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The Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone's Speech on Education at Liverpool College.

On the 21st Dec. last, Mr. Gladstone delivered the prizes to the 21st Dec. 18st, Mr. Gradstone derivered the prizes to the pupils of the Liverpool College in the presence of an assemblage which crowded every part of the lecture-hall. The platform was occupied by nearly 300 of the most notable of local men of all shades of politics and of various denominations. Mr. Torr, Chairman of the board, breesided and after a brief introductory address, called presided; and, after a brief introductory address, called upon the Premier for his speech.

men, and my younger friends,—Thirty years have passed away since, in consequence of the accidental disability of a worthier person, I was called upon to deliver from this very spot the inaugural address of the opening of this institution. In other words, the College has now lived through one generation of men. At the close of such a term as this we may suitably look back to ascertain how for it has fulfilled as discount to the control of far it has fulfilled or disappointed the expectations of its founders. At first I will refer to the hope they entertained that they would be able to secure for the government, the institution the services of a series of learned, able, and earnest men. This expectation, I venture to say, has been amply realized in the persons successively of Mr. Conybeare, of your old friend Dean Howson, and of Mr. Butler. Further, it was to be an institution having religion for its centre and its base—(hear, hear, and cheers)
—and that religion was to be the religion of the Church
of England. (Renewed cheers.) That the National Church is not in less esteem now than it was then with the na tion, the immense increase alike of her fabrics and of her ministrations may sufficiently show. (Cheers.) That those who guide the fortunes of this college do not desire to change the ground they have occupied from the first can need no proof on an occasion when I know from the Principal himself how much it is desired by them to erect a chapel within the precincts, in order to the more solemn and effectual celebration of the offices of religion (Applause.) But it was also from the first a part of the design that with religious teaching should be combined the practice of religious liberty; that no compulsory lessons or observances should be imposed to hinder the enjoyment, by the entire youth of Liverpool, of the general advantages of the college. (Hear, hear, and cheers. How has this portion of the scheme been found to fare? The kindness of your old, valued, and indefatigable Secretary enables me to answer the question. From him I learn, as well as from the Principal, that no religious difficulty has impeded the working of the plan; that among the pupils of this college, comprehensive with respect to nationality as well as to communion, there were found a short time back, upon examination; Unitarians, Wesleyans, Baptists, Roman Catholics, members of the Greek Mr. Gladstone, who, on rising, was most enthusiastically Church, Presbyterians, and Jews; and that of the whole received, then said :-Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentle number of pupils in the three schools of the college not