory. Some came to hear a refutation of Darwin, but soon learned that the Goliath to be slain was Schleiermacher, and the system of error to be examined existed in the domain of theology. The Lecturer's first effort was to explain and make visible this German myth or mist, the next to shew that its philosophical basis was pantheism, and its essential character unscriptural, while its tendencies were in the direction of socialism, universalism and popery, maintaining successfully that an acquaintance with this insidious enemy, who adroitly uses and perverts the words of scripture and our most sacred theological terms, was absolutely necessary for those who were appointed guardians of the citadel of truth. The lecture commanded the attention of the audience, proved specially suggestive to the minds of Students, and called forth general approval.

The "Sources of Theology" were discussed in a very able manner by Mr. Bennet. His chain of reasoning was so close and connected, as he caused the Ontological, the Cosmical and the Physico-Theological to pass in review as sources of acquaintance with Deity, that the missing of one link on the part of the hearer was a loss not easily made up. Some portions of the lecture were beautiful, some were slightly startling in sound till explained and proved, but all displayed the philosophic mind, the profound thinker, and the enlightened defender of Revelation, as the great and only sufficient source of that knowledge of God