

The faculties of Medicine and Law are unchanged.

PROFESSOR MOWAT, Honorary Registrar of the University for many years, has been relieved of the arduous clerical duties of that office. His successor is the Rev. George Bell, LL.D., one of the first students of the College. Dr. Bell has already taken up his residence in Kingston, and will also be co-Librarian with Mr. Fowler. We are glad that the Doctor will thus become a permanent member of the staff, and hope to see his genial face about the halls for many years to come.

THE LATE HON. JOHN HAMILTON.

ONE of the few remaining links which connect the past and present history of the University, has been removed by the strong arm of death.

The venerable Senator Hamilton, Chairman of the Board of Trustees from the foundation of the University in 1841, passed quietly away at his residence, Maitland Street, Kingston, on Tuesday, October 10th, in the eighty-first year of his age.

This sad event is one of no ordinary moment, for not only does Queen's College lose her temporal head, but in the death of Mr. Hamilton the Dominion loses her senior Senator, Kingston her first citizen, and the country one of her most patriotic and honorable sons.

John Hamilton was the youngest son of the late Hon. Robert Hamilton, one of the first Legislative Councillors of Upper Canada appointed in 1792. The family home was at Queenston, Ontario, where John was born in 1802. After spending a short time at school there he was sent to Edinburgh, where he entered the Academy and received a classical training of that order, which has made the school famous. At the age of sixteen he came back to Canada to follow business pursuits, and two years afterwards he entered a large mercantile house in Montreal. After serving a thorough apprenticeship there, he returned to his home in Queenston, where he entered upon the business of building and running steamboats on his own account. He owned—though he did not build—the *Frontenac*, the first steamer that plied the waters of Lake Ontario. Mr. Hamilton's energy and enterprise were remarkable. He built the *Queenston*, the *Great Britain*, the *Lord Sydenham* (which was the first large boat that ever ran the rapids), the *Passport*, *Canada*, and *Kingston*, besides chartering nearly all the boats then running which were fitted for lake travel. For a long time he made a determined stand against the Grand Trunk Railway which had become a competitor for the carrying trade of Upper Canada. He retired from business in 1862.

In January, 1831, Mr. Hamilton was called by letters patent of His Majesty William IV., to the Legislative Council, and for over half a century he took part in the deliberations of each successive legislature of the Province, and earned for himself the title of Nestor of the Senate. A public career so remarkable could not fail to meet with fitting acknowledgment, and on January the 29th, 1881,

the fiftieth anniversary of his elevation to the Council, he was presented by his colleagues with the following address:

"Dear Mr. Hamilton,—We, your colleagues in the Senate, desire to offer you our congratulations on this the 50th anniversary of your being summoned to the Upper House of the Legislature of your native province. During the eventful years which have since elapsed, and amidst various territorial changes incident to the growth of a new country, successive Governments have renewed to you the honor conferred by His Majesty King William IV, and your colleagues in the Senate to-day rejoice in the pleasure of your presence, and assistance in their deliberations. But it has not been in Parliament alone that you have served the country. The annals of Canada for the last fifty years will recount the important enterprises of commerce in which you have been engaged. To you in early days Upper Canada owed her predominance on Lake Ontario. The organization of the first line of steamers which plied on that lake, and which in good and ill fortune you maintained for five-and-twenty years, the establishment of steam communication between Kingston and Montreal, the courage and perseverance which first directed large steamers to descend the rapids of the St. Lawrence, and the maintenance of lines of stage-coaches for autumn and winter communication between the provinces which are now Ontario and Quebec, all bear testimony to your vigorous and far-reaching enterprise.

"We rejoice to have an opportunity of recording our appreciation of the value of these and other public services which have marked your career. Your well-spent life, it may be, is drawing to a close, but you are surrounded with 'honor, love, obedience, troops of friends,' and as 'the father of the Senate,' your colleagues congratulate you on the occurrence of this interesting anniversary, and heartily wish you a cheerful and happy old age."

To this the venerable Senator replied as follows:

"My Dear Friends and Colleagues in the Senate,—My feelings will not permit me to acknowledge suitably your unexpected and most kind congratulations on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of my appointment to the Legislative Council of Upper Canada. In this country where seats are not hereditary the lives must be few in which a similar event will find a place. The territorial growth of our country, its progress in population and in wealth, appear marvellous to me. I regard these and the increased unity of our people with profound thankfulness. The retrospect of the past fills me with hope and confidence in the future of the Dominion. Your allusion to my commercial career revives many memories, some pleasing, some sad, but I shall not dwell upon them further than to say that I regret it was not in my power to do more than I did to promote the prosperity of my native land. Advancing years prevent my taking any active part now in the business of legislation, but I continue to feel a deep interest in it, and I look forward to meeting my colleagues each session with extreme pleasure.

"I assure you it is most gratifying to discover by your