

responded to the various toasts were of a high order indeed, while the recitations, songs and sallies of wit, which were interspersed, added much to the enjoyment of all. We are certain this "social reform" will be continued by succeeding classes so universal is the satisfaction with which all regard it.

By the unanimous wish of the members of the Hall, the Rev. Dr. Williamson was invited to the supper. His speech being of special interest to the readers of the JOURNAL we give in full :—

Your present social meeting is, I understand, a new departure—an innovation. It is, however, I am persuaded, an innovation for the better, and has been made at a most appropriate time. The Arts and Medical Students have from year to year had their pleasant social gatherings, but the Students in Theology have until now had none, at least in a more public form. Why it should have been so it is not easy to say, unless this class of students were conceived to be like "Dr. Macknight's Sants." That excellent and learned divine had so exalted the spiritual nature of the saints in heaven as to picture them as wholly absorbed in sublime mental and spiritual pursuits, and as if their bodies were of so ethereal a kind as not to require food for their refreshment and support. From this a waggish lawyer took occasion to hang up beside the entrance to the Parliament House in Edinburgh a figure, such as you may have sometimes seen elsewhere, made by a spot of ink for the head, a single thin down stroke for the body, and branching side lines for the legs and arms, entitling it, "Dr. Macknight's Sants," in the worthy Dr.'s vernacular Scotch, "saints." Whatever views, however, commentators may take in this matter with regard to the heavenly state, it is certain, that even the best of men here below must eat of the bread of earth as well as of the bread of life to live, and fulfil aright their duties whatever may be their callings. And not only so. For the further strengthening of the ties of friendly companionship in their more immediate spheres it is most fitting and desirable, that they should, from time to time, partake together of such social entertainments as the present, and that you, as well as others, should enjoy your feasts of reason and flow of soul, and make

them really *noctes coenaeque deum*, "the nights and suppers of the Divinities."

I must not, however, forget my text, "Our College." Much is comprehended in these two words, and it might be somewhat difficult to choose to what part of the theme to turn in responding to the toast, were it not for the thoughts naturally suggested by the time at which we are now met. Monday last was the 50th anniversary of the first opening of the College, on 7th March, 1842, and, looking through the long vista of years, the happy contrast between its condition then and now at once presents itself to my view, with all that it has done, and is more and more doing for the highest and best interests of Canada. I see the infant university in 1842 lodged in a small frame house, with only two professors, with only eleven matriculated students, (one of whom, your esteemed Professor Mowat, is here with us), with the most scanty apparatus, no museum, and a miscellaneous library of a few books of little or no value to the student. I see it still struggling, onwards and upwards, with varying success, amid difficulties and trials of no ordinary kind, for more than a quarter of a century, until that brighter era of steady and undisturbed progress began which to-day shews its splendid results. And I now behold it housed in a palatial edifice, with its matriculated students in Theology, Arts and Law, numbering 290, and in Medicine 130. It has now a staff of 32 Professors and Tutors in Theology, Arts and Law, acknowledged to be second to none in the Dominion, with apparatus of every kind, and the most refined construction, with extensive and valuable library and museum, while its financial resources have been increased more than ten-fold, though still very far below what its necessities require, and its benefits to the country can justly claim. And let it never be forgotten that this increase to its financial resources has not been derived from any munificent government endowment, or from the aid of wealthy merchant princes, but from the benefactions of friends of every denomination, and from its own graduates, seasons of difficulty only stimulating to fresh efforts and advancement.

And what has been the fruit of all? How much has Queen's done for the fulfilment of her high aims? I can only now touch, and in