

incalculable benefit and strength to the young and struggling College. When, in the autumn of 1877, it became known that he had prospectively accepted the position of Superintendent of Education for his native Province, those who had learned to appreciate his worth, and who knew his strong and varied hold on the public esteem, not unnaturally feared that his removal might injuriously affect the fortunes of the College. His own contrary anticipations, we are glad to know, have been fully realized in the prosperity which has attended the administration of Dr. Inch and his distinguished Faculty. Still, the removal of such a man must be regarded as involving loss not easily reparable.

Dr. Allison accepted his present position probably under the influence of a variety of motives. He naturally wished for relief from the severe and peculiar strain of administrative duties, even if relief should come only in the form of change. A strong pressure was put upon him by the leading men of Nova Scotia, irrespective of party, to come over to their help. Something like an educational crisis existed in that Province, and the presence of a strong man was needed. His acceptance was as heartily hailed at Halifax as it was regretted at Sackville. His departure from the latter place, where, either as student or teacher, he had lived nearly a quarter of a century, was marked by suitable expressions of appreciative regret from fellow-professors, students, and citizens. In his new field of labour he is vindicating the wisdom of his appointment, working with quiet energy, and bringing to pass desirable reforms.

Dr. Allison is in the prime of manhood, and is "every inch a man." In advocating or defending good causes, he can use, with equal readiness and effect, voice or pen. He is a patriot without partisanship, and a Christian without bigotry. As we have seen, he is a Methodist of the third generation. He has been a member of our Church since his eighteenth year, and is "well spoken of" as a local preacher. His sermons or addresses are not of the stereotyped pattern, and generally live in the memory by reason of some freshness of exegesis or striking vigour of expression. He received the degrees of B.A. and M.A. in due course from his Alma Mater, and in 1873 had conferred upon him the degree of LL.D., by the University of Victoria College. In 1876 he was appointed Fellow of the Senate of the University of Halifax. He was a member of both General Conferences and was an Assistant Secretary of that of 1878.