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THE PRINCIPALS OF QUEEN'S.

AT this time, when the advent of another Principal makes another landmark in the history of Queen's, it may not be uninteresting to glance backwards for a few moments, and briefly retrace the history of Principal Gordon's predecessors.

Just sixty-two years have passed since Dr. Liddell, the first Principal of Queen's, entered upon his duties. Few Principals have begun work under similar circumstances, for his appointment, much to the consternation of the Board of Trustees in Kingston, through some misconception on the part of the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, who were responsible for it, actually preceded the establishment of the College, and Dr. Liddell leaving Scotland in haste, urged by what he supposed to be the pressing necessities of the young institution, arrived at Kingston to find that everything was still totally unprepared for beginning work, not even a house provided in which to begin the classes, while the few intending students had not been notified of the prospective opening. Great was the perplexity of the trustees, and the disappointment of Dr. Liddell who, in common with the Colonial Committee, had supposed that everything was in read-

iness to commence operations, and the Principal only wanting. A house, however, was soon procured, the traditional frame house we all know so well, which has been put into such constant requisition during the last few years (more so perhaps than ever during the early part of its existence) and with the Rev. P. C. Campbell, of Brockville, as Professor of Classics, the new principal began the work. The story of Queen's early struggles has often been told. The work was uphill, indeed, and though Dr. Liddell did his utmost during his short tenure of office to strengthen the struggling life of the College, it was with a constant sense of discouragement. He seems from the first to have doubted the advisability of attempting anything beyond a Theological school, and after the disruption of the Presbyterian Church in 1844 had divided the friends of Queen's, and temporarily lessened her resources, he openly advocated the closing of the Arts department. Dr. Liddell resigned his post in 1846, and returned to Scotland. His letter of resignation to the trustees expresses his discouragement at the outlook before the College. Happily the main body of her supporters were still inspired by a hope and confidence which have been since amply justified. With Dr. Liddell, Profes-