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TRINITY UNIVERSITY, TORONTO.

REV. PROF. WILLIAM CLARK, D.C.L.

The founding of Trinity College and University was occasioned by the suppression of the Anglican Professorship of Divinity in King's College, and the consequent secularization of the University of Toronto.

When the act abolishing religious teaching in the University came into effect January 1, 1850, Dr. Strachan, then Anglican Bishop of Toronto, lost no time in making his position clear in relation to the changed state of things. He addressed a vigorous pastoral letter, February 7th, 1850, to the clergy and laity of the diocese, then embracing the whole of Ontario, urging

them to assist in founding a university which should give the highest secular instruction along with suitable religious education. "Every branch of knowledge cherished at Oxford and Cambridge," he said, "must be carefully

and substantially taught. . . . Nor are we disposed to overlook academical honors."

There was a general response to the Bishop's letter. Meetings were held ;

a petition to the Queen was drawn up and largely signed, praying for the grant of a Royal charter for the new university. The names of the principal clergy and laity in the province were appended to the petition. Before long a sum of \$100,000 was subscribed, and the Bishop departed for England in order to press upon the Church at home the claims of his Canadian dio-



Provost Dr. Welch.

cese. His reception was most cordial, and he obtained subscriptions amounting to £9,000 from the S.P.C.K., the S.P.G., and private persons, as well as an annual grant of £400 from the S.P.G., and seven