

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY.

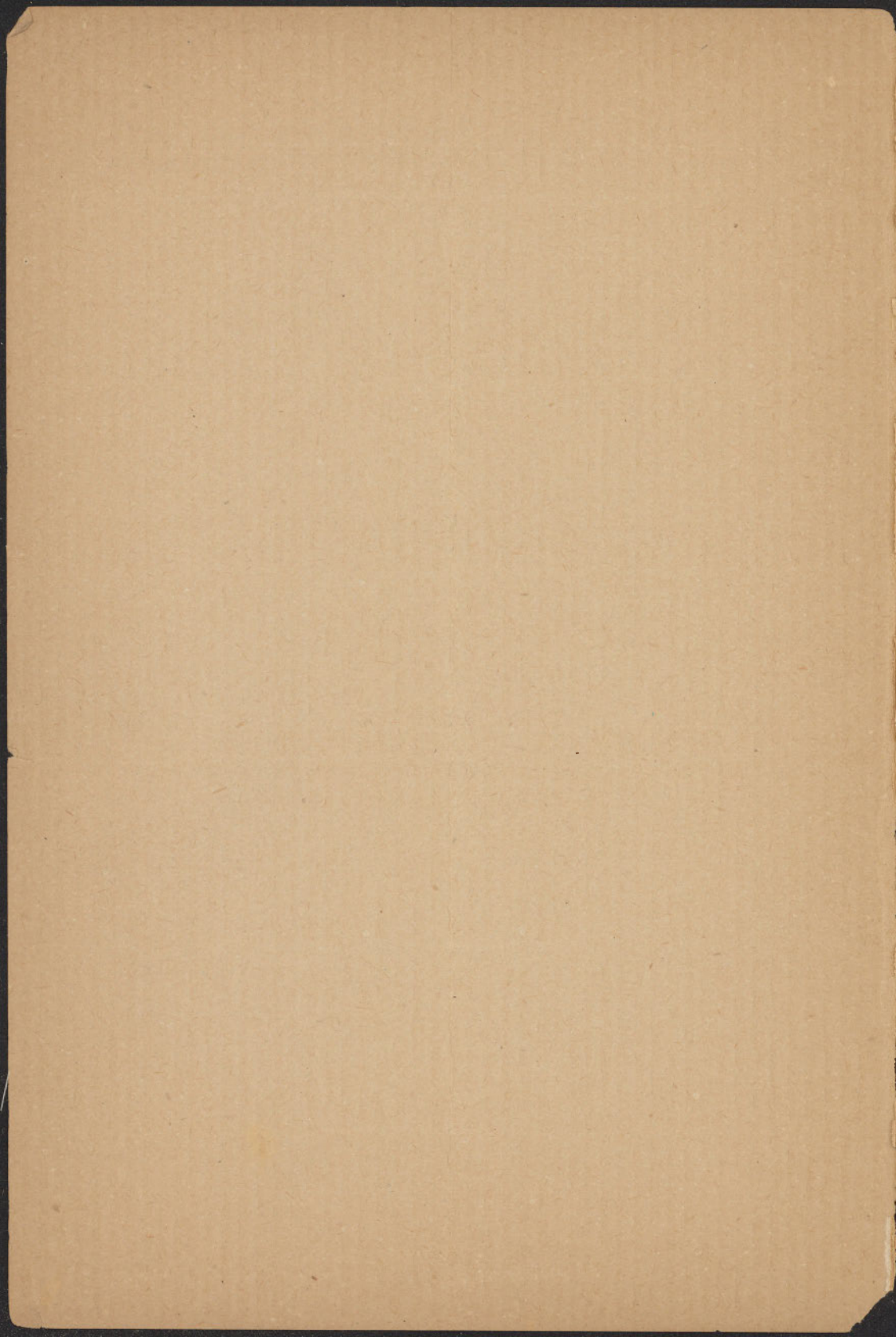
Patterson

OUR WORK AND OUR NEEDS.

ADDRESS

DELIVERED BY PRESIDENT FORREST, OF DALHOUSIE COLLEGE,
AT THE CONVOCATION, 25th APRIL, 1893.

HALIFAX, N. S. :
NOVA SCOTIA PRINTING COMPANY.
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OUR WORK AND OUR NEEDS

A DISCUSSION
OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE
FUTURE OF THE
INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Ladies and Gentlemen—

IN assembling for our Spring Convocation we miss one honoured friend who was with us on almost every similar occasion for the past eight years. In the month of December the Chairman of our Board of Governors, Sir Adams Archibald, was called away. Sir Adams was closely identified with Dalhousie since its re-opening in 1863. In the public discussions which took place at that time, he took a prominent part, and ever after his active support could be counted on whenever required. On the opening of the Law School in 1883 he rendered most valuable service. A little later he accepted the Chairmanship of the Board of Governors in which position his sage counsel and active aid were invaluable. Sir Adams has placed the Law School under additional obligation by presenting it with his Law Library, one of the largest and best private libraries in the Province.

To-day we mourn the loss of another, whose sudden and unexpected departure speaks forcibly to us all. Henry Chase Dickson, an undergraduate of the third year, a good student, and a true and manly Christian man, was called suddenly away. Yesterday he was laid in the grave. We can scarcely realize that he is gone. He has left a good record behind him in Dalhousie, and I think I can safely say that every one in the University who knew him is glad to think of him as a friend and brother. Apart from these losses, the health of all during the session has been on the whole very good. One student required to go south on account of ill-health, but all the rest of us have been able to work the winter through.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

We are happy to report that the chairmanship of the Board, rendered vacant by the death of Sir Adams, has been filled by Mr. John Doull, who was always one of the very

best friends of the College. Mr. Adam Burns has accepted the Vice-Chairmanship. No one not engaged in the active work of the University can have any idea of the amount of precious time given by these gentlemen to its affairs. We have lost the services of Mr. Newcombe, who has been appointed Deputy Minister of Justice, but our Board has been strengthened by the appointment of Hon. Robert Boak, Hon. Provincial Secretary, Mr. Fielding, Mr. T. Ritchie, and our Treasurer, Mr. James Forrest. Last evening the Alumni Association elected Mr. John F. Stairs and Mr. A. I. Trueman who will prove valuable additions to the Board.

WORK OF THE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL.

In the work of the University the session just closed has been one of the most satisfactory in our history. The attendance has been large, and in every department the work has been carried on steadily and successfully. In the Law School we have had 61 students. Largely dependent as we always are on lecturers, whose services so generously given have helped to make the Law School a success, there has necessarily been some irregularity in the delivery of the lectures. This session this irregularity has been reduced to a minimum. The self-denying faithfulness of the lecturers is worthy of the highest commendation. The Moot Court, held every Wednesday, was always crowded. I was able to be present on several occasions and can testify that the pleadings and the conduct of the cases frequently evinced a scholarly acquaintance with the principles of law and a diligence in the citing of cases which augur well for the future of the legal profession in these provinces. The Library has received costly and very important additions. Our late Chairman, Sir Adams Archibald, generously donated his very valuable library containing among other volumes a large number of text books which were particularly needed. The Faculty have been able to purchase a number of complete sets of American Reports: Supreme Court of U. S.; Court of Appeal, New York; Supreme Court of Massachusetts, together with a number of other useful works, making the Law Library one of the very

best in the Maritime Provinces. The Faculty secured the services of Mr. Fraser as Librarian, and I think I express the sentiments of Professors and students alike when I say that his painstaking devotion to the duties of his office have doubled the value of the Law Library. The money expended upon the library heretofore has been almost wholly contributed by the Professors and Lecturers of the Law Faculty. It is an excellent working library now, containing, as it does, complete sets of all the most important reports. If a few hundred dollars additional could be placed annually at the disposal of the Faculty the Dalhousie Law Library would soon be one of the very best in the Dominion.

MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The number of medical students enrolled is steadily increasing. This year we have a graduating class of six in Medicine. This is not, by any means, as large as we would like to see it. If the medical gentlemen who devote such a large portion of their valuable time to working up the Medical College had the hearty co-operation of the community, there is no reason why the numbers might not be quadrupled and the country saved thousands of dollars annually now expended in American medical schools for an education that might quite as well be obtained at home. Very few have any idea of the amount of money sent out of the country annually for the fees of medical students alone. Few places have greater advantages for a medical school than Halifax. We have now an excellent hospital affording admirable facilities for clinical instruction. Why may we not retain our medical students at home? Half the money sent out of the country for medical fees would equip a school of medicine quite equal to those at which our students now secure their instruction. We hope that the good work now done by the Halifax Medical College, with the insufficient means at its disposal, may induce some one interested in medical study to devote such a sum of money to this department as will enable those carrying on the work to place the school in the front rank of the schools of the continent.

DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE.

In the department of Pure and Applied Science the number of students is not large. Still every Faculty has had its day of small things, and we hope for the best. A number of new classes are offered for next year :

1. *Municipal Engineering*.—Mr. Doane who has had joint charge, with Mr. McColl, of the Surveying class, has undertaken to lecture on Municipal Engineering, to which subject he has been giving special attention. Considering the number of towns introducing water and sewerage, and requiring intelligent counsellors as well as engineers, this class ought to be a popular and profitable one.

Mr. McColl, Assistant Provincial Engineer, a graduate of the Royal Military College, Kingston, now takes full charge of the Surveying Class, which is being gradually fitted out with instruments by the Alumni Association's annual grant.

2. *Education*.—Many of our graduates become heads of Academies and other High Schools not only in Nova Scotia, but in the neighbouring Provinces, in British Columbia, and the United States. Many teachers take partial courses in the College. To meet the wants of these the Faculty of Science has organized a class in *Education*. Prof. Murray offers to give a course of lectures on the theory of Education, and Mr. Alex. McKay, Supervisor of City Schools, has undertaken (without emolument) to give a course on the History of Education, and to afford the students the means of studying the methods of teaching by observation and by practice in the best schools of Halifax. This class has been added to the four years B.Sc. course intended for science teachers, so that it will now include training in professional as well as non-professional subjects. Short courses for teachers have also been arranged.

1851 EXHIBITION SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP.

Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 have placed at the disposal of this University for the year 1894 the nomination to one of the scholarships, which are

being offered by them, in certain Universities of the United Kingdom and the Colonies, with the intention of enabling students of Science who have indicated high promise of capacity for original research, to continue the prosecution of Science with the view of aiding in its advance or in its industrial applications.

The Scholarship is of the annual value of One hundred and fifty pounds, sterling, is tenable for two years, subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions, and is open to women as well as men.

The conditions of nomination are printed and will be furnished to all applicants. The possession of this valuable prize entails considerable responsibility. We feel that our laboratories and apparatus are very inadequate. The governors have determined to make an annual expenditure of \$400 or \$500 to increase the efficiency of our laboratories. We feel, however, that this is wholly inadequate to accomplish what we would desire and we hope that some generous friends may come to our aid. We feel confident that with reasonably well equipped laboratories and scientific library some of our students will do credit to their Alma Mater.

A course for students wishing to fit themselves for Electrical Engineering has been added this year to the ordinary B. Sc., course. We do not profess to give a complete training in Electrical Engineering even to the extent to which that is done in many colleges. Our outfit is altogether too inadequate for such a purpose. But the new course provides the foundation of Mathematical and Physical Science and the earlier stages of the practical study of electricity which must be acquired by the student of this subject before he can go on to higher work. A student who has taken this course will be able to complete his electrical training in a short time at any school offering special facilities in this department.

The special courses for B. Sc., have been remodelled. The old course in Experimental Physics and Chemistry having been replaced by two Physics and Physical Chemistry and Chemistry and Chemical Physics. These courses are much better suited than the old one to meet the wants of students

who aim either at higher teaching or at qualifying themselves for physical and chemical industries. Arrangements have been made for conferring the degree of M. Sc., on Bachelors of Science who after graduating have, either at this or other Universities, or by private study carried their work to a more advanced stage. The regulations for the degree are on the same lines as those for the M. A., degree. No fixed courses are laid down but the tastes and capabilities of the candidates are carefully considered and the work so far as possible adapted to them. It is thought that in this way we are likely to secure the best results in promoting advanced study on the part of our graduates. By giving the degree also for a thesis embodying the results of original investigation we endeavour to encourage graduates to proceed from the study of the work of others to the higher stage of investigating for themselves.

EVENING CLASS IN INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY.

During the past winter Dr. Lawson has again conducted an evening class in industrial Chemistry for the special benefit of mechanics and manufacturers. This class is specially intended for the convenience of those whose employments preclude them from attending at the regular classes during the day. It has now been conducted for three years. In session 1890-91 the exercises consisted of a two hours' lecture, with demonstrations, twice a week which embraced the subject of Inorganic Chemistry as far as regards Nomenclature, Notation, General Principles and the more important Non-Metallic and Metallic Elements and their Compounds. During the second session of the course (1891-92) the students undertook a course of systematic testing for Bases and Acids, devoting two hours each evening to work in the Chemical laboratory. Towards the close a few lectures were given on Organic Chemistry with special regard to the Carbohydrates and the changes which they undergo in the germination of grain and other seeds and during the process of malting, brewing, &c. During the third session (1892-93) special laboratory work in testing and purification of organic

compounds was undertaken, including preparation of ether, chloroform, soaps, &c. A separate elementary class for new students was also formed. Almost every manufacturing industry in the city was represented in the class attending these lectures. It is difficult to over-estimate the importance of such teaching to the industries of our city. We hope that during coming sessions a much larger number will avail themselves of the advantages thus offered. Dalhousie is thus endeavouring to make her teaching of direct practical benefit to many who are prevented from attending the ordinary classes of the University.

ARTS' FACULTY.

The work of the Arts' Faculty has been conducted much as usual and all of the professors report satisfactory work on the part of our students. The short courses for General Students have been carefully revised. Every effort is made to meet the wants of all classes of students. During the session Prof. MacMechan conducted a special class in English Literature which was attended by 85 special students. A large number of the teachers of the city and other advanced students availed themselves of this class and are prepared to testify to the benefits received. Dalhousie wishes to come into close and intimate relationship with the community in which it is placed and every one of its professors is willing to do what he can to extend its influence. We hope that next winter special classes will be started in any department that the wants of the community may seem to indicate.

LIBRARY.

The Arts' Library has received a number of additions. It is not large containing only 4,500 volumes. Our aim has been to render it as useful as possible by selecting books which bear more or less directly on the work done in the different classes.

Last year Prof. Seth, whose departure we all regretted, very generously presented the Library with \$250, the proceeds of a course of lectures on Psychology to the teachers of the city. This sum is being expended on books for the Philosophical department.

This year another of our professors has placed in the Library a memorial of the late Professor DeMille who from 1866-80 filled the chair of Rhetoric and History. Dr. MacMechan has presented the Library with a valuable collection of the works of English authors and a portrait of Prof. DeMille. The portrait and the books to the number of 204 volumes have been placed in the DeMille Press in the Library. This valuable gift has been purchased from the proceeds of the special course of lectures already referred to.

Conspicuous among the generous friends of the Library stands Dr. Furnival of London who presented us with 41 volumes of the publications of the new Shakespeare Society and 23 volumes of the transactions of the Philological Society. Our students have also done good work presenting us with about 50 volumes.

The Philomathic Society has begun a very interesting collection of Canadian works for the Canadian corner. The Y. M. C. A., of the College has placed on our shelves a valuable collection of works on missions. Other friends have given books, all of which will be acknowledged in the calendar. Two of our governors, Mr. Doull and Mr. Burns have supplied the Library with valuable periodicals.

THE MUSEUM.

An arrangement has been entered into with Mr. Egan by which 30 cases of birds have been placed in the Museum making it one of the very best collections of native birds in the Maritime Provinces. Considerable additions have been made to the McCulloch collection and numerous objects of interest have been added to the Museum.

BURSARIES.

The number of bursaries at our disposal has been increased by the generosity of our Alumni in New Brunswick who offer a prize of \$50, to be competed for at the opening of next session. A good friend of the University has given a prize of \$25 in books to encourage the study of English.

I think that any one who examines our calendar or visits the University, will see that we are doing the best we can with the means at our disposal to meet the wants of the whole community. We are, however, very much hampered for want of funds.

FINANCIAL POSITION.

The financial history of the University may be given in a few words. When Dalhousie was revived in 1863, its funds amounted to a mere trifle. Apart from the government grant and the aid given by the Presbyterian Church, the whole assets of the college consisted of between forty and fifty thousand dollars and the old building. When the grant was withdrawn and the Presbyterian Church removed two of its professors, there was very little left. The generous aid of Mr. Munro, followed by the benefactions of Mr. McLeod, Sir William Young and Mr. Mott, saved the College from extinction. The Munro funds are largely paid in and the balance is being handed to the governors as rapidly as suitable investments can be secured. The central fund of the College, the fund available for ordinary expenses, has been very little increased, most of the money received been contributed for special professorships, while the decrease in the rate of interest and of rents and the increased expenditure have brought us to face an annual deficit of \$4,000. A large part of this deficit is owing to the depreciation in the value of Granville Street property. A few years ago this property was considered the very best investment in the city. We owned six large business places in this street. Three of them were part of the McLeod estate. The sudden change which has taken place in the removal of business to Barrington Street has greatly hampered us. At present we need \$4,000 per annum, additional or an increased endowment of \$80,000 or \$100,000. We do not think we are making an unreasonable demand when we ask this amount. Dalhousie has now over 400 graduates, with at least 600 others who have taken partial courses and are eligible as members of the Alumni Association. We added 48 graduates to our list to-day. It is surely not unreasonable to expect that these

should come to the help of their Alma Mater. Other Universities in Canada have recently been receiving large sums of money. A few years ago we were the most fortunate of any of them. Almost everything we own has been received during the past ten years. We have a new building admirably adapted for our work, and we have received over \$300,000 of permanent investments in addition to \$120,000 for bursaries, tutorships, &c. We hope that there are good things yet in store for us. In the meantime we appeal to our Alumni and friends. We believe a large part of the population of the Maritime Provinces look upon Dalhousie as their University. Let them come to our aid. Every year we have a steadily increasing number of young men and women preparing not only for the professions but for every department of work that requires training and intelligence. A few noble and generous men have placed the whole community under a lasting debt of gratitude by changing Dalhousie from an experiment to a permanency. A little help promptly rendered will enable us to continue what we are doing while every additional dollar will be wisely and economically expended.

