

THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS.

There is a proposition now before the Baptist denomination of this province to remove their theological department from the institution controlled by them at Woodstock to Toronto. A prominent member of that church is willing to contribute \$75,000 toward the project, and others are prepared to imitate his example. The scheme includes a policy like that so satisfactorily pursued by the Presbyterians in the matter of Knox College: sending their men to University College for an Arts education, and building a divinity hall near by where all the energies of the professors are directed to theology proper.

This system is also being followed with regard to the Protestant Episcopal Divinity School in this city. Several of the students there are either graduates or undergraduates of the University of Toronto, and the professors are thereby enabled to confine themselves to the real objects of the institution, the preparation of young men for the ministry. It is understood that a site has been secured convenient to the college, and that a theological hall will soon be erected on it.

The position occupied by University College in relation to theology was well brought out by Vice-Chancellor Moss in his address at Convocation yesterday. He said:

Although this is a non-sectarian college, and although you do not touch the dogmas of any form of Christian belief, yet in your course are subjects of study which are of the highest value, and of the utmost importance to those who propose devoting themselves to the task of preparing their fellows for that future into which we must all enter. I do not hesitate to say that I believe this college may well make it a special object to show to the world that while it is unconcerned with any special denomination of Christianity, it is able to impart to the young man who attends its courses, and listens to the teachings of its lecturers and professors, the great truths that form the essence of all real religion.

NEWS ITEMS.

The Artsgraduating class of '80 is made up thus: Classics, 7; in Mathematics, 4; Moderns, 5; Naturals, 5; Metaphysics, 14; Pass, 22; a total of 57.

The fourth-year honor-men in Natural Science take their lectures and laboratory work in the School of Practical Science; so that their well known forms are now seldom seen around University College. Prof. Wright still lectures on the pass subjects to students of the other years in his old lecture-room; but Prof. Croft and Prof. Chapman have moved entirely to the new building.

The Knox College glee club has been started again this session under favorable auspices. There is a membership of seventeen, all of whom are good musicians, and under the training of Mr. H. G. Collins. The club as years pass, will continue to sing one or two glee at each public meeting of the Metaphysical and Literary Society. The members meet for practice every Monday and Wednesday afternoon at five o'clock.

The General Committee of the U. L. and S. Society have appointed three of their members, the President, Mr. Tyrrell, and Mr. H. G. Collins, a sub-committee to canvass graduates for subscriptions toward fitting up the new quarters of the Society.

An undergraduate of the first year says that cardinal red was the prevalent color worn by the ladies at the games and convocation yesterday.

The General Committee of the Society will recommend to the College Council the name of Mr. Durance, the janitor, for the position of assistant curator, vacated by the resignation of Mr. McKim. There were four applicants for the position.

THE COLLEGE CONVOCATION.

There was a concurrence of happy circumstances that rendered the convocation of yesterday the most successful one in the history of University College. The weather was fine, the attendance large, the ladies being especially numerous, the number of new students presented unprecedented, and last but not least the presence of Dr. McCaul in the chair, apparently enjoying the best of health, and certainly in the best of spirits. On his right sat the Minister of Education, the Hon. Mr. Crooks, and on the left the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Chief Justice Moss, and Prof. Goldwin Smith. All the professors were present, and seated on the platform.

The new men were first presented; 4 ad eundem status, 98 matriculated students—1 in the 4th year, 4 in the 3rd year, 29 in 2nd year, 64 in 1st year—102 in all.

The prize-winners at the college examinations of last session were then called up by the several professors, and the books presented by Dr. McCaul. Addresses by Professor Smith and Chief Justice Moss closed the session.

THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

There was a fair attendance of members at the first meeting of the session, held last night in the old chemistry lecture room. The President, Mr. Vandermis, was in the Chair.

The following new members were proposed: By J. Mutch—C. W. Mulloy, E. R. Burkholder, D. Francis, '82; R. Kerr, R. C. Tibb, G. I. Biddell, '83. By J. Ballantyne: W. F. Seymour, J. T. Fotheringham, Wm. Farquharson, Duncan McColl, J. L. Campbell, '83; W. A. Duncan, '82. By A. C. Courtice: W. J. Greig, '82. By A. H. McDougall: W. Elliott, W. A. Galloway, '82. By W. T. Herridge: —Glass, '83.

Communications were received: from G. Acheson, tendering his resignation on the college paper committee; from A. Scrimger, resigning his position as Councillor; from the Science Association of Victoria College, Cobourg, asking that four Society unite with that body. The consideration of these communications was deferred till next meeting.

The report of the General Committee, recommending that the first public meeting of this term be held on Friday, Nov. 14th, was adopted. The following members were elected to take part: Debaters: W. Johnston, M. A., M. McGregor, B. A., W. T. Herridge, W. A. Shortt; Reader: G. Acheson.

W. J. London gave notice of motion that at next meeting he would move, seconded by W. T. Herridge, that the constitution be amended so as to increase the annual subscription from \$1.00 to \$1.50. The President had previously announced that the General Committee had appointed next meeting to discuss the constitution.

PROF. GOLDWIN SMITH.

Below will be found a report of the speech of Professor Goldwin Smith, at Convocation on Friday:

At the conclusion of the distribution of the prizes Mr. Goldwin Smith was called upon. It was, he said, of course very interesting to one who was himself once engaged in similar university competitions to be present on an occasion of this kind. It recalled to his mind the days when he stood in trembling expectation at the doors of the examination rooms at Oxford, and saw the examiners come forth with the honor lists in their hands. A good deal had been said of late against this system of competitive examinations and prizes, and a good deal had been said with truth. It had been said that the system was defective as a test. No doubt

it was. All tests were more or less defective. But he did not think examination or prize tests, if well used, were more defective than tests in general. In his own experience, at least, the results of examinations generally corresponded with the previous reputations of the students. It was also said that men were overstrained by these competitions. Sometimes, no doubt, they were. He did not think they were more often strained by competitions in examinations than by athletic competitions. Far more than health was endangered by vices which wait on idleness. He did not think any man who had a tolerable constitution need injure himself by competitive examinations, if he would only manage himself well, and abstain from habits which, under any circumstances, would be injurious to his health. If a professor found one of his pupils breaking down, he would do well to enquire whether he was reading too much; but he would also do well to enquire whether he smoked too many cigars or read too late at night. (Applause and laughter.) Reading late at night, he was convinced, had been the occasion of many a physical collapse, while, on the contrary, a great deal more work might be done without injury to the health by reading early in the morning. He remembered once meeting the late Lord Westbury, who was then Sir Richard Bethel. He was at the time the Attorney-General of England, with a tremendous amount of professional work during the day, and obliged to attend in Parliament at night. Sir Richard, nevertheless, looked perfectly fresh and healthy, and he (Mr. Smith) complimented him on his appearance. "Yes," said Sir Richard, "and I owe it to this, that I have always worked early in the morning and not late at night." He added, with a sort of complacency, "I set out in life with many dear friends who have worked late at night, and I have buried them all." (Laughter.) And he felt from him to say that reading for examination prizes is the highest motive for reading. Love of study and a sense of duty were higher motives for competition, and the more they could dispense with the latter, and substitute the former, the better. But they could not do that always. He was glad to see the list of matriculated students increasing from year to year. He was one of those who believed Canada would see that in the end it was better to have one great university than a number of small ones—(loud applause)—that we should learn that instead of scattering our resources, we should concentrate them, and concentrate them here. (Renewed applause.) He hoped also that the time was not far distant when the University would become the real centre of our whole educational system. Among the questions agitated in England when he was last there, was the one to which he had alluded—the question between the strengthening of the old centres of learning and the multiplication of universities; and although Owen College had been established successfully, he thought the multiplication of universities was likely to stop there. He found also the disposition to place the educational administration beyond the sphere of politics. He had great respect for our educational administrators, and the excellent Minister of Education we had in particular, but he believed the interests of our national education should above all be kept entirely clear of politics, and it appeared to him that public thought was tending in the direction of centralizing our university system there. (Applause.)

W. J. London

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