

Ottawa University Commencement.

The fifty-ninth annual commencement exercises of the University of Ottawa were held last Wednesday morning at St. Patrick's Hall, Ottawa, at nine o'clock.

The exercises were presided over by the rector, and among those on the platform were Rev. Fathers J. P. Fallon, Lajeunesse, Cormier, Legault and Perreault, Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux and Senator Coffey. Rev. Father Fallon, secretary, read out the list of those who obtained degrees and medals. The valedictory, containing beautiful sentiments clothed in excellent language, was given by Mr. John Marshall, of Ottawa.

Degrees of LL.D. were conferred upon Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, Postmaster-General, and Minister of Labor, and Senator Thos. Coffey, editor of the Catholic Record, of London, Ont.

The Degree of Licentiate of Philosophy was conferred on Rev. Joseph Caron, O.M.I., St. Charles, Man.; Rev. Victor Jodoin, O.M.I., Valrennes, Que.; Rev. Bartholomew Kennedy, O.M.I., Mattawa, Ont.; Rev. P. X. Lefebvre, O.M.I., Hull, Que.

The Degree of Bachelor of Philosophy was conferred on Rev. George Boileau, O.M.I., Montreal; Rev. Fernand Degenais, O.M.I., Leclerc, Que.; Henry St. Jacques, and Rev. George Verreault, O.M.I., Ottawa.

The Degree of Master of Arts was conferred on John J. Freeland, B.A., of Ottawa.

The Degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred on John R. Marshall, Ottawa; Jas. E. McNeill, Marysville, Ont.; John J. Leddy, Ottawa; Declan E. Foley, M.D. (ad eundem), Westport, Ont.

The Degree of Bachelor of Literature was conferred on Chas. J. James, Eganville, Ont.

After the degrees had been conferred, Hon. Mr. Lemieux and Senator Coffey addressed the gathering. The Postmaster General spoke of the pleasure it gave him, as an old student of Ottawa University, to return for such an occasion as the commencement exercises. He congratulated the officers of the university upon the splendid progress that had been made, and referred to their excellent work in the past. Hon. Mr. Lemieux told some interesting reminiscences of the old days and old associations. His speech was very happy one, and was frequently applauded. He spoke in French and English.

Senator Coffey also congratulated the university officers upon the present high efficiency of the college. He spoke of the work of the Oblate order in Ottawa, referring to Bishop Guise, the first Bishop of Ottawa diocese, who was an Oblate father, as was also Father Tubaret, the first rector of the university. He spoke of the difficulties the Oblates had met in their work and noted with satisfaction that the results had been so great and encouraging.

Two musical selections were rendered by the University Choral Society, under Father Lajeunesse, the Soldier's Chorus from Gounod's "Faust," and "O Canada" by Laval.

In his address the reverend rector, Father Murphy, made the announcement that the university will select a candidate for the Rhodes scholarship, every student entering next fall from the second to the seventh form being eligible to compete. The Rev. Father Rector's address was as follows:

I desire to thank the authorities of St. Patrick's Association for allowing us the use of their splendid hall. The kindly manner in which the favor was done is even more appreciated than the favor itself, for the kind word is always better than the gift. This is, I think, the first time that the Commencement exercises are held outside our own buildings. It is certainly the first time in more than twenty years.

The great destroyer, fire, drove us first from our commodious academic hall, and lately from the assembly hall connected with the Sacred Heart Church. Our visitations by fire of late years explain, and I hope, excuse our Commencement exercises being outwardly less academic and less elaborate than we would like to make them. For instance, the fires have taken from us the dozens of academic robes that used to be an interesting and inspiring feature of these exercises.

And yet, through the fires, advantages have come. That of last week illustrated the advantage of having a fire proof building like the new Arts building, constructed since the fire of 1903. Of course

the temporary wooden dome did catch fire, and burning material flying through the air threatened to enter open windows and do damage within. All, however, who have examined the reinforced concrete floors and beams, the asbestos partitions and the terra cotta lathing are convinced that fire could not spread rapidly, nor indeed, spread at all throughout the building, and that consequently there is really a total absence of the danger of enormous loss of property and particularly the danger of loss of life.

The security which a fire proof building thus affords should be a great consideration indeed for parents and students in the choice of a college. God grant that the necessity of obtaining, as far as possible, such security be not generally disregarded in our educational institutions until some day the appalling loss of many lives is joined to the loss of property. During the two destructive fires which have taken place since the erection of the Science Building, we have seen the wooden fittings about the roof in danger, but those of us who saw it constructed, feel that this building will never rapidly and totally become the prey of flames. Terra cotta floors and lathing combine with the stone and iron of the framework, to greatly reduce, if not to preclude the possibility of fire spreading rapidly and of burning material falling from one story to another. The science Building was constructed in the light of experience furnished by a big fire in the Eastern wing of the old College Building in 1898, and very little wood was used.

St. Francis of Assisi used to speak very affectionately of fire. He was accustomed to call it "Brother Fire." The advantages of security, of a plentiful supply of natural light and pure air, and conveniences and comforts to be found in our new buildings will perhaps move students to have, like St. Francis, a certain fraternal regard for fire. The authorities of the institution, however, those at least who have had to handle the financial legacy and other odds and ends that Brother Fire has left them, hardly wish to have another visit from him, or to see him enfold any more of their belongings to his warm embrace.

It is not, to be inferred, however, that the legacy mentioned is so cumbersome that it cannot be handled. On the contrary, it has now been got pretty well in hand, and we are beginning to look toward new work of construction.

Regarding new work of construction, I suppose that no one expects a definite announcement just now, least of all my colleagues in council, but I am not going too far in saying that signs are hopeful, that I fully expect that something in the way of construction on the College premises will be undertaken before next fall.

Turning to the future: The University Calendar will be sent out before the end of the month; it will contain a couple of announcements to which I would wish to draw attention. The first consists of fairly definite information regarding the manner of taking advantage of the extra-mural course initiated a couple of years or so ago. We have had many enquiries lately about this course, and in enabling deserving persons to obtain some of the advantages of College training, without constant attendance, we are following the lead of older sister institutions.

The second announcement in this year's Calendar refers to our Rhodes Scholarship. The year is approaching when the University of Ottawa will select a candidate under the Rhodes bequest. This scholarship at Oxford is tenable for three years and is of the value of three hundred pounds per annum. In the choice of the Rhodes scholar, not only academic attainments, but general intellectual and physical development and personal worth and character are to be considered. Every student registering next September in any class from the Second Form to, I believe, the Seventh, inclusive, will have a chance of winning the Rhodes Scholarship, provided that in October 1st, 1911, he shall have passed his nineteenth but not his twenty-fifth birthday.

The Rhodes scholarship should excite considerable emulation. Incidentally, but very really, it should have a good effect in developing self-reliance and especially in developing self-reliance and especially in developing self-reliance.

Before concluding I feel that I should not let this occasion pass without just a word to parents and students regarding the advantages—often the necessity—of completing a university course, or at least of securing as much college training as pecuniary means and other conditions

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tions will permit. Very few propositions can be proved as conclusively as that there never lived a man who regretted having taken a college course, no matter how great the sacrifice. In England, practically all of the high places are filled by university-trained men, and in America this condition will prevail more and more as we grow in education and culture.

Now I wish students the pleasantest of vacations, I congratulate all who are receiving medals and diplomas. These certificates are testimonials of ability and work that deserve and command success. This is especially true, if it is not presumptuous for me to say so, of the distinguished gentlemen who are receiving the LL.D. degree. Ability and hard work have won for them eminent places indeed in their chosen callings.

Finally let all students remember Cowper's immortal lines: Knowledge dwells, In heads replete with thoughts of other men, Wisdom in minds attentive to their own.

On account of the press of Commencement news this week, the list of graduates and medal winners are unavoidably left over for next issue.

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The Church is sadly needed, for at present I am obliged to **SAY MASS** and give Benediction in a Garret. My average weekly collection is only 3s 6d, and I have no endowment except **HOPE**.

What can I do alone? Very little. But with your co-operation and that of the other well-disposed readers of this paper, I can do all that needs to be done.

In these days, when the faith of many is becoming weak, when the great apostasy of the sixteenth century is reaching the full extent of its development, and is about to treat Our Divine Lord Himself as it treated His Holy Church, the Catholic Faith is renewing its youth in England and bidding fair to obtain possession of the hearts of the English people again. I have a very up-hill struggle here on behalf of that Faith. I must succeed or else this vast district must be abandoned.

IT RESTS WITH YOU

to say whether I am to succeed or fail. All my hopes of success are in your co-operation. Will you not then extend a co-operating hand? Surely you will not refuse? You may not be able to help much, indeed. But you can help a little, and a multitude of "littles" means a great deal.

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"May God bless and prosper your endeavours in establishing a Mission at Fakenham."

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- (2) If the father (or mother, if the father is deceased) of the homesteader resides upon a farm in the vicinity of the land entered for, the requirements as to residence may be satisfied by such person residing with the father or mother.
- (3) If the settler has his permanent residence upon farming land owned by him in the vicinity of his homestead, the requirements as to residence may be satisfied by residence upon said land.

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Little Nigh

It all began four years ago I was a boy at Eccleston, my grandfather, Nightingale, was better there for years why they called me Little Nigh, for I was thirteen when Eccleston died me, and a for my age. The name stuck after grandfather died.

There was lots of house then, and my world enough. No one could more than Miss Eccleston, a cousin niece. After grandfather she used to send for and teach me to read and I am able now to tell the to you straight and clear, all to her. Master, too, and pleasant that year. E on his niece, and as I was grandson of her old nurse, n't help seeing that I was a pet with her. She was beautiful young lady, was M belle, and only a few years than myself. She was fair with great blue eyes, and yellow hair. She wasn't proud, for all her grand holding herself, like a young Her uncle thought nothing good for her. He dressed in finest silks and velvets, and loaded her with diamonds. Year she went out a good company, and drove about in her pretty pony-phase house was large and handsome stood on a hill about thirty from the highway—in the s an old Colonial city. We lish grounds, full of cedars a lish walnut-trees. There w riage-houses and stables in Every Sunday my master a Eccleston drove twice a day, Little Catholic church a mile rode with the footman behi carriage, and often knelt w both at the communion-rail.

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