Few men enter upon their career at such an early age as did the subject of this sketch, for he was but sixteen years of age when he began teaching in his native county of Norfolk under the authority of a special permit. Even then his unusual aptitude for managing a school was apparent, and his excellent skill in discipline remarked upon by those who watched his work.

After further preparatory work in Simcoe High School he entered the University of Toronto in 1886, pursuing the course in Mental and Moral Philosophy and Logic, and adding to that work some subjects in other courses. A full share of honors fell to him during all the years of his university work. A glance at the class and prize lists of those years shows that, in his second year he won first place and the scholarship and prize in Philosophy and Logic: in his third year he divided the prize in Moral Philosophy and Civil Polity with a competitor; and in his final year won first place easily, and should have been the medalist in his department, but was debarred by the unexpected enforcement of a regulation which had long been inoperative, making attendance upon college lectures a condition which one must comply with in order to carry off the coveted honor. It was surely a sufficient tribute to Mr. McCrimmon's ability, keepness of mind, and grasp of the subjects, that, without the aid of a teacher, he succeeded in surpassing men who had sat daily at the professor's feet. These were busy years in other ways also. During three years he acted as Secretary to Chancellor McVicar of McMaster University, carrying on the work of a busy office. Two of the summers were spent in preaching, at Dacre and Harriston. It is evident that he brings to the work the profits of a varied and extended experience.

Many of our people saw Mr. McCrimmon for the first time at the London Convention in May last. His presence and address gave great satisfaction. His genuine modesty, noble bearing, elevated thought and manifest conviction of the sacredness of his new trust impressed all.

The success of his administration is beyond peradventure. He has large sympathy with young life; his boys feel that he is their friend. He knows their temptations, and his acquaintance with their needs is broad and practical. Entering freely into all