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AN INTERESTING EVENT.

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AN INTERESTING EVENT.

Wednesday (Sept. 14, 1887) proved a red letter day at Lennoxville. The pretty village, nestling amid a perfect bower of beautiful trees, was *en fête* in honour of the visit of the Governor-General and the Marchioness of Lansdowne. The weather was cloudy in the early morning, and rain fell in brisk showers until noon, but after that it was Queen's representative's weather. His Excellency's principal object in visiting Lennoxville, on this occasion, was to receive the degree of Doctor of Civil Laws, at the hands of the Chancellor, on the presentation of the Reverend Principal Adams, and an address, artistically illuminated, in behalf of the University of Bishop's College, from Chancellor Heneker. The University maintains close connection with the great British halls of learning, Oxford and Cambridge. There are always Oxford or Cambridge men in office at the College, and when the Principal does not wear the scarlet hood of Oxford, he is pretty sure to be an M. A., or a D. C. L., from the sister University. Dr. Thomas Adams, the present able and distinguished Principal, comes from Cambridge, but Rev. P. C. Read, M. A., the classical professor, is an Oxford man. The visitor, His Lordship the Bishop of Quebec, is from Oxford, and the new Doctor of Laws, Lord Lansdowne, is a graduate of Baliol, where Dr. Jowett is master. The well equipped college itself has an English university flavor about it, and the discipline and line of conduct pursued are not unlike the older seats of knowledge. Bishop's College is chary in the bestowal of her honors. A man must have done something to be capped, and as proof that it is not the office, but the individual who is honored, we may mention the fact that Lord Lansdowne is the first Governor-General who has been granted an honorary degree since 1864, when Viscount Monck carried away a D. C. L. For degrees in regular order, a man must pass a pretty stiff examination, and that is why honors from Lennoxville have a value and a *prestige* of which few colleges on this side of the ocean can boast.

Shortly before eleven o'clock their Excellencies, accompanied by Capts. Streatfeild and Pakenham, Mr. and Mrs. Hall and the Misses Hall, and escorted by a smart-looking cavalry troop, arrived at the College. They immediately entered the residence of the Principal, and were received in the drawing-room by Dr. and Mrs. and Miss Adams. After a brief interchange of civilities, the order of procession was formed and the whole party entered Convocation hall, which was plainly but prettily decorated for the occasion, flags, and plants in full bloom, forming the chief features of the ornamentation. The first four or five rows of chairs were reserved for the learned doctors, and masters of arts, and invited guests. The other seats were filled with guests, students of the College, and the masters and boys of the College School. Many ladies were present, whose pretty and sometimes brilliant toilets, formed a striking contrast to the less pronounced costumes of the College men. Lord and Lady Lansdowne were received on a dais by Chancellor Heneker, Vice-Chancellor Norman, of Montreal, the Bishop of Quebec, Lord Aylmer, and other gentlemen. Principal Adams sat immediately in front of the Chancellor on one of the first chairs on the floor. The aides-de-camp took up their positions at the side. Among those present were Rev. Prof. Roe, D.D., Dean of the Faculty of Divinity; Dr. F. W. Campbell, of Montreal, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine; R. N. Hall, Esq., LL.D., M.P., Dean of the Faculty of Law; Rev. Prof. Read, M.A., Rev. Prof. Allnatt, D.D., Rev. Prof. Scarth, M.A., E. Chapman, M.A., Bursar; A. LeRay, M.A., H. J. H. Petry, M.A., R. N. Hudspeth, M.A., P. E. Ritchie, B.A., Wm. Reed, Esq., of the Teaching Staff of College and School. Amongst the members of the Corporation present were, besides some of those above named, Hon. G. B. Baker, of Sweetsburg, Col. Kippen, Rev. C. P. Reid, D.C.L., Rev. J. Hepburn, M.A., Dr. F. Slack, and the Rev. G. Thorneloe, M.A. Other members of Convocation present were:—Hon. Justice Brooks, D.C.L., Rev. J. Foster, M.A., Rev. T. L. Ball, M.A., Rev. L. C. Wurtele, M.A., Rev. A. J. Balfour, M.A., Rev. A. Stevens, M.A., Rev. R. W. Colston, M.A., Rev. A. H. Judge, M.A., Rev. J. Eames, B.A., H. B. Brown, M.A. Other members of the University present were:—Mr. G. Murray, B.A., Mr. R. W. Wright, B.A., Rev. A. H. Robertson, L.S.T., and the students. A large number of local friends of the Institution were also present, amongst whom were Rev. J. Hooper, M.A., (Columbia); Rev. H. Barnes, D.D., (Yale); W. Austin, M.D., (McGill); Rev. G. H. Parker, Rector of Compton; Rev. W. T. Forsythe, Stanstead; and Messrs. MacDonald, Abbott, Farwell.

When the order of exercises began, at about 11 o'clock, everybody stood up, and Dr. Heneker read the following address:—

To His Excellency, the Most Honorable Henry Charles Keith Petty Fitz Maurice, Marquis of Lansdowne, G.C.M.G., etc., etc., Governor General of the Dominion of Canada:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY, —On behalf of the University of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, we bid you a hearty welcome, and desire at the same time to express our warm thanks for the honor conferred on the College by your presence this day, accompanied by Lady Lansdowne.

It was with unqualified pleasure that we heard that you had consented to receive our honorary degree of D.C.L., which enables us to enrol your name amongst those who, by the acceptance of this degree, confer honor on our University.

Your Excellency may wish to know something of our past history, and of the objects sought to be attained by the founders of Bishop's College, and the following statement will, we trust, enable you, to some extent, to understand our position.

We do not lay claim to be either a large or richly endowed seat of learning, but we aim at doing the work we have taken in hand thoroughly and in the spirit of the founder, the late Right Rev. Dr. G. J. Mountain, Bishop of Quebec, a man truly apostolic in character, whose name is held by all churchmen in the Province of Quebec in the greatest veneration. His diocese was at the time of the foundation of the College coterminous with the Province, so that Bishop's College was intended to be, and has indeed since been, the Church of England University and College of this Province. The College was incorporated in 1843, and created into a University in 1853 by a charter granted by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

The primary object of the foundation was to provide the means for educating in Canada a body of clergymen, selected from the people of the country, who could efficiently bring home to the people the ministrations of religion according to the doctrines and discipline of the Church of England. It was at the same time felt that a mere theological training would not be sufficient for this purpose, but that students intended for the church should also receive a training in arts, and while under training should be associated with other students, whose object was the attainment of knowledge without reference to any special profession. The system adopted was residential in character following the great English models, although in a humble way—and avoiding that method where students attend lectures only, without the careful supervision which our system affords. We claim also for our system that students derive incalculable advantage from their daily association with the professors, who are necessarily men of culture.

Thus from the first there were two faculties, arts and divinity, to which have been since added law and medicine. The work of the law faculty is carried on at Sherbrooke, that of medicine in Montreal, in which latter city the students have the advantage of hospital training.

The College has had many warm friends and owes its entire endowment to private beneficence. It receives yearly a small grant from the Superior Education Fund of the Province of Quebec, but this grant is insufficient even for the maintenance of one Professor. At the present time the office of Principal, (who is the Professor of Mathematics) and the chair of Divinity and Classics are endowed, and we are thereby in a position to give a first-class education to our students, and to provide them with board and lodging at an extremely moderate charge. The staff of professors and Lecturers is not limited to the Professorships above named, but the three mentioned are specially endowed.

Your Excellency will, we hope, personally examine the premises and visit our lecture rooms, library, students' rooms and chapel, where there is daily service, morning and evening.

We should also mention that, although thus founded for and by the English Church, we invite all students of all denominations to partake of the advantages we have to offer, not exacting any religious test from those who are not or do not intend to become members of the Church of England. We have had in training Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists, and none have, we believe, left us otherwise than perfectly satisfied with their education.

In addition to our training of students in College, we have also a College School established on the model of the English public schools, and Bishop's College School Boys are to be found in all the leading positions of Canadian life. We specially and successfully train for the Royal Military College, Kingston, where the name of Lennoxville has for many years ranked high from the conduct, the talents and the character of the cadets who were trained in our College School. As a University, as a College for the study of arts and divinity, and as a College School, we aim to fit men for every branch of Canadian life.

In conclusion, we desire to express to Your Excellency our warm thanks for stimulating our boys by the gift of a silver medal annually.

Hoping that Your Excellency and Lady Lansdowne may have a pleasant visit to the Eastern Townships, and that you will ever remember us and our humble efforts in a great cause when called to even higher duties in the mother land,

We have the honor to remain,
Your Excellency's obedient Servants,

The signature of the Chancellor, the Bishop (as President of the Corporation,) the Principal and the Registrar follow.

The Special Convocation was then declared open. The Marquis of Lansdowne was then presented by the Principal, and admitted to the Degree of D. C. L., (*honoris causa*) by the Chancellor. An illuminated Diploma was presented, composed by Prof. Read, and reading thus :

Omnibus quorum intersit Universitas Episcopi Collegii de Lennoxville Canadensis Salutem.

Hæc literæ testimonio sint virum spectatissimum atque in primis honorabilem, Carolum, Lansdownii Dominum, cruce eximia inter SS. Michaeli et Georgii comites jam donatum ; Domini topius Canadensis pro Regina administratorem ; quum majoribus ortum splendidis, tum ipsum cultu, ingenio, eloquentia ornatiorem ; denique omni erga bonas artes amore et rerum publicarum scientia insignitum, gradu et dignitate Doctoris in Jure Civili hac in Universitate nostra esse hodie ampliatur honoris causâ.

EDVARDUS CHAPMAN,
Commentariensis.

RICARDUS HENEKER, D. C. L.,
Univ. Ep. Coll. Cancellarius.

Die decimo quarto Sept. Anno Salutis MDCCCLXXXVII.

His Excellency, who was received with great cheering and applause, then asked those present to be seated, and replied in a graceful and eloquent speech to the address. He was in excellent voice, and his words fell on appreciative and attentive ears. The applause was frequent. He said :—

MR. CHANCELLOR, LORD BISHOP AND MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE,—I should in any case have wished to take this opportunity of expressing the pleasure which it has given me to visit, for the first time, this University and College, the existence of which illustrates so strikingly the strong desire felt by the people of our race and of our church to secure for themselves the inestimable advantages of higher education.

The University of Lennoxville has, however, placed me under a special and exceptional obligation, which I must not lose a moment in acknowledging, by its action in conferring on me one of its honorary degrees. You could not, I think, have welcomed in a more graceful or appreciative manner one who comes to you in his official capacity, as the representative of the Crown, and who, for that reason, irrespectively of any personal considerations, is regarded by you as worthy of any honor by the bestowal of which you can contribute to the dignity of the office which he is permitted to fill. (Applause.)

I hope that you will allow me to add that without reference to my official position, and speaking as a member of the Church of England,

which is under a special debt to this University, or again as a member of one of our old English Universities, the spirit of which breathes in and animates its offshoots in all parts of the world, or again, as one who watches with friendly interest the steady advance which higher education is making in this country, I value this token of your hospitality and good will, and that I accept it with a deep appreciation of the feelings which have led you to confer it upon me, and find a place for my name upon a roll which includes those of men who are justly honored, not only in this country, but throughout the empire. (Applause.)

I have listened with the greatest interest to the description which you have given me of the origin and objects of the University. It is no small thing that here, in the centre of the Eastern Townships, there should exist a foundation, such as that which the prescience of Bishop Mountain succeeded in establishing at Lennoxville—a Foundation comprising within itself a University, a College, and College School—institutions in which are preserved the best traditions of our English Schools and Colleges, which are well organized and thorough in their methods; and which, moreover, although especially connected with the Church of England, open their doors without distinction to students of all denominations. Such a foundation cannot fail to make its mark upon the people and upon the culture of the country; it must, however, of necessity, have at first many difficulties to contend with. The experiences of educational pioneers are in their way as trying as those of the earlier settlers who find themselves called upon to hew their way through the backwoods of a new country. Both must be content at first with modest beginnings, and satisfied if each step they take is in the right direction, and if no portion of the ground which year after year they are able to conquer is allowed to run back to wilderness. Some of the obstacles which stand in your way are inseparable from the earlier stages of the career of all such institutions as yours, when they are situated in a new country. First among these come the absence of old endowments, such as those by which the educational foundations of the old Universities have been enriched. I am glad that the stream of private liberality has already begun to flow towards you. Then again there is the fact that in a new country the time necessary for what we should consider a complete University education is, not unnaturally, grudged both by parents and pupils. A lad is expected to be earning his own living at an age when at Oxford or Cambridge he would still be wearing an undergraduate's gown. I must own that I am strongly disposed to believe that we at home prolong the period of education unnecessarily. Pitt was Prime Minister at an age when many young Englishmen nowadays are still taking their B.A. degree, and here in Canada we must somehow or other contrive to compress our University course within more reasonable limits,

Again, in this Province, situated as you are in the midst of a mixed population, and belonging as you do to a race which is in a minority, you have, I understand, some apprehensions lest your students should find the avenues by which the learned professions are approached, obstructed by hindrances, not perhaps, designed to affect them injuriously, but operating to their special disadvantage. In regard to that point, let me say in passing that I feel convinced that any demands which may be preferred on behalf of this University will be inspired by considerations of the strictest justice and moderation, and my earnest hope is that if any differences have arisen they will be found capable of a just and amicable settlement. I am glad to know that you have not allowed yourselves to be deterred by any of these difficulties. You can afford to wait, and there are many reasons for which the University may take a sanguine view of its own prospects. I observe with pleasure that through the generosity of your friends, one, at all events, of your professorships has been liberally endowed, and that this is not the only case in which private good will has brought you acceptable help. I do not think there is any factor in the calculation upon which you can depend with greater certainty than the ever increasing gratitude and attachment of the old students of the University. I am glad to learn that they are to be found representing this College in various stations of life, and in all parts of the Dominion, and, so far as I have been able to ascertain, with credit to themselves and the place of their education. I observe in this connection that you have here, under the name of the Alma Mater Society, an organization which, as far as I am aware, is peculiar to yourselves, and which I have no doubt will serve to keep alive the bond which unites your alumni to the place of their education. Then, sir, there is another advantage which you enjoy and which I think is a very precious one indeed. I mean the advantage which you derive from finding yourselves situated in the midst of a community which is, in every respect, a growing and advancing community, in the progress of which we may, I think, rest assured that the University and College will have their share. (Applause.) And, Mr. Chancellor, when I look out of these windows and consider the view spread before my eye, which was unfolded before me as I drove up here this morning, I cannot help feeling that you are richly blessed in the matter of the site and surroundings of the College. I could not help being reminded of the description which the old Latin poet gives of the conditions which he was anxious to secure for his country residence : *Modus agri non ita parvus*. The clear water running at the foot of your lawn, as it does, and the *paulum silvæ*—you have all these things here, and I think you have every reason to be grateful for the advantage which they give you. I cordially wish, Mr. Chancellor, that they may contribute to

to your success and strengthen year by year your position in this Province and in the country. (Applause.) The part which you are called upon to play within them, is weighted with the most solemn responsibilities which can attach to a public body. A University like yours is in one sense a servant, and in another a master of the public, and I trust that it will be found that your University is able, not only to meet the want of the society which surrounds it by providing a liberal education and the usual preparation for the learned professions, but also to guide and influence that society, by increasing the general desire of the community for knowledge and by leading all who come within its influence, be they doctors or lawyers, or divines or men of business, to approach the problems of their every day life from the standpoint of cultured and liberal-minded men. (Loud applause.) I am glad to have the pleasure of meeting a number of your students, and I should like if they will allow me to impress upon them the fact that it is to them quite as much as to the professors and authorities of the University that it has to look for any successful results which it hopes to achieve, and that each one of them by steady application, while he remains a student of the University, and by keeping up its credit after he has left it, can contribute towards an endowment of reputation and good name, which, in its way, is more valuable to a body such as yours than any endowment of material wealth. (Great applause.) I beg to thank you very cordially for the welcome you have given to me and to assure you I deem it a very great honor indeed to be enrolled as a member of this University.

Dr. Heneker called on Bishop Williams to say a few words. As usual his Lordship was most felicitous, his allusions to the illustrious ancestor of His Excellency, "the Mæcenas of Literature; the Nestor of his age," were very admirably expressed indeed. Of course, there were charming bits of scholarship introduced, all of them pointing a happy phrase, and betraying deliciously, the presence of Attic Salt. Briefly Dr. Williams said:—

I am not prepared, Mr. Chancellor, to make a speech. But I thank you for affording me opportunity to put into words my grateful appreciation of the kindness and urbanity which have given us the pleasure, and the honor, of their Excellencies' visit. "Honos alit artes," and for an institution like ours, whose aim and whose function is to evoke aspirations after mental development and liberal culture, there is no form of encouragement so stimulating as the actual living presence of those in whom we recognize the qualities to which we aspire. I have not, Mr. Chancellor, I have not unfortunately your familiarity with the Italian tongue. But—although the avowal in the academic severity of the atmosphere may savor perhaps of scholastic heresy—I have read the *Inferno*, by the aid of a crib.

And I cannot get out of my mind the poet's exultant reminiscence of the tonic effect induced by the visible presence of men worthy of admiration and honor.

“Mi far mostrati gli spirite magui
“Che di verderli in me stesso m' esalto.”

And we, too, Mr. Chancellor,—when we are favored by the presence of one who, in the Dominion, discharges, with so apt a grace, the functions of a gracious Queen,—we, too, feel alike lift in our experience. And I must be permitted to add that the feeling is increased and intensified when the dignity of office is enhanced in the person of one who himself, possessing all the best culture of the day, bears the name and holds the place of a man renowned—in the days when you and I, sir, still carried “nigros augusta froate capillos,”—who bears the name and holds the place of a man renowned when we were young amongst men of letters as the Mæcenas and amongst statesmen as the Nestor of his age.

I thank you, Mr. Chancellor, for giving me the opportunity to say this much. And I thank, for myself and for all here assembled, Their Excellencies for the honor they have done us and the gratification they have given us by coming amongst us to-day.

Canon Norman, D.C.L., of Montreal, followed in a clearly-cut and resonant speech, very delightful to hear, and tinctured with the true academic flavour.

Chancellor Heneker called on the Rev. J. Hooper, M A., (Columbia College, New York,) of Newport, Vermont, to address the audience, which he did very happily. He dwelt on the cordial relations which existed between Canada and the United States, and of the pleasure which he felt in being able to take part in a ceremony which he could never forget as long as he lived. He paid a tribute of respect to His Excellency and thanked the audience for the attention which had been given to his remarks. Mr. Hooper spoke with warmth and sympathy, and made a fine impression on his hearers.

George Stewart, Esq., F.R.G.S., D.C.L., (King's College, Windsor, N.S.,) being called upon, as the representative of King's, the oldest Colonial University, in a brief address said he did not wish to gild fine gold by adding to what had been so fitly said that day. He reminded the audience that His Excellency was pre-eminently like the Gracious Sovereign he represented in the Dominion,—a constitutional Ruler.

Lord Lansdowne then asked for a holiday for the boys and students, which was granted, their Excellencies came nearer to the front, and shook hands with nearly every one present. Afterwards the Viceregal party, His Excellency escorting Mrs. Adams, and Mr. Adams accompanying the Mar-

chioness, proceeded on a tour of inspection through the College and School, visiting the chapel, the library, the dormitories, &c., and expressing themselves in the most flattering terms concerning what they saw. Lord and Lady Lansdowne were much pleased with the condition of the young people's rooms, and congratulated the senior matron, Mrs. Skinner, on the perfect manner with which she performed her duties.

The proceedings terminated before 1 o'clock. The Viceregal party drove to Sherbrooke by the willow road, and after lunching with W. B. Ives, M.P., President of the Eastern Townships Agricultural Association, proceeded to the Exhibition.

The Clergy and their wives, and other visitors from a distance, were entertained by the authorities of the College.—[*Re-printed from the Quebec Morning Chronicle of September 16th, 1887.*]
