

THE COLLEGE CLOSINGS.

Knox College, Toronto.

The convocation of Knox College, Toronto was held on Thursday last, Principal Caven presiding; Dr. Caven's address was as follows:—We desire first of all to thank God for all progress made in study during the session now closing. We thank Him also for the comfort which we have had in our work, and in the fellowship of college life. Nor should we forget that the general good health of the session is due to His favor.

The work of the college in all departments has gone steadily forward. I desire publicly to acknowledge the obligation of the college to the brethren who have so efficiently conducted the classes in O. T. Literature, Apologetics and Church History, Messrs Ramsay and Duncan, and Dr. Somerville. I know that I speak truly when I say that the services of all these gentlemen have been highly appreciated in this place, and by undertaking at personal inconvenience, work of so great importance they have laid the Church as well as the college under obligations to them. The able lectures of Dr. Worfield were an interesting and valuable contribution to the work of the session. They had the true academic tone, and were models of clear, thorough, Scriptural discussion.

Having referred to the special work arranged by the Alumni Association. Dr. Caven referred feelingly to the deaths of Revs. Dr. Reid and D. J. Macdonnell, and of Mr. Semple a student of the college.

Our Church, he said, will soon be called to exercise the important function of appointing permanent teachers in this college. The place of one whom we cease not to mourn, Prof. Thompson, is vacant; the place occupied by our venerable friend, Dr. Gregg, (whom may God long spare to us), is vacant. The action which the Church will thus be called to take is of exceeding importance, and may intimately affect the life of the college and the church for many years to come. May He who knows what is best to be done, so direct that a wise choice shall be made, and the college greatly strengthened by the accession of able and devoted teachers. "For except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it."

And surely the Church will not long delay to improve the financial position of an institution that is called to do so much, and has been—with inadequate resources—doing so much to provide a ministry for the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and to supply missionaries for the heathen world.

DOCTOR OF DIVINITY.

Rev. Dr. Proudfoot presented Rev. George Sutherland, of Fingal, for the degree of Doctor of Divinity, and Rev. Dr. MacLaren recommended for the same degree, Rev. Carlo Alberto Iran (Knight of the Crown of Italy), of the Waldensian Church in Italy; and Dr. Caven, on behalf of the Senate, conferred the degree in absentia.

BACHELOR OF DIVINITY.

Rev. John Macnair, B.A., of Waterloo, was presented by Rev. Geo. Logie, B.D., for the degree of Bachelor of Divinity.

THE GRADUATING CLASS.

The following is a list of the members of the graduating class who received diplomas:—

J. A. Dow, B.A., W. C. Dodds, E. W. Mackay, B.A., J. T. Hall, A. S. Ross, B.A., S. O. Nixon, W. A. Campbell, B.A., T. A. Bell, B.A., R. T. Cockburn, John Radford, W. M. McKay, J. D. J. D. Jeffrey, D. L. Campbell, B.A., R. F. Cameron, G. R. Faskin, B.A., W. M. Burton, B.A., C. Tate, A. Mullin, B.A., A. E. Duncan, M.A., P. W. Anderson (agrotat), G. C. Little, B.A., W. A. Maclean, Walter Moffat, H. Cowan, B.A., H. A. Macpherson.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN THEOLOGY.

First year—1. Central Church, Hamilton, G. R. Wilson, M.A.; 2. Eastman, J. A. Moir, B.A.; 3. Bloor Street Church, Toronto, and 4. Goldie, divided between A. H. Abbott, B.A., and R. W. Dickie, B.A.; 5. Gillies (1), H. McCulloch, B.A.; 6. Gillies (2), S. H. Gray, B.A.; 7. Dunbar, J. Barber, B.A., and D. B. Macdonald, B.A.

Second year—1. Elizabeth Scott School, J. H. Brown, M.A., LL.B.; 2. J. A. Cameron, R. Martin; 3. Knox Church, Toronto (1), F. D. Roxburgh, B.A.; 4. Knox Church, Toronto (2), and 5. Logh-rin, J. J. Patterson, B.A., and W. G. Richardson, B.A., 6. Heron, and 7. Boyd, E. B. Horrie, M.A., and J. B. Torrance.

Third year—1. Bonar-Burns, J. A. Dow, B.A.; 2. Fisher, (1), A. Mullin, B.A.; 3. Fisher (2), A. S. Ross, B.A.; 4. R. H. Thornton (memorial), T. A. Bell, B.A.; 5. Jane Mortimer, G. C. Little, B.A.; 6. Cheyne, H. Cowan, B.A., and G. R. Faskin, B.A.

SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

Boyne (proficiency in Hebrew), A. H. Abbott, B. A.; Prince of Wales. J. Bailey, B. A.; Smith, E. W. Mackay, B. A.; Brydon prize, Crawford Tate; Clark prize, No. 1, J. H. Brown, M. A., LL. B.; Clark prize, No. 2, W. A. Campbell, B. A.

For degree of B. D.—1st department, Rev. R. Haddow, B. A., took the full examination, J. H. Brown, M. A., LL. B., wrote on, three subjects, and passed in all three, 2nd department, Biblical option, Rev. John McNair, B. A., Waterloo.

The moderator of the General Assembly, Rev. Dr. Robertson, being called upon by Dr. Caven, in a short and pithy speech paid a high tribute to the missionary spirit of the students of Knox College. In concluding his remarks, he made an urgent appeal to the alumni and the friends of the college to afford help in the way of placing Knox on a sound financial basis. As the most prominent college in the Dominion, it was worthy he held, of help from all interested in the welfare of the Presbyterian Church.

PUBLIC MEETING.

In the evening the closing exercises for the year were held in St. James' square Presbyterian Church. Principal Caven presided, and with him on the platform were Chancellor Burwash, of Victoria University, Chancellor Wallace, of McMaster University; Rev. Dr. Robertson, moderator of the General Assembly; Rev. Dr. MacLaren, professor of systematic theology Knox College; Rev. W. A. J. Martin, of Euclid avenue Presbyterian Church; and Rev. R. D. Fraser, of Bowmanville. The exercises opened with the reading of the 132nd Psalm by Principal Caven, after which Chancellor Burwash led in prayer. This was followed by the singing of hymn 209, beginning "Soldiers of Christ Arise."

Rev. Dr. MacLaren was the first speaker, and his impressive and eloquent charge, to those who were about to enter God's field of labour, was listened to with breathless attention by all those present. The church, said the rev. speaker, was to be congratulated on the splendid increase in the numbers of this year's graduating class, and in the many sterling qualities displayed individually by the members of the same. They, as students, would be missed from their accustomed places in the college halls and classes they were about to leave, but they would go forth with the prayers and best wishes of the faculty. The arduous course of study through which they had just come, might be thought by some of them to be very long, extending, as it did, in some cases, over a period of eight or ten or even twelve years; but if they would take what had been the personal experience of the speaker, they would find that after being in the ministry for a short time they would not regret the length of time they had spent in preparation. In the first place, they must themselves be in right relation to God. If he would give them one bit of advice more than another, it would be to begin with an assurance of their own personal interest in the Saviour, and if they lacked this in any way they should not go forward a single step. In the second place, if they were quite sure of this beginning, they were to go forward as they had begun. A close life with God would surely bring them increased comfort, increased love, and increased joy. Another thing was very important, and that would be a steady mental growth. Their college studies were but an introduction to the continuous study of God and His works that they would find necessary.

The next speaker was Rev. R. D. Fraser, of Bowmanville, who gave the students a historical sketch of the Presbyterian Church, reciting fully its various creeds, beliefs, and aims. He claimed that the Church with which they were identified was ever in the front rank where work for God was to be done, and that this thought was to be ever in their minds. The spirit of the Church was more than ever one of highest consecration and broad Christ like charity.

Rev. W. A. J. Martin, of St. Paul's Church, gave his hearers an account of the training and equipment the graduates had received, and emphasized the importance of the same as a means of power to give their congregations the right spiritual training. He explained that the nominations now being made for the two vacant chairs in the college staff were hedged about with the difficulty as to their financial support. The funds for the maintenance of only one chair were at present available, and he hoped that the suggestion he was about to make would be acted upon by some of his hearers. He would like if Principal Caven could announce at the next annual meeting that one of the vacant chairs had been endowed by the liberality of some of Toronto's citizens, as the present state of the funds would not allow of an adequate provision being made for both.

Principal Caven, in a few well-chosen remarks, then brought the proceedings to a close, and, after the singing of the Doxology, Chancellor Wallace pronounced the benediction.