

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Seldom has there been such uniform excellence of behaviour and attention at Convocation as there was this year. The hall was crowded, and the platform presented a brilliant array of officials and visitors. The gallery was lively, interspersing the proceedings with songs, jokes, the court cry and selections by a portion of the banjo club. At 4 o'clock the faculty, members of council and distinguished visitors entered and took their seats on the platform, the Chancellor, the Principal and his Excellency Lord Aberdeen leading the way.

After prayer by the chaplain, Rev. J. K. McMorine, M.A., there took place the

INSTALLATION OF THE CHANCELLOR.

The Chancellor was introduced by Principal Grant, who spoke of him as not only an engineer of the first rank, but an able writer, a man of affairs, and in the truest sense of the words a statesman. Fifteen years ago he had been elected Chancellor of Queen's University, and so faithfully had he served the institution that he had now been elected for the sixth term, and it was certain that so long as Sanford Fleming was alive no one else would occupy the Chancellor's chair of Queen's.

After taking the oath of allegiance, he was invested with the robes of office by G. W. Mitchell, of Cobourg, and W. A. Logie, of Hamilton, and took his place in the Chancellor's chair.

CHANCELLOR FLEMING'S ADDRESS.

However pleasing the duty of thanking you on previous occasions for elevating me to the Chancellor's chair, I cannot but feel embarrassment in attempting to express my grateful acknowledgements for the honour you have conferred in again placing me in this exalted position.

There are times when, from poverty of words adequately to express the feeling called forth by a favour received, silence may be accepted as the deepest thanks. Such is the present occasion, for I am sensible that anything I can say would only too feebly express my deep appreciation of the high honour you have conferred in elevating me to the office of Chancellor for the sixth triennial term. Accept then as my expression of thanks my earnest assurance that it will be my unflinching desire and continued aim to serve faithfully this seat of learning as long as I am able.

In accordance with custom I venture to claim the privilege of offering a few remarks. I am sure you will agree with me that this is a fitting occasion to look back over the fifteen years which have elapsed since you first assigned to me the duties of this office, and to recall some of the events which have occurred, in so far as they have influenced the progress and prospects of the University. The programme

of the business to be transacted to-day will occupy much attention. I will not, therefore, trespass at length on your time; I will ask you to grant me your indulgence for a short period only.

When I first occupied the chair in the year 1880, we were entering on the fortieth session. I then reviewed the history and condition of the institution. I went over with you perhaps the most interesting period in the life of a university; the period chronicled in its early annals, when it was being moulded into its future form. It is not again necessary to refer at length to the chequered career of its first forty years. Its modest beginning was in harmony with the condition of Canada in the first half of the century. Its slow growth continued during those years under many disadvantages. It has undergone many trials owing to losses and disasters; for years its very existence was seriously imperilled. We may all read with the deepest interest the record of the strenuous efforts and struggles of its founders and friends to maintain its position and to continue the good work they had commenced. I cannot fail to allude to the remarkable willingness of graduates and alumni, out of their slender resources, to contribute means to place the University on a better footing, or to the liberality of the noble-minded benefactors who, at critical periods, came forward to give strength to the foundation.

I may with propriety refer for a brief space to the record of more recent events, to those which have occurred within the last fifteen years. In 1880 a new college building had been rendered necessary by the increase in the number of students. The foundation stone had been laid two years previously by their Excellencies the Governor-General and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. At the beginning of the fortieth session the new edifice was opened and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. The mayor of the city of Kingston, in the name and on behalf of the citizens, presented it as a free gift to the University. This generous and praiseworthy proceeding on the part of Kingston was only equalled by the liberality of friends in all sections of the province, and it was in this manner that both city and country fittingly acknowledged the course followed by the University in throwing open its doors to all creeds and both sexes on equal terms. In 1880 women presented themselves for matriculation, and in 1884 the University had the distinction of being the first in the province to laureate Canadian womanhood, an example which has been generally followed by the other universities of the Dominion.

We cannot forget the proposal made by the government of Ontario to remove Queen's from Kingston, to be incorporated with the University of Toronto. The friends of Queen's in all sections of the country were consulted; the proposal was ear-