

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 18.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9th, 1889.

No. 41.

Notes of the Week.

THE address delivered at a meeting convened by the Alumni Association of Knox College last week by Principal Caven on the Jesuit Estates Act discussion was in every way worthy of the occasion and the man. He apprehends clearly the dangers to civil and religious liberty by granting endowments to any religious body, especially to a body with such a record as pertains to the followers of Ignatius Loyola. At the same time Dr. Caven speaks as a charitable and just man feels constrained to speak. It is to be expected that the Hon. David Mills will not be quite so severe in future when he has occasion to refer to movements in which ministers take an intelligent and lively interest.

MANY will approve the resolution come to by the Knox College Alumni Association last week. The subject discussed was the advisability of establishing a lectureship in the college on the same principle as at Yale. These lectures are delivered by eminent divines on theological and practical subjects connected with the divinity course. After considerable discussion it became the unanimous opinion of the Association that such a series of lectures would be valuable to the students, and a committee composed of Rev. Dr. McLaren, Rev. R. P. McKay, Rev. R. C. Tibb and Rev. J. A. Macdonald was appointed to consider the best means of carrying the scheme into effect. The proposition will be brought before the Church during the next few months and at the meeting of the Association in April final action will be taken.

MR. MACKASKILL, as Convener of the committee appointed by Dingwall Presbytery to consider the appointment of Dr. Dods, submitted their report, which suggested that a conference of Highland ministers and others be held at some suitable centre. Mr. Mackenzie questioned the verity of the quotations from Dr. Dods contained in the report; but Mr. Mackaskill said he was prepared to take all the responsibility, and added that he had spent month's in wading through Dr. Dods' works pencil in hand. Mr. Mackenzie held that the proposed mode of procedure was unconstitutional and intimated an appeal to the Synod, whereupon Mr. Mackaskill agreed to allow an opportunity to Edinburgh Presbytery to deal with Dr. Dods. If they should take no action the proposed Highland conference will be held.

THE trustees of Queen's University, Kingston, met recently and made an important change in the teaching staff of the faculty, thus giving another proof of the development of this popular institution. When Dr. Watson, the eminent Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy, assumed his duties thirteen years ago, he was compelled, out of mere enthusiasm for his subject, to lecture on all the departments of philosophy, including even political economy. The trustees and the Professor himself felt that no one man could do justice to so many subjects, and accordingly last year Dr. Watson was relieved of political science by the appointment of Mr. Short to this chair. The trustees have subdivided philosophy into two, as in all the Scottish universities, on which Queen's is modelled by royal charter. From this out Dr. Watson will be known as Professor of Moral Philosophy, and Dr. Dyde, of New Brunswick University, a brilliant Canadian, himself a graduate of Queen's, has been called to the chair of Mental Philosophy. Queen's will now be the only university in Ontario that has two professors of philosophy. Queen's is already famous as the seat of philosophy under Dr. Watson, but with the division of the work and the ability of the two professors the University has no rival in Canada. The chair of Greek in Queen's has been offered to Rev. John McNaughton of Lairg, Scotland, a man who has achieved a brilliant reputation as a scholar.

THE address at the opening of the Toronto Woman's Medical College last week was delivered by Dr. Alice MacLaughlin, who spoke eloquently and fervently in behalf of the medical education of women and of the spheres they are so eminently fitted to fill. Mr. James Beatty, Q.C., D.C.L. presided. Regarding the college, he said it was making fair progress. The plans and specifications and tenders also were in hand for the erection of a very considerable building for college purposes. The

main difficulty in the way was the want of money. They had plenty of talent, as could be seen by looking over the names of the faculty; they had a great field and a fair record. They also had their land free from debt, some money in the bank and some money in the pockets of good people who had promised to hand it over when it was wanted. He suggested that the audience here to-day might give similar promises. Five thousand dollars would satisfy all parties to-day. The college had started with five students. Last year they had about twenty-seven, and this year, could they afford accommodation, there would be forty or more. The college was doing a good work, and had a great future before it. He asked for it the favourable attention of the people of Toronto and of Ontario generally. Provost Boddy of Trinity, Mrs. Harvie, and several members of the medical profession addressed the meeting.

THE third meeting of the Kirkoswald people to elect a new parish minister is described as having no parallel in the annals of the Ayrshire churches since that historic night on which Tam o' Shanter beheld the dance of the witches in Alloway Kirk. A contemporary says: Even in the plain prose of the newspaper reporters the Kirkoswald saturnalia offers a picture not altogether unworthy to stand by the side of the scene on the banks of Doon. Poor Mr. Turnbull, of Dailly, the Moderator, was obviously much better fitted to aggravate than to control the unruly elements which made the scene more like a wild conflict of savages in the Dark Continent than a gathering of parishioners in the heart of the Covenanting Land to choose a spiritual guide. Kirkoswald had the advantage of including among its church members the late Lady Ailsa, and her widowed husband is still on the roll of communicants; but it is now painfully obvious that the earnest evangelistic labours of the departed Marchioness must have failed to reach the larger proportion of her neighbours. The riot in the church, at this third attempt to choose a pastor, has features that recall the worst excesses of political electioneering; and the offence is aggravated by the fact that it was committed with a full knowledge on the part of every parishioner that the honour and good name of the Church of Scotland has been compromised by their two previous meetings, and that the eye of the country was upon them. So low have they sunk in moral sensibility that they would appear to have lost the sense of shame.

IN the General Assembly of Victoria on August 1st, Principal Rainy received a most enthusiastic welcome and in his response declared that he had not felt so much like a little boy for many years as he had done since his arrival in Australia. He had been quite taken away from the exercise of freedom and was being handed about from one employment to another as a little boy goes by his elder's side, he had not even been allowed to spend any money. At a special service in the town hall on the evening of the same day addresses of remarkable power were delivered by Drs. Rainy and MacGregor. The former declared that he had never heard a report so like a psalm as the one concerning the jubilee fund. Towards the £60,000 which it had been decided to raise £53,000 had been promised and £34,000 paid. Dr. Rainy devoted himself to the education question and with quiet scorn characterised the desire to shut religion and the Bible out of the State schools as a "fad." Dr. MacGregor charmed the great gathering with a highly characteristic oration in which he passed with his wonted celerity from lively to severe. Like Dr. Rainy he denounced secular education. In his exordium the doctor provoked much mirth by telling of a worthy who being asked what he thought of a young minister whom he did not esteem very highly, replied, "There's ae thing I'll say o' him; she was a gran' body, the mother o' him." So much he could say of the young Australian; he came of a grand family. On the 6th August, Mr. Marshall of the Scots Church, Melbourne, formerly parish minister of Inveresk, in a singularly graceful speech moved the thanks of the Assembly to Dr. Rainy for his visit; and in his reply the Principal remarked that the time was not far off when the Presbyterianism of Australia, like that of America, would far-outnumber and far out-weigh the Presbyterianism of Scotland. He hoped the great future before them would continue to expand their minds and give magnanimity to all their actions.

THE Knox College Alumni Association held their annual meeting last week. A number of the graduates of the college from different parts of the province were present. Rev. Dr. Fletcher of Hamilton, president of the association, occupied the chair. The report of the "Goforth Missionary Scheme" showed that this scheme has received the hearty support of the alumni and is in a healthy condition. The following officers were elected. President, Rev. Dr. Armstrong, Ottawa; Vice-President, Rev. John Campbell, Granton; Sec. Treasurer, Rev. G. E. Freeman, Deer Park, Toronto, Executive Committee, Revs. R. Pettigrew, Glenmorris; R. Had-dow, Milton; W. Burns, Toronto; J. A. Macdonald, Knox College Monthly; W. G. Wallace, Toronto; and Messrs. P. J. McLaren and M. P. Talling. The financial report of the Knox College Monthly showed that the past year has been the most successful year in the history of the magazine. The members spoke very strongly in approval of the course of the Monthly. Rev. J. A. Macdonald was re-appointed managing editor, and Revs. R. P. Mackay, W. G. Wallace, and R. D. Fraser associate editors. The following nominations were received of representatives on the College Senate:—Revs. A. D. Macdonald, Seaforth; R. H. Abraham, M.A., Burlington; W. A. Hunter, M.A., Toronto; P. Straith, Holstein; Alex. Henderson, M.A., Hyde Park; John Neil, B.A., Toronto; Mungo Fraser, D. D., Hamilton; R. N. Grant, Orillia; W. A. McKay, Woodstock; D. H. Fletcher, D. D., Hamilton; John Somerville, M.A., Owen Sound; W. Armstrong, Ph. D., Ottawa. The election ballots will be issued by the secretary, and will not be counted until next spring. Out of the list nominated only three are to be elected. Mr. H. E. A. Read, B.A., was given an opportunity to explain the action of the committee in reference to the Young Memorial Fund, after which the following motion was carried unanimously:—That this association expresses its hearty sympathy with the effort to establish a fitting memorial to the late Prof. Young, and recommend the alumni of the college to interest themselves in making the effort a success.

DR. ANDREW THOMPSON of Edinburgh, contributes to the Scotsman a vivid account of a grand commemorative meeting which immediately preceded the Waldensian Synod held at Torre Pellice in the first week of September. This took place at the famous rock of Sibaud, six and a half miles from the little Waldensian capital, where, on a Sunday exactly two centuries before, Henri Arnaud administered to his brave followers the oath in which they had promised that they would be faithful to their God and their country. It was one of those events which have written themselves, as with the pen of a diamond, on the hearts of succeeding generations. The gathering of which Dr. Thompson was an eyewitness reminded him of what he had read of the great sacramental gatherings in Scotland some ninety or a hundred years ago. Every valley sent its tribute of worshippers. When he arrived at the spot he found some 6,000 people already gathered there. The services lasted for three hours and were of a most impressive character. The interest culminated when Dr. Prochet, after the people had more than once been warned by him to make no profession which was not sincere, invited them to renew the consecration which their forefathers had made. The Monday which followed was "a high day" among the Waldenses. It began with the consecration of the Church house, which includes a hall for the meetings of the Synod and also a museum containing precious relics of the martyrs. The one thing which lent a special interest to the occasion was the official presence of the Prefect of Turin, Count Lovera di Maria, as representing the king, accompanied by a number of distinguished senators and deputies. One remarkable figure among the 7,000 people present was that of Sir Henry Layard, the explorer of Nineveh, now an old man, with a fine white beard and a hale appearance, his look holding out the promise of a green old age. He is a descendant of the persecuted French Huguenots, and had come to express his regard for the descendants of the persecuted Vaudois. An oration by Rev. Wm. Meille, of Turin, moved the vast multitude to continuous bursts of applause; even the representative of the king, while seeming impassive at the first, soon showing himself unable to conceal either his emotion or his admiration.