

CHAIRMAN JAMES LOBB'S SPEECH.

May it please Your Excellency.

The Trustees, the Faculty, and the Pupils of the Collegiate Institute, with most profound respect for that Sovereign Lady, Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria (whom you so worthily represent), and yourself, beg to proffer you a most loyal, cordial and heartfelt welcome to this institution. They regard it as a most auspicious coincidence, that this, the first visit of a Governor-General, should occur on the Jubilee Year of Her Majesty's accession, and your name, sir, will be handed down in connection with this most memorable and pleasing event. They trust that when you shall have returned to the land of your Illustrious Ancestors, you will be able to reflect with pleasure upon the period of your residence in this fair Dominion, in your Vice-Regal capacity, and that it will be a green spot in your memory. May it be a source of satisfaction to you, Sir, to know, that largely through your unsparing and well directed efforts, it was characterized by a fresh impetus imparted, not only to commercial expansion and the rapid development of the country at large, but also to the Arts and Sciences. With your estimable consort, Lady Lansdowne, may your Excellency long live to promote the best interests of that Glorious Empire, on whose confines the sun never sets, and whose destiny will, we fondly hope, soon be more intimately bound up with that of her numerous and prosperous colonies.

For your Excellency's information, I may state that the Institute was founded in the year 1807; pupils on the register in 1886, 647; average attendance in April, 1887, 388. Six Trustees, appointed by the City Council, compose the Board of Management. The Staff consists of the Principal, Eleven Masters and Teachers and three Ladies. It has been well said, Sir, that "colleges have their indispensable office to teach elements, but they can only highly serve us when they aim, not to drill, but to create; when they gather from far every ray of various genius to their hospitable halls, and by the concentrated fires, set the hearts of their youth on flame." This school, Sir, occupies a position corresponding with the Grammar Schools of the mother land, and here is provided an education which will prepare and qualify either for the University, the professions, or for the other walks and pursuits of life. The great aim is to inspire a thirst for knowledge, and to furnish the mind with a heritage which can be despoiled by no change of outward condition, and establish a fund for solid enjoyment in declining age—practically to endorse what one of our greatest poets has said,

"The joys of sense, to mental joys are mean;
Sense on the present only feeds;
The soul o'er past and future forages for joy."

We trust your Excellency will kindly address a few words of counsel or encouragement to the pupils of the Institute.