

of our country shall be persuaded to devote their lives to the preaching of the Word; the discussion of literary and scientific, as well as of purely theological subjects—these and kindred topics should afford sufficient material and abundant scope, not only for interesting and instructive reading, but also for the promotion of original thought and the cultivation of literary taste among our students.

A lively interest in Mission work has always characterized the students of Knox College. The Missionary Society is almost as old as the College, and has done much to send the Gospel into destitute regions. Our graduates are doing valiant service for the Master, not only in the distant fields of Canada, but also in the more remote countries of the earth. Recognizing the *reflex* action of Mission work on the life of the Church, THE MONTHLY will endeavour to foster a healthy missionary sentiment by gathering from every available source records of missionary effort and success, and by the publication of carefully prepared papers on this important subject.

The review of books sent to us for criticism will be careful, thorough, and impartial. In this way we trust our work will be of some real benefit in discriminating between the meritorious and the worthless. Canadian publications will receive special attention and encouragement when deserving.

A very subordinate place will be given to Church Notes, College Notes, Personals, etc. We hope, nevertheless, to give whatever is of real importance under these heads in a concise and entertaining form.

These are some of our intentions, and we hope by the assistance of graduates and students to carry these into effect, and make THE KNOX COLLEGE MONTHLY in every respect worthy of the College whose name it

bears and the Society under whose auspices it is published.

A SPECIAL attraction offered by THE MONTHLY this year will be a series of pen-portraits of men who took an active part in laying the foundation of Theological Education in this country, and who were at one time either actually engaged in imparting such instruction or influential in maintaining it. The writers of these portraits are men who were intimately acquainted with the subjects of their sketches, and are eminently qualified in every way to do them justice and make them attractive and profitable.

THIS issue of THE MONTHLY contains a verbatim report of the Address delivered by Dr. MacLaren, Professor of Systematic Theology, at the opening of the present session of Knox College. The subject chosen was "Calvinism in its Relation to Other Theistic Systems," and the Doctor's treatment of it has been fitly characterized as "the solid production of a solid man." At the present day, when many think that Calvinism is becoming modified to suit the times, or that it is rapidly decaying, the lecture is very opportune, showing clearly that, as far as Knox College is concerned, it has not drifted from its old moorings and is in no danger of a speedy decease. The lecture has been reviewed at some length by the friends of another system of Theology, without, however, making any appreciable effect on the positions taken by the Professor. It seems to us that if these critics would carefully review their *doctrine of the will* it would prevent them from falling into many inconsistencies which spring either directly or indirectly from it.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to congratulate Professor MacLaren in having the honorary degree