

Christian and feeling called to preach the Gospel, he entered Woodstock College for preparation to meet the duties of his high calling. At an early stage in his student life the death of his father imposed heavy responsibilities in connection with the maintenance of the home. Yet native ambition and fondness for study united to an indomitable perseverance found the means for the gratification of his thirst for knowledge. In the excellent preparatory school at Woodstock he came under the instruction of such men as Rev. Dr. Fyfe and Dr. Wells. After finishing the course with credit to himself and satisfaction to his teachers, Mr. Trotter became a student in Toronto University. At this Institution a specialty was made of philosophical subjects, and after a successful career of four years, he received the degree B. A., with honors in philosophy. After this, three years were spent in taking the theological course at McMaster.

During these student years, the vacations were not employed as periods of rest, but were rather occupied in making valuable contributions to the cause of Christ and to the churches which he served as pastor. One year was spent at Shelburne, N. S., where Mr. Trotter won for himself a large place in the esteem of the people by his wise counsel, genial bearing, ready sympathy and faithful preaching. Even to-day the Shelburne Church is strong in attachment to the leader of our educational work because of the exceedingly helpful associations in Christian labor during the year 1876-'77. At this place, Mr. Trotter was ordained to the ministry in 1877.

Immediately upon the completion of his Theological studies in 1885, Rev. Mr. Trotter was called to the pastorate of Woodstock Baptist Church. In this sphere of service abundant evidence was given of the possession of those rare powers and qualities of head and heart, which have contributed so generously to a brilliant record as pastor, preacher and teacher. Dr. T. H. Rand, who was principal of Woodstock College during Mr. Trotter's pastorate in the town, thus writes in the *McMaster Monthly* of April 1896: "No pastor of Woodstock Church was ever more beloved or loved his people more. It was never my privilege to sit under a pastor whose ministrations I more highly prized. I was much impressed with his unflinching exegetical instinct which enabled him to discover the truth of the Divine Word; while his warm spirit and fine imagination ministered that truth convincingly to his hearers."

While pastor at Woodstock, Mr. Trotter came into intimate relations with the educational life of the Upper Provinces. When plans for a Christian University were first proposed by Dr. Rand, no one was more responsive to the suggestion than the subject of this sketch, and no one labored more zealously, nor with more wisely directed energy, to effect this realization. Mr. Trotter, who was a member of the committee which formulated the charter of McMaster University,