

Upper Canada College

1829 - 1920



NINETY years of service is the proud record of Upper Canada College. During all those years her history has been closely interwoven with that of Canada. Alike in war and in peace she has been associated with all that is best in the professional, industrial and social life of the country and of the Empire. A thousand names leap to the memory of men educated within her walls, who have helped to mould the Canada of the present.

An Upper Canada College boy brought the first news of the proximity of Mackenzie's forces in 1837. An Upper Canada College boy rode behind Lord Cardigan in the charge of the Light Brigade, and was the only officer of those who rode back to be awarded the V.C. An Upper Canada College boy led the Canadian voyageurs to the Nile in the attempt to rescue Gordon. An Upper Canada College boy led the charge at Batoche. An Upper Canada College boy holds the record for the largest number of German submarines sunk in the Great War. By her boys and masters, cricket and rugby football were introduced into Toronto, and a tone given to sport which the College has never lost.

Of all Canadian residential schools, only King's College School in Nova Scotia and the Petit Seminaire of Laval can boast of greater antiquity; and it is no disparagement of these foundations to say that their influence has been more local.

Upper Canada College was a flourishing institution before Canada had responsible government, before Toronto had become other than "Muddy York," her work was in full force before the federation of the scattered Canadian provinces, and generations of her pupils were trained men while Winnipeg was still Fort Garry. Yet she is as young to-day as when the first principal read prayers in "The Old Blue School," and while she nightly praises "Famous men and our fathers that begat us," she looks confidently forward to services to Canada and to the Empire greater even than those of her past.

FOUNDED 1829, OPENED JANUARY, 1830

Upper Canada College was founded in 1829 by the recently arrived Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, Sir John Colborne, afterwards Lord Seaton. Sir John's hopes were at first for the foundation of a provincial university, but the backward state of the province and the bitterness of ecclesiastical controversy soon showed him that a preparatory institution, "A Minor College," was of more immediate need. With the help of the Imperial Government, Upper Canada College was organized in 1829, and in January 1830,