

REV. GEORGE CORNISH, LL.D.,

CONGREGATIONAL COLLEGE, MONTREAL.

Prof. Cornish was born at Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, England, in 1828. He was educated at Highbury College, London, taking his degree of B.A. from London University in 1855, being shortly afterwards ordained as a Congregational minister. In 1855 he came to Canada, and was for a year or two pastor of the Congregational Church in Milton, Queen's County, N.S., during which time or previously, he was associated with the Rev. F. Tompkins, M.A., LL.D., now of London, England, in carrying on the educational work of Gorham College, at Liverpool, N.S. The institution, which was founded in 1848, was endowed by Mrs. Gorham, with something like \$12,000, and was aided by an annual grant from the Colonial Society of London, of £250 sterling, its object being the education of young men for the ministry, in connection with the Congregational Churches of N.S. and N.B. It was opened in 1850; and was subsequently, after several years of usefulness, consumed by fire, but never rebuilt. In 1857, he was appointed Professor of Classical Literature at McGill University, Montreal, which position he held until his resignation last spring.

As an educationist he was pains-taking and conscientious. The undergraduates esteemed him for his high sense of honor and probity, his unswerving obedience to duty, and his sincere interest in their behalf. He did not, perhaps, immediately win upon the regard. There was a reserve in his manner which had no place in his spirit, which was, when reached, found to be singularly simple, unselfish and genial, as well as manly, tolerant and straightforward. He was sagaciously prudent; his advice was weighty.

When the Congregational Theological Institute in Toronto, moved to Montreal, and became the C. C. of B. N. A., Dr. Cornish rendered valuable services as Professor of Greek Exegesis, laying down the work only very recently. But he still remained a member of the faculty and Secretary of the Board, until a few years ago, when he was elected its Chairman, which honorable position he retained until the end came. He was a deacon and an active member of Zion Church while that was the sole Congregational Church in Montreal. When Emmanuel Church was formed, he transferred his membership to it, and served as its Secretary from that time until his death.

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