
CHAPTER XXI

THE SCOTSMAN AND EDUCATION (continued)

THE Roman Catholic Church in Upper Canada also owes its early foundation and development to a great Scotsman, the Right Rev. Alexander Macdonell, its first bishop in the province.

Bishop Macdonell, like Bishop Strachan, was from the first an earnest and persistent worker in the cause of education. He was a very distinguished man, and the Roman Church owes much to this great Highlander, who was the pioneer apostle of its tenets and ideals in what is now the Province of Ontario.

He was of good birth and old Highland lineage, and yet a man who had a great love for the wide mass of humanity about him ; and the memory he left behind him at his death was one that showed how universally beloved and respected he had been by all classes and creeds of the community. Bishop Macdonell was born on July 17, 1762, in the Glen of Urquhart, Loch Ness, Scotland. Sent abroad for education with the idea of orders, he spent some time at Paris and Valla-

dolid, in Spain, where he was ordained to the priesthood in 1787. The story of his regiment and its coming to Canada is told in the account of the Glengarry settlements. This gave him the name of the Warrior-priest, which he so well deserved. He made his headquarters at St. Raphael's, where he later raised another regiment, the Glengarry Fencibles, of which he was chaplain throughout the war of 1812-15. For his general patriotic services he received a pension from the British Government, which ultimately reached the sum of £500 a year, at which amount it was continued to his successors in office in the Bishopric of Kingston. In the year 1819 he was created Vicar-General and Administrator of Upper Canada, with the title of Bishop of Rhoesina. In 1826 he was appointed first Roman Bishop of the Upper Province, taking the title of Bishop of Regiopolis, or Kingston.

Here he founded in 1837 the College of Regiopolis, which afterwards, in 1866, was granted powers as a University. The Bishop did much for this institution, and was in reality its sole founder and friend, and in this work was succeeded by his nephew, the Rev. Angus Macdonell, who became ultimately head of the college. Bishop Macdonell worked hard for Catholic education in the province, and succeeded in getting grants from the British Government for Catholic school teachers throughout the province. There is a vast amount of correspondence in the Canadian State Papers relating to the Bishop and his work. He stands

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out prominently as a man, a statesman, and a scholar ; and belongs to that golden age of the Empire and Canada when some of the leading spirits who guided and controlled the community were scholars and divines and were not all politicians. In his day he had several compeers ; and chief among them was his fellow-Scotsman, fellow-scholar, fellow-divine, and, like himself, a Member of the Provincial Government, the Hon. and Very Rev. John Strachan. These two men had much in common and worked together for the common good.

Another friend of the Bishop was the Anglican Archdeacon Okill Stuart, of Kingston, another Scotsman, who wielded a great public influence ; and another was the Ulster-born Scotsman, the Rev. Thomas Campbell, the first Rector of Belleville, and a distinguished graduate of Glasgow University. Mr. Campbell was a special friend of the Bishop, and they had a mutual regard for each other, as men of Highland blood and birth usually have, though one was a Macdonell and the other a Campbell. They were both, in a way, statesmen and men of affairs, and gentlemen of the old school of a fine culture, who regarded their cure of souls to extend to the weal of the whole community as well as of the mere individual. Both had a great influence in the common community, and they were on the same side with strong political affiliations, and had very positive opinions as to the importance of a good classical education. It was a day, in spite of certain traditions

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held to-day concerning it, of a broad religious toleration on the part of men of culture, and a time when religion was more respected than it is to-day, and when it had a greater influence through the whole community. The Roman Church has great reason to be proud of this distinguished and faithful prelate, whose life should be written as a testimony to the work of the man himself and his relationship to the important events of his day in the old Upper Province.

We have already shown the Scottish origin of many of our Canadian universities; and we now come to another one, connected with the great Baptist Church of Canada, McMaster University, which, like Dalhousie and McGill, carries its story in its Scottish name.

It will have to be more and more recognised, as time goes on, that religion and education have ever been, and must still be, closely connected.

This has been proved in the past by the fact that our leading educationalists and founders of colleges and universities have been divines. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the history of the Baptist Church in Canada, and in the life and ideals of the Rev. Robert Alexander Fyfe, who was to some extent the John Strachan of the Baptist Church in this country. Like Strachan, he was of Scottish parentage, but, unlike him, was born in Canada. His parents had come from Scotland in 1809, and the noted divine and educationalist was born near Montreal on October 20, 1816.

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His parents were evidently Presbyterians, as he joined the Baptist Church in his nineteenth year, and then left a mercantile life for the ministry of that Church. The necessity he was under of having to go to the United States to prepare for his life's work must have early impressed him with the idea of the need of a college for his denomination in Canada. However, after a year of study at Madison College, New York State, he entered the newly established seminary at Montreal, where he spent two years. Then, after five years in American Baptist colleges, he was ordained at Brooklyn, Massachusetts. But his strong patriotism, which was ever a marked characteristic of the man, drew him back to Canada. He at once took an active part in the vexed question of King's College and the clergy reserves, and soon rose to prominence. After some years in pastoral and academic work at the Montreal seminary, he in 1859 founded the paper the *Canadian Baptist*. Dr. Fyfe's life-work was the founding of Woodstock College. This was a residential seminary for young people of both sexes, with a theological department for those who desired to enter the ministry. In 1857 this college was founded, and was granted a charter under the name of the "Canadian Literary Institute," which was afterwards changed to that of "Woodstock Academy."

Dr. Fyfe became its first Principal; and for eight years was its sole teacher of theology.

The Toronto Baptist College, now McMaster

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University, was, as its name shows, the result of a Scotsman's liberality and ideal.

This important institution of learning was founded in 1881 as Toronto Baptist College by the Honourable William McMaster. This gentleman had been for years a generous contributor toward the support of Woodstock College. In 1887 it was incorporated as McMaster University, representing the Baptist Church of Canada.

This University is now well equipped with an able staff of scholarly and earnest men. The building, a fine structure, stands at the north of Queen's Park among the large group of colleges that has made the old park so famous as a place of education.

Even Victoria University was influenced, though indirectly, by Scottish educationalists.

The founder of the University was really that noted educationalist, Dr. Egerton Ryerson. But it is interesting to know that Dr. Ryerson was educated as a boy and youth under James (afterwards Judge) Mitchell, a noted Grammar School master, who came to Canada from Scotland with Dr. Strachan.

Thus we see that this wonderful influence of Scottish learning permeated the whole early life of all parts of the Dominion, and has continued to do so ever since.

It is also interesting to know that the first corner-stone of Victoria, then the Upper Canada Academy, was laid on June 7, 1832, by a Scotsman, Dr. Gilchrist, of Colborne.

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The Province of Nova Scotia is also well equipped with Universities, the principal one being Dalhousie, at Halifax. All of these Maritime halls of learning were founded by Scotsmen, and carried on largely by men of Scottish extraction and education.

Dalhousie College had the honour of being founded by one of Canada's finest Governors, Lord Dalhousie, who was then Lieutenant-Governor of that province. He is referred to in the chapter on the Governors-General. He was a man of broad mind and scholarly attainments, and was desirous of advancing culture in the New World. Before he was appointed Governor-General of Canada he was for a year Governor of Nova Scotia (1819-20).

During the war of 1812-15 with the United States the port of Customs in Maine was seized and held for some time by the Governor of Nova Scotia, Sir John Sherbrooke. The Customs revenues, collected during that occupation, were set aside by the British Government for expenditure within the province. Lord Dalhousie, who succeeded, was authorised to expend it as he pleased on any local improvement. Following the bent of his inclination, he saw his opportunity, and determined to found a seminary for the higher branches of education on the plan and principle of the Edinburgh Academy, such an institution being then much needed in the province. In 1821 the college was founded and given the name of Dalhousie College, after its noble patron and founder. It was designed to be non-sectarian,

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and "open to all occupations and sects of religion."

The original Board of Governors, appointed by the Crown, consisted of the Governor-General of British North America, the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, the Anglican Bishop, the Chief Justice and President of the Council, the Provincial Treasurer, and the Speaker of the Assembly. Lord Dalhousie's intention was to establish one single non-sectarian University for all Nova Scotia. With this idea in view, the Board of Governors strove unsuccessfully to form a union with King's College.

It was not until 1838 that the college was organised under a Scottish President, the Rev. Dr. McCulloch, who in 1816 had founded Pictou Academy. He was one of Canada's great pioneers of learning. Dr. Mackay says of him: "He was the power in the country from his advent. He made Pictou a centre to which colonists came. The clergy looked to him as their natural leader and supported his educational propaganda." He was, in short, much such a man as Strachan was in the Anglican Church in Upper Canada. Dr. McCulloch was a hard and energetic student and a noted naturalist. His death came as a great loss to Nova Scotia.

It must be admitted that though Dalhousie was avowedly non-sectarian, that its head and professors were all of the Church of Scotland. University powers were conferred in 1841. President McCulloch died in 1843, and the college was soon after temporarily closed. It was not until 1863

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that the present University was re-established, an Act being passed carrying out as nearly as possible the design of its original founders. In 1868 a Faculty of Medicine was organised, and in 1883 a Faculty of Law. The Rev. James Ross, another fine Scottish scholar, who had studied under Principal McCulloch at Pictou and had been head of Truro Academy, was made Principal of the college. He was Professor of Ethics and Political Economy. He was the son of a clergyman from Alyth, in Forfarshire, who settled at Pictou in 1795. Dr. Ross was born there in 1811. Many professorships were endowed in the college by successful Scotsmen—five by Mr. George Munro, a Nova Scotian in New York City; and three by Mr. Alexander McLeod, of Halifax.

The University of King's College, the oldest University in Canada, was founded by a distinguished Ulster Scotsman, the Right Rev. Charles Inglis, the first Anglican bishop of Nova Scotia.

A sketch of Bishop Inglis's life is given in the chapter on Churches. He was a learned divine and a great missionary bishop to a poor and scattered people of the United Empire Loyalist stock, and was, in a sense, the founder of the Anglican Church in Canada. The life of such a man should be written. It would cover a valuable period in our early history, and would be of great service in stimulating the hearts and minds of coming generations. He was a scion of the great Scottish House of Inglis, which has produced some noted men. His branch had gone into Ulster at the Scottish settlements early in the seventeenth

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century. He got a charter for King's College, which was granted by George the Third in 1802. It was, and still is, distinctly an Anglican University, and, for this reason, has never been able to compete with Dalhousie, which has been largely non-sectarian.

The chief Roman Catholic college of Nova Scotia, St. Francis Xavier's College, was also founded by a Scotsman, the Right Rev. Dr. McKinnon, Bishop of Arichat. It was established at Antigonish in 1854, and in 1866 was created a University.

The University of New Brunswick was founded largely under the direction and advice of one of its commissioners, Mr. J. W. (afterwards Sir William) Dawson, the distinguished Scottish-Canadian Principal of McGill University.

Mount Allison Wesleyan College and University of New Brunswick has owed its existence to the benefaction of a noted merchant of Sackville, C. F. Allison, of Scottish extraction and a worthy member of that noted old South Scotland family.

One cannot close this short account of Maritime educational institutions founded by Scottish ideals and enterprise without a word for that remarkable old seat of pioneer learning, Pictou Academy, which was founded by the Rev. Dr. McCulloch, and which was, in a sense, the "Eton" of many noted Scottish Canadians, such as Dawson and Grant. It was in many senses the pioneer school of Scottish scholarship in the Maritime settlements, and should not be forgotten even in this day of vast technical institutes called Universities, where

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the once loved "humanities" are crowded out in the interests of monetary considerations.

Noted professors of Scottish extraction are numerous in all our colleges. Dr. Paxton Young was a distinguished metaphysician. He has already been mentioned.

The Rev. Michael Willis, D.D., LL.D., was one of the Principals of Knox College. He was born at Greenock, Scotland, in 1798, and educated at Glasgow University. With Dr. Willis were associated at Knox College the Rev. Dr. Burns, Professor Young, and the Rev. Dr. Caven, who succeeded him. He retired in 1870. The Rev. William Caven was born in Kirkcolm, Wigtownshire, in 1830. He came, on both sides, of Covenanter stock. Dr. Caven came to Canada in 1847 with his parents, and studied for the ministry under the Rev. William Proudfoot and the Rev. Alexander McKenzie. William Proudfoot was born in Scotland in 1787 and died in 1851. He was an early missionary in Upper Canada and the founder of the Presbyterian Church at London, Ontario. Vice-Chancellor Proudfoot and the Rev. Dr. Proudfoot were his sons.

The Rev. John Hugh MacKerras was Professor of Classics in Queen's University. He was born at Nairn, Scotland, in 1832. His father was a schoolmaster. The Rev. D. H. McVicar, Principal of the Presbyterian College at Montreal, was born near Campbeltown in Kintyre, Argyllshire, in 1831. He was one of the most distinguished divines of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

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Among the most important and interesting of Canada's educational institutions was the old Toronto Grammar School, now known as the Jarvis Street Collegiate Institute.

This school was founded by a Scotsman, and has been conducted for over a century largely by Scotsmen. In 1807 an Act was passed establishing district Grammar Schools in Upper Canada. The Home District School was located in the town of York, and the trustees were, with two exceptions, all Scotsmen. These were the Rev. George O'Kill Stuart, John Small, Duncan Cameron, Samuel Smith, and William Graham. It was the first public school in the county of York, and was opened on June 1, 1807. The first master was the Rev. George O'Kill Stuart. He was born at Fort Hunter, on the Erie Canal, in 1776. His father, the Rev. John Stuart, was a clergyman of the Church of England, the son of a Presbyterian family of the Ulster Scotsmen in the North of Ireland. His history will be given in the chapter on the Scotsmen in the Churches.

He was succeeded, as master of the school, in 1812 by the Rev. John Strachan, who was succeeded in turn by the Rev. Samuel Armour, born in Scotland, who had charge until 1825. Another Ulster Scotsman, Marcus C. Crombie, became headmaster in 1838. He was born in 1800 in Dungen, County Derry, Ulster. His family had removed from Scotland. In 1872 Dr. Archibald MacMurphy was appointed Rector, and he has carried on the best traditions of this famous school.

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Among later trustees were David Buchan, the Rev. Dr. Barclay, of old St. Andrew's Church, and the Honourable John McMurich.

The school has a long list of distinguished graduates, who fill important positions in all walks of life throughout the Dominion.

It will be of additional interest in surveying the field of common school education to discover that nearly all the heads of education in the different provinces are Scotsmen by descent, as instanced in the Superintendents of Education for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and the Deputy Minister of Education for Ontario.

Dr. A. H. Mackay, the able and energetic Superintendent for Nova Scotia, is a scion of that great fighting clan of Northern Scotland, and his ancestors lived in Rogart, Sutherlandshire, the home of Sir John A. Macdonald's forbears. He is an accomplished scientist, as well as an educationalist, and has done much for education and learning in his province, being also a prominent member of many learned societies. He is the editor for Nova Scotia of the *Educational Review*.

Dr. Hay, Superintendent of Education in New Brunswick, is, like Dr. Mackay, another noted Scottish educationalist and scholar. Like Dr. Mackay, he is a prominent Fellow of one of the scientific sections of the Royal Society of Canada. He is the editor, for New Brunswick, of one of Canada's finest educational journals, the *Educational Review*.

Dr. Colquhoun, Deputy Minister of Education for Ontario, is a man of high ability as a writer,

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scholar and librarian. He was intimately connected with Canada's grand old librarian, another noted Scotsman, Dr. James Bain, late head of the Toronto City Library, and the founder of Canada's finest Reference Library. Dr. Colquhoun has taken a deep interest in all questions connected with the intellectual development of the province which he so ably serves.

In closing this necessarily imperfect account of the Scotsman in Canadian education one could give, were there room, an immense list of professors and teachers and institutions like the famous Galt High School largely founded and served by Scotsmen. There is great need of a good history of education in this country, and when it is written it will be found that in this important field the Scotsman has largely predominated.

Reference must also be made to a new and important development in our country in the direction of technical education, as so far evinced in the Macdonald College, and in this connection the most significant movement is that made by the Hon. W. L. McKenzie King in establishing the Commission on Technical Education, which is now engaged in studying thoroughly the whole question in Canada and in outside countries.

What is most remarkable about this Commission is the fact that not only is the founder a prominent Scottish-Canadian statesman, scholar, and public servant, and the virtual founder of our Labour Department, but nearly the whole Commission is made up of noted Scottish Canadians,

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such as Professor Robertson, Professor Bryce, and the Honourable John Armstrong, assisted by three other able Scotsmen, Gilbert Murray, David Forsyth, and James Simpson. It is expected that this Commission will do much to aid the cause of technical education in Canada. That its members should happen to be Scotsmen is additional witness of what Scotsmen are doing for Canada.

Professor Robertson is widely known as a noted educationalist and an authority on nature-study and agriculture. He was the originator of Macdonald College, the first school of its class in Canada. Dr. Bryce, who is the author of the second volume in this history, that dealing with Western Canada, is the best living authority among Canadian writers on Western Canada. He has had a long and successful career as an educationalist and scholar and writer on historical and other subjects. He belongs to a noted Scottish-Canadian family, one of his brothers being Dr. P. H. Bryce, the accomplished head of the Dominion Health Department at Ottawa. Professor Bryce was one of the founders of the University of Manitoba, and has for years been identified with education in that province. He is a Past-President of the Royal Society of Canada and is a member of the British Association. The other members of the Commission are also men who have made a close study of the question of education. Thus we see that from its earliest history to the present day Scotsmen have been prominent in the educational development of our country.