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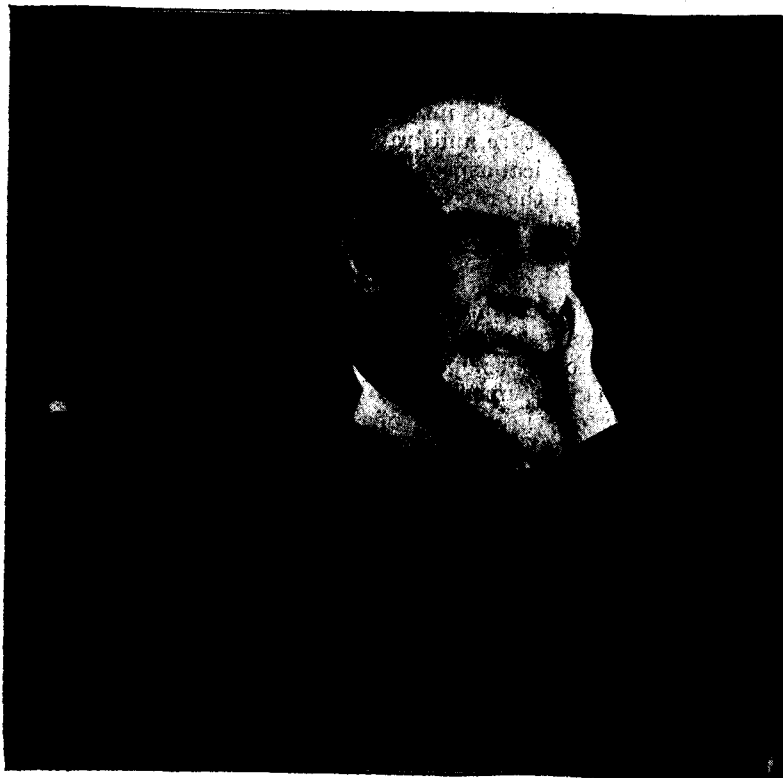
and Chemistry, and the second prize in Logic, and ultimately, in the Divinity course, winning the Lord Rector's prize of thirty guineas for the best essay on "Hindu Literature and Philosophy." On the completion of his studies, he was ordained a minister of the Church of Scotland, and, having returned to Nova Scotia, was appointed a missionary in his native County of Pictou. "Here," says the writer of the article in the *Cyclopædia of Canadian Biography*, to which we are indebted for many of the facts in this brief sketch, "all the wonderful energy of his nature, his zeal and brilliancy, began to manifest themselves." In a

Under his energetic and progressive management, Queen's entered upon a new era of development and progress, and rose rapidly to the very important position she occupies to-day, in the front rank of Canadian Universities. In his new position Dr. Grant was enabled also to give a larger share of his attention to literature and to matters of public concern. His "Ocean to Ocean," which was published as the result of a trip across the Continent in 1872, won deserved repute by the vigor and grace of its graphic delineations of the grand scenery and stirring incidents of a journey, which, though now easy and familiar, was at that

time memorable, if not unique. Dr. Grant has since that date contributed many articles of interest and value to the leading English and American magazines. As a clear and powerful speaker on the public platform he has few superiors in Canada or elsewhere. During the last few years he has taken much interest in public matters, especially in the progress of Imperial Federation, of which he is one of the ablest advocates, and which owes much of whatever hold it has gained upon the public mind to his earnest advocacy both at home and in Australia, which he visited a year or two since in search of rest and restoration from the effects of overwork. Among teachers and educators of all ranks in Ontario Dr. Grant is likely to be long and favorably known in connection with his efforts to secure uniformity in the requirements and examinations for matriculants in the various Universities; efforts to which it is probably not too much to say, the present

### REV. GEORGE MUNRO GRANT, D.D., LL.D.

REV. GEORGE MUNRO GRANT, D.D., LL.D., Principal of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, was born at Stellarton, a village on East River, Pictou County, Nova Scotia, A.D. 1835. His father, a native of Scotland, and a man highly respected for ability and integrity, was a teacher in the Stellarton Public School at the time the subject of this sketch was born. The son received a part of his preliminary training at the Academy, an institution of some local celebrity, in Pictou, to which town the family had removed. George Munro is said by one authority to have been "fonder of play than of his lessons, and always ready for a play, a scramble, a holiday, or a fight, at a moment's notice." Nevertheless, he must have used his exceptional abilities to some purpose in the work of the school, as he won the Primrose medal, awarded by the Academy for proficiency. It was at this period of his life that, while, with some other boys, experimenting with a hay-cutter, he met with the serious accident which deprived him of his right hand, which was caught by the knife and completely cut off. In his sixteenth year he entered the West River Seminary of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia. After two years of study in this institution, he was elected by the Committee of the Synod of Nova Scotia as one of the four bursars to be sent to the University of Glasgow, to be fitted for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. Admitted to that University at the age of eighteen, he at once entered upon a successful and brilliant career, carrying off the highest honors in Philosophy, taking first prizes in Classics, Moral Philosophy



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little while, however, a wider sphere of usefulness was opened up for him in Prince Edward Island, and here he labored for two years with the most marked success. In May, 1863, he was inducted into the pastorate of St. Matthews' church, Halifax, which he retained until his appointment, in 1877, to his present position, at the head of the University of Queen's College, Kingston.

During the fourteen years of his ecclesiastical labors, Dr. Grant had served his Church ably and energetically on various Committees of Presbytery and Synod. He had also been one of the foremost advocates and promoters of the great scheme of Presbyterian Union. The Principalship of the University gave a new field and wider scope for the exercise of his great powers as an organizer and leader.

excellent system under which the High School Leaving Examinations are accepted *pro tanto* for matriculation into the Provincial and other Universities owes its origin. In the opinion of many educators he has also rendered good service to the cause of higher education in Ontario, as one of those who have stood for the independence and autonomy of the voluntary Universities, as opposed to the various schemes of federation or consolidation, which have been mooted from time to time. Under his leadership the Presbyterians have rallied to the support of Queen's in a manner which assures its stability and growth. Their example will not be without its effect upon other institutions, which, like it, depend for support upon the voluntary contributions of liberal friends of University culture.