

CLOSE OF THE EDUCATIONAL YEAR.

The encœnial exercises of the N. B. University this year were even more brilliant than usual. There was a large gathering of representative men. Dr. Harrison gave an interesting sketch of the life and work of Sir Howard Douglas, the Alumni oration of Rev. J. deSoyres was a scholarly effort, and the conferring of the honorary degree of LL. D. on Lt.-Governor Sir Leonard Tilley called forth great enthusiasm.

The University deserves the hearty support and confidence of the people of New Brunswick, for it fulfils in a marked degree its true function of a Provincial University. It places a sound collegiate training within the reach of all classes of the public, and that, too, on the strictly non-sectarian lines which have been permanently adopted as the basis of our common school system. And the true interests of higher education will be best served, not by narrowing its course of study, but by enlarging the scope of its training by establishing additional chairs. This requires additional endowment; but among its graduates are men of influence and money. Although the University is a state institution there are many ways in which this influence and money could be used in behalf of their alma mater by graduates who may be able to trace much of their success in life to her influence. The University has recently been the subject of some very sharp criticism. If she is called upon to give reasons why she should be permitted to exist her graduates ought to answer.

The Halifax Ladies' College, under the Principalship of Miss Leach, has been enjoying an extraordinary run of popularity during the past year. Rev. Robert Laing, the real founder of the institution, has just been appointed Secretary by the Directors. He has accordingly resigned the pastorate of one of the largest churches in Halifax and accepted the position. As a man with power in addressing the public, as a scholar and as an educationist, he has probably no superior in these provinces. The Halifax Ladies' College has already taken its position as one of the leading institutions of the country.

Kings College is making great preparations for the celebration of its centenary about the end of June. There will be several ecclesiastical dignitaries present from the United States and elsewhere. A better attendance of students is anticipated after this event.

Dalhousie College is resting in the quietness of the summer vacation. Periodically one of the rooms is lit up with the eloquent orations and discussions of a

club of young Halifax lawyers, who are disporting themselves in the forensic gymnasium.

Dalhousie with all its funds for special purposes is reported as going behind to the tune of \$2,000 a year. This is due to the lack of an adequate fund for the general expenses. \$50,000 must be raised to meet the emergency.

Steps are being taken to form a more complete Natural History Museum in connection with the institution.

Acadia College has just closed one of its most prosperous sessions, nineteen B. A.'s having been capped. Horton Academy is raising the standard of its work under the new Principal; so that Acadia will henceforward have from that feeder material of a more advanced character to begin with. There are seventy-five now enrolled in this Academy.

The closing exercises at the Mt. Allison Institution took place the last week in May, and as usual drew together a large number of its enthusiastic friends, who at each annual convocation assemble in increasingly large numbers. The work of the year has been such as to beget a still greater confidence in the administration of affairs under its able President, Dr. Inch, and to show that Mt. Allison is year by year keeping pace with educational growth, and increasing its appliances for the higher education.

The closing exercises of the New Brunswick Normal School took place on Friday, June 6th, and were of an interesting character. The excellent quality of the instruction given, was shown in the lessons conducted by the teachers of the different departments. Addresses in commendation of the important work of the school were delivered by several of the visitors present, among whom were His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Tilley, the Chief Superintendent of Education, and the Attorney General.

The public schools in New Brunswick close on the 30th of June for the summer vacation. Those in Nova Scotia a fortnight later. In New Brunswick, those teachers who attend the Educational Institute at Moncton, will close their schools on Wednesday, 25th of June. Full particulars of this meeting of the Institute will be found elsewhere in this issue. It promises to be an interesting session, and the ease with which Moncton is reached from all sections of the Province should draw together one of the largest provincial gatherings of teachers that has ever assembled here.