

College and other schools. He always had a strong inclination for military life; and passed through the military school at Toronto in 1873. Immediately afterwards he obtained his commission as ensign in the 7th Battalion, keeping up active connection with the battalion ever since. He went through the North-West campaign of 1885, and was for some time in command of a detachment at Telegraph Creek, on the North Saskatchewan. Before leaving school he proceeded to Europe, visiting before his return some of the most important places there. Major Smith is a member of the Church of England, and his family always have been members of that communion. As an officer he enjoys the repute of efficiency and of zeal; and he has well earned these attributes.

Burns, Rev. Alex., D. D., LL. D., President of the Wesleyan Ladies' College, Hamilton, was born in the Village of Castletwellan, County of Down, Ireland, on the 12th of August, 1834. His father was James Burns, a carpenter and joiner to trade, who left the old land and settled in Quebec in 1847. After remaining there for three years, his parents removed to Toronto, where they continued to reside during the remainder of their lives. At an early age Alexander began to attend school, and had acquired a good rudimentary education before his family emigrated. After his arrival in Quebec, he was employed for some time as an assistant in an apothecary's shop, but, not finding that pursuit to his liking, he soon abandoned it, and afterwards learned the trade of wood-turning. When seventeen years of age the famous Methodist revival preacher, the Rev. James Caughey, visited Toronto, and held a series of religious meetings in the old Richmond street Methodist church. Young Alexander Burns attended the meetings, and was drawn under the powerful spell of the preacher. He had been reared by his parents to the Presbyterian faith, and taught the Calvinistic doctrines in all their rigour, although it cannot be said that he held any distinct theological views at the time. He awoke to new purposes, was "converted," embraced the doctrines of the Wesleyan body, and was enrolled as a member of the Methodist church. This was the turning point in his life, as his desires to understand the Scriptures, and to prepare himself for an earnest life, gave him an insatiable and permanent longing for an education. Impelled by that desire, he studied during his spare hours; and when he had saved enough to enable him

to enter college, he left his business and entered Victoria College, Cobourg. He graduated there, in 1861, B. A., as Prince of Wales' gold medalist. He remained in the college one year as classical teacher, and then entered the ministry. His first year was spent in Stratford, the second and third in Drayton. In 1865 he was offered the vice-presidency of the Mount Allison University, New Brunswick; also the chair of mathematics in the Iowa Wesleyan University. He accepted the latter, and accompanied the venerable Dr. Charles Elliott to Mount Pleasant, Iowa, where he remained three years as vice-president of that institution. In 1868 he accepted the presidency of the Simpson Centenary College, and held that position for ten years; was elected to the presidency of the Iowa Wesleyan University in 1869, but declined to accept. While in the United States he did a great deal of lecturing, preaching, etc., before colleges, literary societies, and state associations; was one of the three delegates from the Des Moines conference to the general conference in Baltimore in the centennial year 1876. In 1878, just as he was thinking of returning east, he got a call from Hamilton to take the presidency of the Wesleyan Ladies' College, in place of the Rev. S. D. Rice, D. D., late senior superintendent of the Methodist Church of Canada, and accepted. At the same time he got a call to Chicago. He has been in Hamilton ever since. His special work is mental and moral science, evidences of Christianity, logic, and English literature. But the subject to which he has given most attention for the last twenty-five years is biblical criticism and biblical literature. He has in his library some of the rarest works to be found on the continent. In 1870 he received the degree of S. T. D. (*Sanctæ Theologiæ Doctor*) from the State University of Indiana, one of the richest universities in the country, and in 1878 his *alma mater* gave him the LL. D. He has been twice elected by the alumni of the university as one of their representatives in the senate, and is associate examiner in the university in the president's department. He has delivered the annual lecture before the Theological union twice, and preached the baccalaureate sermon once. He takes a great interest in Victoria College, and has studied her history and her wants perhaps as fully as any other of her sons. He has always been radical in his religious views and theology; that is, he profoundly believes that all true religion harmonizes with reason,