

sonatives. As it is, the parties will be so evenly balanced in Congress as to make any serious legislation difficult for the next two years.

THE REV. GEORGE MUNRO GRANT, D.D.

Before assuming the Principal's chair of Queen's College, the late minister of St. Matthew's Church, Halifax, was less widely known than now to the public of Canada. He enjoyed a reputation as the pastor of the leading congregation in the Maritime Provinces, as one who took an active part in the union movement which led to the formation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and as a man whose record of labours, done in every benevolent cause, was one to be proud of. But so many honours have been crowded upon him since the end of last year that to-day he stands before the country as one of its prominent men. In the course of about eight months he has passed from the rank and file of the clergy to be the Principal of a College; and the University of Glasgow, his own *alma mater*, has recognized his appointment by conferring upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. The unanimity of his choice by the trustees of the College, his cordial reception by the students of the various Faculties, and the warm welcome accorded to him by the citizens of Kingston, are evidences of his high standing as a scholar and a man. But Dr. Grant had no sooner entered upon his new duties than he saw that something must be done to place his College upon a more solid basis. This was a task for which he was well fitted, both by nature and experience. Constitutionally he is one who adds to the weight of moral conviction an indomitable purpose and dauntless courage in undertaking what seems to him a necessary end. He appears to take every one into his confidence and to gain him over as a friend and advocate of his views so that all feel and say that when Grant takes a thing in hand it must be done. By experience also he was prepared for the special work now to be accomplished, for it is doubtful whether any single minister in Canada ever succeeded as Mr. Grant did while in Halifax in raising money for such objects as education, religion and general benevolence. He collected large sums for the Home and Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, for Dalhousie College, for the Theological Seminary, and for every benevolent scheme of general or local importance. As an instance of his catholicity in regard to benevolence, Mr. Grant raised the entire amount required for the magnificent Dispensary at Halifax, and the first two subscriptions of five hundred dollars received were from a Roman Catholic and a Presbyterian. The fortnight before leaving Halifax he obtained \$2,000 for a club-house for a temperance organization that had been singularly successful in rescuing the most hopeless cases of drunkenness, the Anglican Bishop and the Roman Catholic Archbishop heading the list of subscribers. Thus fitted for the task, it seems the natural and proper thing that Principal Grant should, since the inception of his scheme for endowment and improved buildings some three months ago, have secured the large amount of over \$100,000—\$41,000 of which came from Kingston alone, and the balance from but a few subscribers in Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto, and several smaller towns and country districts. The entire amount required—\$150,000—will without doubt be reached ere long, and we feel certain that the honour of this success will not rank even second in the estimation of Mr. Grant to the titles of Very Rev. and Principal, and Doctor, which have so recently been heaped upon him.

By those who are not well acquainted with Principal Grant it may be thought that, while he is so intensely energetic and earnest, there may be wanting in him the necessary qualities of a professor. But his entire course from schoolboy days to the close of his pastorate in Halifax shows a happy combination in him of the practical and the scholarly, of the man of action and the votary of the midnight oil. While attending the Academy of Pictou, N.S., his native place, and afterwards the West River Seminary of the Presbyterian Church, he was the leader in all games and sports, his energy never seeming to exhaust itself. At the same time he was a distinguished scholar, carrying off every prize that came within reach. Having been elected by the Committee of the Bursary Fund of the Synod of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland, in the year 1852, he proceeded to Glasgow University, and then and there commenced an eight years' course of study, which proved to be to its very close a highly distinguished and successful career.

At the time of commencing his studies at the University of Glasgow he was scarcely seventeen years of age. Although a Canadian he seemed at home the moment he put his foot on the College pavement. There was a settled confidence about him that said, "I am here for a purpose;" but it was not that over-confidence which spurns the idea of learning from others. He was a diligent and successful student in all the classes—in many taking first prizes, in few, if any, coming out without distinction, taking highest honours in philosophy in his examination for the degree of M.A.; and while attending the divinity classes not only obtaining some of their best prizes, but carrying off, along with several other of the University prizes, the Lord Rector's prize of thirty guineas for the best essay upon "Hindoo Literature and Philoso-

phy." But the remarkable thing about him was that he had always time for a game of football. In the elections of Lord Rector, Grant was a leader. All this time he was doing the work of private tutor in some of the influential families of the city, so that at the end of his course he could look proudly on the fact that he had not only supported himself at the College, but was able to return any money he had drawn from the Bursary Fund.

In the year 1861 we find the subject of this sketch no longer a boy, but a man—an ordained minister, returning with buoyant hopefulness to serve his beloved native land. Had he remained in Scotland, comfort and distinction were in store for him. But he remembered that he had been sent to study for the Church in Canada; and while there was no obligation binding him to return, the claims of his own land stirred his soul. For the first two years he filled with much success two missionary appointments, the one in Pictou County and the other in Prince Edward Island. In May, 1863, commenced the long pastorate of Mr. Grant in Halifax, which was only broken last year by his appointment to his present position. During these fifteen years he displayed the two-fold qualities to which we have referred, and with a success which was proportioned to the largeness of his trust. Director of Dalhousie College, Trustee of the Theological Seminary, member of the various committees of Presbytery, Synod and Assembly, a zealous advocate of Union, chairman, secretary, or member of every benevolent society, the friend of education—these and many similar positions we might name bespeak for him the quality of intense activity with which we have credited him.

REV. JAMES WILLIAMSON, LL.D.

PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS.

In the year 1855, on the occasion of a presentation to the subject of this sketch, the Rev. John McKerras (now deceased) used this language, "the name of Professor Williamson has come to be regarded as synonymous with the honored title of Students' Friend," and the quarter of a century that has since elapsed has only intensified this feeling. In presenting his portrait, therefore, to graduates and students, we know we are presenting an acceptable gift and feel that the necessary bareness of the facts we advance will be well filled out by affectionate remembrance. Born in 1806 at Edinburgh, the future Vice-Principal was educated at the High School of his native city and graduated as M.A. at Edinburgh University in 1827. His chosen profession was the Ministry of the Church of Scotland, and he was licensed in 1831. After being licensed he was for a time a missionary in Kilsyth, a mining district, subsequent to which he was assistant minister at Drumelzier. While filling this position a body of men in Canada had succeeded in establishing Queen's University and College and in the year 1842, the second year of the College, he resigned his position in Drumelzier and came to Canada, having accepted an appointment to the important chair of Mathematics. From this period dates his connection with Queen's, a connection marked by an intense earnestness to maintain and increase its reputation and by an unwavering interest in it and all connected with it. At the time of his appointment his associates were Dr. Liddell and Prof. Campbell, but soon (about 1844, we believe) the management of the infant institution was left entirely in his hands, Drs. Liddell and Campbell having accepted calls from Scotland. To this emergency the Professor was equal and successfully watched over the interests of the College until successors to those gentlemen were appointed. In spite of the immense work that devolved on him in these years he still had time for other matters, for the year 1845 is marked by his marriage with Margaret Gilchrist, daughter of John Gilchrist, Esq., of Edinburgh, editor of the *Evening Courant* of that city. This lady, however, died in the year 1847, leaving one son, now filling a responsible position in Edinburgh.

In the year 1852 he married his second wife, so well known to many of Queen's Graduates as the kind second of the Professor's constant hospitality to the students,—Margaret, sister of the Rt. Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald. In the year 1854, he, in conjunction with Dr. Dickson and Dr. John Stewart, successfully established a Medical Faculty in connection with Queen's, and was for some time the Professor of Chemistry in this new institution. In the year 1855 he was the recipient of a valuable testimonial from former graduates, on which occasion (as mentioned above) an address was read by Rev. John McKerras, which only want of space prevents our transcribing, so well does it express the sentiments of respect and love, which then as now were the prevailing sentiments in the minds of all students and graduates towards him. Shortly after this testimonial to his personal qualities, he received one which recognized his high intellectual attainments, viz.: the degree of LL.D. from the University of Glasgow, (a degree not so lightly given then as now). As an example of the work Dr. Williamson was now doing, we may quote from a writer to the *Presbyterianian* in 1857: "The Vice-Principal lectures on Theology in all its branches, Natural Philosophy, Logic and * * * Church History." And from what he says farther on, Mathematics and Chemistry may be added to this. Truly Queen's has developed.

Shortly before this date, in 1855, the Doctor's efforts were successfully bent towards the erect-

tion of an observatory, which was deeded to the University in 1861 and of which he is the Director. Since then an improvement in the funds has increased the staff of Professors, though not to their full complement, and Dr. Williamson—still a splendid specimen of health—now fills only the chair to which he was first appointed, that of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. One other sad event only we have to record, the death of Mrs. Williamson in 1876. And now we leave the Doctor to our readers, not because we do not desire to say more, but because we feel certain that the recollections of all must be as vivid and full as our own, and we feel that all our readers will join with us in the wish that he may be long spared to fill his place.

REV. JOHN B. MOWAT, M.A.

The Rev. Prof. Mowat, who occupies the chair of Oriental Languages, Biblical Criticism and Church History, and is likewise Registrar of Queen's University, is a Kingstonian. He was born in 1825, and received his education chiefly at Queen's University, in which he graduated in 1845. He went to Scotland in 1846 and was a student at the University of Edinburgh during the sessions of 1846-7 and 1847-8. Returning to Canada a licentiate for the Ministry, he acted as assistant to the Rev. Dr. Machar, in St. Andrew's Church, from the year 1848 to 1850, when he was ordained minister of St. Andrew's Church at Niagara, and continued to labour there with much acceptance, until, to the great regret of his congregation, he was appointed to his present chair in Queen's University. His own studies are pursued with unremitting assiduity, that his prelections may be more interesting and useful to his students; and he does not think the labour of a lifetime too much to give to the great subjects which it is his privilege to teach. But in Christian work also, no less than in scholarship, Professor Mowat is an indefatigable worker. His ordinary allowance of Sabbath work is three services. His voice as a preacher is a familiar one in most of the pulpits of Kingston, for his valuable services are freely given, wherever needed, without any reference to denominational lines or boundaries. His catholic spirit and the respect universally accorded to his Christian character make him one of the uniting forces in the community.

JOHN WATSON, M.A., LL.D.

The subject of this sketch is of that nation which has supplied so many Professors to Queen's, being born in the City of Glasgow, Scotland, on the twenty-fifth of February, eighteen hundred and forty-seven. He obtained all his collegiate education in Glasgow University, which he attended during the sessions 1866-7, '67-8, '68-9, '69-70, '70-71 and '71-72. He took first prizes in the classes of Logic and Rhetoric, Moral Philosophy, English Literature and Junior Divinity; and in April, 1872, graduated with the degree of M.A., taking first-class honours in Mental and Moral Philosophy and English Literature. At the time Mr. Watson graduated, the chair of Mental and Moral Philosophy in Queen's had been vacated by the removal of Prof. J. C. Murray to Montreal, and he received the appointment in October, 1872, and at once entered on his duties. To those who have been in attendance since that date we need say nothing as to his power of teaching and expounding his Philosophy. His ability in developing general interest in a study which usually is of absorbing interest to the few and of absorbing dryness to the many, at once attracts the notice of the most superficial observer, and so strongly is that interest manifested that there are more competitors for honours in that class than in any other, and the only degrees in Science yet conferred by the Senate of Queen's are those in *Mental Science*. Besides his necessary work in attending to pass and honour classes, Professor Watson has been busy with his pen as a list of lectures and articles can show. Many of these articles have attracted attention in prominent philosophical circles.

GRAIN ELEVATOR, BEDFORD.

The elevator is situated near the head of Bedford Basin, about 9 miles from Halifax, on the line of the Intercolonial R.R. The building is nearly an eighth of a mile from the mouth of Salmon River, so the motive power has to be conveyed some distance. A turbine water-wheel is built about midway between river and elevator, to this the water is carried by a large wooden pipe, and the power is thence communicated by an endless wire rope, which turns the main wheel on the end of the building. This elevator of Messrs. Moir, Son & Co. has become the centre of quite a little manufacturing population. There are also quite near at hand a "spool" and also a shock mill. These all give employment to a large number of "hands," and what was but lately a veritable Sleepy Hollow has now thrown off its lethargy, and things are moving quite briskly.

"You make me think," John William said, dropping upon the sofa beside a pretty girl one Sunday evening. "of a bank whereon wild thyme grows." "Do I?" she murmured. "It is nice; but that is pe's stop in the hall, and unless you can drop out of the front window before I cease speaking, you'll have a little wild thyme with you, my own, for he loves you not." But John William didn't quite make it, and now you can make him grow wild time and time again by simply asking him what makes him go lame when he walks.

THE DOMINION ANNUAL REGISTER AND REVIEW FOR 1879.

Edited by Henry J. Morgan, Keeper of the Records, Canada. Edited by J. Geo. Hodgins, LL.D., A. Mackinnon Burgess, Dr. Robert Bell, J. George Bourinot and Frederick A. Dixon.

The second volume of Morgan's Canadian Annual Register, giving the historical record of the year 1879, has just been issued. This volume is, if possible, an improvement upon that for 1878, and we may add that the task of making a fair and impartial picture of the events of the last year, was a more difficult one than that of dealing with the year before. The former year witnessed two events of the first importance in Canada—the general election and the change in the Governor-Generalship. To set forth, in the clear colourless light which should illumine the historic page, the result of the general election, and the causes which led to it, was no small achievement, and well was the task performed. But still more of a truth was it to give a fair picture of the great change in Canadian commercial policy, which followed upon the change of government—the adoption of what has been called the National Policy of Canada. Whether we approve or condemn the commercial legislation of 1879, the great importance of the change to the Dominion has to be acknowledged. It tries the steadiness of the historian's head and the firmness of his judgment, to make immediate contemporary record of events regarding which our foremost men of the time so greatly differ. And this is what is done in the political history of the year, which is very fully and completely recorded in a little under two hundred pages. Almost at the very opening we find something of great interest just at present; a narrative of the negotiations with the French Government with reference to certain desired tariff changes, carried on by Sir Alexander Galt. Owing to the peculiar treaty relations of France with other European Powers, no arrangement in favour of Canada would thus be made, but the consent of the French Government in the main point has been secured, and when the new French tariff shall have been definitely adopted, the Dominion will doubtless have the benefit of the most favoured nations clause. The third chapter deals with the close of the Letellier case by the dismissal of the late, and the appointment of the present, Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, and summarizes the arguments used on both sides. In the fourth chapter the passing of the new tariff and the formal adoption of the National Policy by Parliament is given in full. Next follows a record of measures taken for the survey and settlement of the North-West of the Dominion, lying between Manitoba and the Rocky Mountains, and parliamentary business to the close of the session. Then there comes under review the Ontario elections, which gave Mr. Mowat's Government another term of power; the resignation of the Joly Government in Quebec, and the accession of Mr. Chapleau and his friends to the direction of Provincial affairs, and the local elections for Prince Edward Island and Manitoba. As reminders of the chief events in one of the most eventful years in Canadian history, these eight chapters possess an enduring interest.

One of the most useful portions of the book is a journal of remarkable occurrences, which fills 73 pages—190 to 262 inclusive. A review of Literature occupies 19 pages; of Science, 16 pages; and of Art, 8 pages. The progress of education in the Dominion is told in twelve pages by a very competent authority on the subject.

Next comes a financial and commercial review of the year, in 15 pages, embracing a record of the bank panic in midsummer, and the decided revival of trade which marked the latter half of the year. Forty pages are devoted to the Militia of Canada, giving a clear and full statement of what the Dominion has done and is doing towards its own defence, should occasion arise. A record of remarkable trials follow; and with a very full obituary for the year the volume closes. We can most conscientiously congratulate Mr. Morgan upon an important work well performed, a very necessary work withal, and one of which the Dominion may well be proud. And we can add that the typography and general get up of the volume, by Messrs. Maclean, Roger & Co., of Ottawa, leave nothing to be desired.

THE GLEANER.

MANY German officers believe that there will be a war between Germany and France within a very few years.

THE elevation of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin to the Cardinalate is mentioned as probable.

THE Emperor of Morocco, in a note to the Powers, consents that henceforth all religious beliefs will be tolerated in his dominions.

THE Government of Victoria, Australia, is about to introduce a bill for reducing the salary (\$50,000 and a house) of future Governors.

THE Canadian canals will be kept open as long as possible for the benefit of commerce. The Saint Canal is ordered to be closed, peremptorily, on the 15th instant.

THE Hudson Bay Company exported eastward from Winnipeg furs amounting in value to \$128,000 on the 2nd ult. The value of a previous shipment was \$44,000.

UPWARDS of 400 tenements and stores have been erected in Winnipeg this season, at a cost of nearly one million dollars. The trade and commerce here is