

good citizen, the devoted husband, the kind father. His death leaves a blank on the Bench of the Appeal Court, which it will be difficult to fill.

Judge Sanborn had a brother in Montreal, the Deputy Sheriff. He also leaves a son, who was admitted to the practice of the law but a few days ago.—(From the *Montreal Gazette* of July 19th.)

THE LATE PRINCIPAL NICOLLS.

Jasper Hume Nicolls, D. D., Principal of the University of Bishop's College, died at Lennoxville on the 8th of August.

He was a son of the late General Nicolls, formerly Commanding Royal Engineer at Quebec. In his youth, he was a pupil, and *dur* among the scholars, of the Royal Grammar School—now the High School of Quebec; he also received a part of his early education under the care of the late well known Dr. Twining of Halifax, and of the present Dean of Toronto. Subsequently, his immediate preparation for College was made under the Superintendence of the Rev. J. N. Harrison, Vicar of Laugharne, South Wales, whence he proceeded to Oxford and Matriculated at Oriel College. As a student he became distinguished for the extent and accuracy of his classical and literary attainments. Having graduated in Honors, he competed successfully for the Michel Fellowship at Queen's College, Oxford, and subsequently, during a few years, devoted himself to the duties of a Tutor in the University, taking, in the mean time, Holy Orders.

In the year 1845, when Mr. Nicolls was in his 26th year, he was invited to return to Canada to assume the principalship of the College just then founded at Lennoxville by the late Bishop Mountain. The Bishop and his coadjutors in that undertaking desired to select for the post a man who should combine the qualifications of piety, high scholarship, experience in teaching, devotion to the cause of education, and ability to adapt himself to the requirements and circumstances of a new country, where, outside of the cities, it would have been premature then to expect any immediate appreciation of the objects of higher education, or to assume that there was any immediate need of an institution of the highest class, except in respect of young men preparing for the Ministry.

Some overtures had already been made to the late Rev. S. S. Wood, Rector of Three Rivers, who was known to be qualified for the office, and whose appointment, and removal to Lennoxville, it was thought, would not involve the same risks and personal sacrifice as in the case of a gentleman imported direct from England. Those overtures, however, led to no result; and, finally, Mr. Nicolls was nominated to the important position—important, not with reference to emoluments, which embraced only an income of £300 sterling, with residence and fuel, but in view of the aims and objects of the projectors of the College, animated by the laudable desire to establish an institution of the highest class in the Eastern Townships, in a locality likely to become the chief educational centre for supplying the wants of a future numerous English-speaking and Protestant population.

Abandoning his more lucrative pursuits at Oxford, and, in a material sense, his better prospects of preferment in England, Mr. Nicolls accepted the appointment, and in the month of October, 1845, arrived at the scene of his future labours of more than 30 years' duration. The foundations of the College buildings had been laid but very recently. The walls were only a few feet above ground.

In the small country village, which, then, was accessible from the cities only after a painful journey of two days, and which held postal communication with Quebec and Montreal only twice a week, there were present very few of the requisites for carrying on College work. A private house, ill adapted for the purpose, and a few apartments in the hotel of the place, had been hired for the temporary accommodation of students, school boys, the Principal and his staff of Colleagues,—which last consisted of the late Rev. Lucius Doolittle, Honorary Bursar, Dr. Miles and E. Chapman, Esq., Professors of Mathematics and Classics, and, later, the Rev. J. Hellmuth, Professor of Hebrew, now the Lord Bishop of Huron. About 12 students, and twice as many Schoolboys had come forward for admission.

Under every species of discouragement, the zealous principal applied himself to the work of organizing the infant undertaking—a work, which, at the outset, and during several years succeeding its opening, only presented signs of life and but doubtful prospects of ultimate success. Within a month of the opening one of the most promising of the students was carried off by fever. About 18 months later, the principal having been deputed to England for the purpose of raising funds with which to erect a College Chapel and initiate a library, two fine young men, students in Divinity, perished by drowning. With the exception of a few noble examples, the residents of the country whose circumstances might have warranted the expectation of support and encouragement, kept themselves aloof, appearing to regard the undertaking as an exotic planted amongst them by strangers and perhaps not meriting their efforts to nourish

it and sustain its growth and life. Academical caps and gowns, Professors of Literature and science, students and scholars, come amongst them to cultivate the dead languages, were not objects for local sympathy, so that local support was almost entirely wanting, and the attendance of pupils derived almost wholly from the cities. The late Rev. L. Doolittle, who had been a warm promoter of the project of establishing a Protestant College in the Eastern Townships, was wont to expatiate, in conversation with the Principal and his colleagues, upon the causes which prevented the youths themselves from desiring to flock in to participate in the proffered higher educational opportunities; "This backwardness" said he "on the part of the youth of the country, will disappear in due time, *shyness* is the main cause; each one, when the idea of entering such an academical institution is propounded to him, is actuated by feelings similar to those which arise in the mind of a young person when invited to attend a ball for the first time."

But the Principal took a broader view of the case. He affirmed his belief that the work to be accomplished by himself and his colleagues could not but be of the nature of mere *pioneering* until the College should be in a position to offer enlarged educational facilities. There must be, he said, besides the main building, a College Chapel and a well stocked library, scientific apparatus and a museum. Then there should be established faculties of Law and Medicine as well as those in Arts and Divinity and above all, additions to secured the endowment and a Royal Charter for granting degrees. Even while the walls of the main building were only in course of erection he looked hopefully forward to the ultimate attainment of all those objects, encouraging his more desponding colleagues by remarking that, as to probable paucity of numbers to profit by their instruction, this defect would disappear by the time that those requirements should be provided for. To promote the early provision of them he laboured with all his might, and, chiefly to his exertions and influence the institution was indebted for its chapel, one of the most beautiful structures of the kind in America, its considerable Library and Museum, as well as for the ultimate obtaining of an University Charter from the Crown in the year 1853.

He had gone twice to England, personally advocated the petition of the College Corporation to the Colonial authorities for the Charter, and on the occasion of each visit, had been tolerably successful in obtaining contributions to the College endowment.

Within 20 years from the day of its opening the Principal, while still in the prime of his life, had the gratification of feeling assured that the institution had fairly taken root. Annually a succession of students had entered and left its halls—not very numerous, indeed, but, considering all circumstances, as large a number as could be expected, seeing that several other collegiate institutions had been founded in other parts of Canada, and that the whole number of young men seeking opportunities of higher education, and belonging to English-speaking families, was comparatively limited. The College had by degrees struggled into note, and, by a vote of the House of Assembly, had come into receipt of \$2,000 a year in aid of its endowment. Lord Elgin, the Governor General, and his successor Sir Edmund Head, on the occasion of their visits to the Eastern Townships, had spoken, publicly, words of kindly encouragement in recognition of the value of the work which the College had already done and was calculated to do in the future; and in 1862, His Excellency Lord Monck, attended by the late Hon. D'Arcy Magee and Sir Alexander Galt, had assisted at the Annual Convocation of the University. "Convocation day" at Bishop's College had become, for the people of the Eastern Townships, a public holiday, observed with the same eclat as "Commencement day" in the Colleges of the United States. So far, the Principal's work had prospered in his hands notwithstanding the discouragements by which he was beset during the earlier years of the undertaking.

In the year 1858, the financial and commercial difficulties which prevailed in England and America, had greatly affected the interests of the College, and for a time crippled its resources, but the Principal cheerfully submitted to a reduction of his stipulated income until general prosperity was restored.

About this time his staff of Collegiate Officers was powerfully re-inforced by the arrival of the Rev. J. W. Williams, now Lord Bishop of Quebec, who was appointed Professor of Belles Lettres and Rector of the Junior Department, and who served under Principal Nicolls during five years with distinguished success until his election, in 1863, to the Bishopric, in succession to the late Bishop Mountain, the founder of the College.

Since that time—another period of nearly 20 years—Principal Nicolls served continuously at his post, usefully and unostentatiously, sending forth annually students and graduates who now occupy positions in the various walks of life, and who, each in his own circle, will bear willing and grateful testimony to the worth and virtues of their former College preceptor. In addition to the general superintendence of the affairs of the College and University, which his position as Principal entailed upon him, he was specially charged with the duties appertaining to the Chair of Divinity founded and