

REV. DONALD ROSS, B.D., D.D.

The subject of our present illustration is of Celtic origin, his forefathers having been Scottish Highlanders. His grandparents were among the pioneers of the County of Glengarry, and at Martintown, in this county, he first saw the light on the second of December, 1837. As his parents spoke the language of Adam and Eve, the beloved Gaelic of the Highlander, so the child spoke no other language until after he was four years of age, at which time he entered the district school and began to learn English. At the early age of eight he commenced the study of Latin and Geometry, and his love for these subjects has continued to the present day. He attended the school pretty regularly until the age of fifteen, at which very early age he was found to be so proficient that he was appointed Master of the same school. Here he continued teaching and studying for four years, at the expiration of which he matriculated into Queen's University, obtaining the Trustees' Scholarship, the only one then established. This was in 1857.

From Queen's, after a splendid course, he graduated in 1860, and thence giving his study to Theology, he won the honor of being the first person who received the degree of B.D. from that Institution. This was in 1863.

In Feb. 1864, Mr. Ross, who was then a clergyman, was called to take charge of the Greek and Latin classes in Queen's, the chair of which had become vacant for reasons which need not be here mentioned.

The writer's personal acquaintance with the Rev. Mr. Ross, dated from this time, and he well remembers how much that gentlemanly scholar was beloved by all the students under his charge. During parts of the years 1864 and 1865, Mr. Ross travelled in Europe to fulfil the condition of the Theological Fellowship to which he was elected. Owing to the illness of Prof. Mackerras, and during his necessary absence in Italy for a session, Mr. Ross was again called to take charge of the Classical Department, and he again discharged his duties to the satisfaction of all. This was in 1874-5.

As a clergyman he was settled in the charge of Chatham and Grenville, in October 1876, and in this charge he found considerable leisure for the prosecution of his favorite studies. From this charge he was translated to Lachine, in 1876.

In session 1882-3 he delivered, with great success, a course of Apologetics in Queen's, and at the completion of this course, in April of 1883, he was appointed to the Chair of Apologetics and New Testament Exegesis, a chair which he has since filled with great honor to himself and great benefit to the Theological students under his instruction. A couple of years ago the McGill University, of Montreal, did an honor to itself by conferring the degree of D.D. on Prof. Ross.

Dr. Ross is certainly a warm-hearted, sympathetic man in the best sense of the words. He has a splendid physique and a well-cultured and well-balanced mind, and no person can become really acquainted with him without profiting by the acquaintance. During the many years that the writer has known him he has been a model student with all his studiousness tempered by moral goodness and becoming modesty.

No person can know Dr. Ross and not love him, and the sincere wish of the writer is that he may be spared for many years to adorn the Theological Department of Queen's, and that he may also be spared in as great measure as possible, those troubles and afflictions which are too prone to fall to the lot of suffering humanity.

COLLEGE NEWS.

THE MUSEUM.

THE increasing number of visitors to the Museum proves that it is becoming more attractive to the general public every year. During the excursion season strangers from neighboring towns and cities make a point of visiting it and examining its objects of interest or curiosity. Every session some new additions and attractions are visible, by which its usefulness is largely augmented. The Herbarium has been improved by the addition of over five hundred new specimens of plants, which have been mounted and arranged for consultation, and students may now be seen every day examining these materials which have been furnished for their use. The collection of the flowering plants of Ontario is now almost complete, only a few of the rare specimens being lacking. The Ferns and their allies, and also the Mosses are well represented, and a good beginning has been made in the collection of the lower forms of vegetation. In addition to these there are several thousands of species representing the Flora of the United States, Europe, Asia, Australia, and other regions, so that the Botanical student can now make himself familiar with the principal families of plants found in the civilized regions of the globe. The increasing demand for Science Masters in our High Schools and Collegiate Institutes makes the Herbarium an important department of our educational equipment.

We are sorry to notice that the collections of the Zoological department are not keeping pace with the others. This, however, is easily accounted for by the fact that the procuring and preserving of animals is attended with difficulty and expense. The work of collecting and preparing Herbarium specimens is much easier and more pleasant than that of hunting and mounting any of the wild animals of the forest. Besides, very few of those, whose tastes lead them to collect and examine flowers, have any inclination to destroy the lives of the animals that may come within their reach. The larger animals of our country are now becoming rare and difficult to procure, and it is exceedingly desirable that some of our many friends should make an effort to supply us with specimens before they become extinct or unattainable. Can no one furnish us with a Black Bear, a Beaver, a Deer, a Moose, a Lynx, or even our native mice? We want some companions for our White Bear and Caribou. A collection of Snakes, Lizards, etc., from Panama, presented by Miss Merrill, of Picton, a few weeks ago, is one of the attractions of this department.

The collections of Minerals and Rocks have been largely increased during the past year. The specimens received from the estate of the late Rev. Thomas Bousfield have