RECTORIAL CONTEST, EDINBURGH, 1908.

NOTES FROM BOOKS

AJ. O. Juses.

(Script).

University of Edin.

34 Chalmers Street,

26th. October 1908.

Dear Sir,

We have fought and failed. The blow has been the heavier, because it was totally unexpected. That Winston Churchill might slip in by a very narrow majority over us was considered possible, but the general opinion, even among our opponents was that we would be found at the top of the poll with Churchill a good second. Wyndham a bad third.

Even the Unionist leaders did not expect a victory.

Under these circumstances the result is somewhat of an enigma.

There seems to be no doubt that in Medicine and in Science Wyndham was in a considerable minority. The two surprises were a Unionist majority in Arts (the first time on record) and the abnormally large liberal vote in the faculty of Medicine. But Law gave Wyndham 174 votes as against our 14, a factor which had been more or less left out of count by all parties, because Law men stand with few exceptions, entirely aloof from the University and seldom vote in these elections. The poll was from 10 to 12 a.m. and up to 11 a.m. the position was (1) Osler (2) Churchill (3) Wyndham. From 11 to 11.30 Churchill began a neck to neck race with us. Then the Wyndhamite Law voters arrived in motors, etc. from their offices and this turned the scale. About 80 or 90 of our men in Arts, wanting above all things to keep Churchill out, and seeing that Wyndham was forging ahead, transferred their vote to him. The election, in fact was only decided against us in the last quarter of an hour. One other thing militated strongly against us, almost the whole of final year medicine, 100 strong, were our supporters: they came up to the booths with their matriculation card and an extra mural class ticket. Although these classes are recognized by the University as equivalent to University classes, these men were refused the right to vote.

Needless to say we feel the disappointment very keenlyly, and feel it expecially for you whom we invited to stand in full confidence.

As for the campaign itself I think there is no doubt we had the best of it all through.

In the time honoured fights we remained unbeaten to the last; not once did a Unionist or a Liberal set foot in our rooms, whereas we absolutely gutted theirs over and over again.

I understand Mr. Stobie has been sending you the election

(Unfinished.)

We have forght and fallyd. The blow has been the heavier, section it was totally mentanced. They dinated describing the by a very darver majority ever us was considered possible, not the secret opinion, ever among our opponents was that we work as found at the top of the poil with Cherchill's good account. Apply bed third.

Iven the Unionist Leaders did not expect a victory.

angular to Jamiesta al James ent ententant of an entent

There seems to be no donot that in Medicine and the Grieger ware that the structure were ware the considerable which is the time on record) and the

are tradition left votes as against our 14, a factor which can come over tradition is decreased to the can can can be assumed to the can come by all parties, because their new stances or come of the can can be assumed to the can can be assumed to the can be assume

ten les exceptions, entirely utoof from the University and and an ote of in these seeds in the politice seed in the control of the control of

From 11 to 11.30 Charenill began a neek to neek rane with as.

of hem two le Ge to Ge acoust elect the control in our men in

The spection, in fact was only decided against as in the last quantity of a contract of the co

the whole of final year medicine, 100 arrong, were our supporters:

interprity as againful enterto vitare of these and very vitare of these the right to vote:

the transfers of the discussion of the terminate of the t

As for the caugains itself I think there is no doubt on had the

The first lie of te tae

.0.7.9

Cfaller Jul 10.

The Rector is elected by the Matriculated Students in the University on such day in October or November as may be fixed by the University Court after consultation with the Senatus, but not later than the second Saturday in November. The term of effice is three years. The next election will take place in November 1908. The Rector is President of, and nominates an Assessor in, the University Court. He may, before he appoints his Assessor, confer with the Students' Representative Council. No Principal or Professor of any Scottish University is eligible. Appointments:-

Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, 1859
Thomas Carlyle, 1865
Rt. Hon. Lord Moncreiff, 1868
Sir W. Stirling Maxwell, Bt., 1871
Rt. Hon. the Marquess of Harrington, 1877.
Rt. Hon. Earl of Rosebery, 1880.
Rt. Hon. Earl of Iddesleigh, 1883.
Most Hon. the Marquess of Lothian, 1887.

Rt. Hon. George J. Goschen, 1890
Rt. Hon. J. P. B. Revertson, 1893.
Rt. Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, 1896
Most Hon. the Marquess of Dufferin and
Ava, 1899.

Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Bannatyne Finlay, 1902 Rt. Hon. Richard Burdon Haldane, 1905

Statistics of the Rectorial Elections, 1859-1905.

Matriculated Students. 1859 Gladstone, 642. - Neaves, 527 1302 1862 Gladstone (unopposed) 1331 1865 Carlyle, 657. - Disraeli, 310 1288 1868 Moncreiff, 607. - Ruskin, 425 1398 1871 Maxwell, 594. - R. Palmer, 502 1533 1874 Derby, - 770. - Playfair, 583 1767 1877 Hartington, 932. - Cross, 684 2102 1880 Rosebery, 1024. - Christian, 985 2496 1883 Northcote - Blackie - Trevelyan 2660 1886 Iddesleigh, 1094. - Playfair, 747 2680 1887 Lothian (unopposed) 2493 1890 Goschen, 1378. - Russell. 805 3038 1893 Robertson, 1145. - Reay, 728 2649 1896 1899 Balfour, 990. - Haldane, 771 2414 1902 Dufferin, 943, - Asquith, 686 2416 1905 Finlay, 916. - Grey, 621 Haldane, 877. - Dunedin, 847 2475 2643

Dr. William Osler, candidate for the Lord Rectorship of Edinburgh University, was defeated at the election which took place on ctober 24. Mr. George Wyndham, M.P. receiving 826 votes to Dr. Osler's 614. Mr. Winston Churchill was also an unsuccessful candidate, receiving 727 votes. (Medical Record, Oct. 31, 1908)