

Arts.

QUITE a commotion has been stirred up among the Congregationalists of the United States over the gift of \$100,000 to the Mission Board from Mr. Rockefeller. Its acceptance has been vigorously denounced by several leading divines; but the majority were in favor of receiving the money.

Mr. Rockefeller and others of his ilk are a source of perennial interest to purists in the United States. Whenever other topics of discussion fail, there yet remain Mr. Rockefeller and the Standard Oil Trust, which are perfectly safe objects to vituperate, if the applause of the multitude merely, who view things superficially, is what is sought. We would take this opportunity to put a bug in the ear of those persons—and such may not be absent from Queen's University who lugubriously shake the head when gifts of money from such men as John D. Rockefeller, Carnegie, or other kings of finance, are mentioned as having been made to educational or religious institutions. Jno. D. Rockefeller has moved under a fierce light, and because his business has assumed such enormous proportions the man in the street easily sees apparent flaws in his methods. But should the same individual turn a microscope of even moderate magnifying power on his own ordinary every-day business, he might surprise even himself to observe to what an extent these same flaws characterize the conduct of his own business, in proportion to its importance.

The Arts Editor would ask indulgence in venturing to advise the members of the graduating class in Divin-

ity not to contemplate shutting the door on a golden opportunity, should some Canadian Rockefeller at some future date make a contribution of \$100,000 to the Church Mission Fund. If Rockefeller's wealth is of the devil, why insist that it all shall remain so, when a sum by no means insignificant, can be brought over to diviner uses?

But is it taking a true attitude to persuade ourselves that we see the atmosphere of the nether world around the wealth of America's great financial magnates? Why around their's any more than around that of the average church supporter who puts a \$5 contribution on the plate the day the special collection for Missions is taken up? As already intimated it is quite safe to make the statement that the business of which Jno. D. Rockefeller is the head, is conducted on as high principle as the average business with a \$10,000 capital—if not higher.

The hostile attitude so often displayed towards men of great wealth has, vaguely or consciously, behind it the belief that man has no right to more than a reasonable amount of money. But let us ask ourselves what is he to do with it? How can he help himself? What does he get out of it? To answer the last of these questions first and simply, he gets his living. He can use only so much food and wear only so much clothes, and take advantage of the opportunities for spiritual development afforded by books, music and works of art—so easily obtainable in the modern world. He may keep up a number of residences in different parts; but the servants he maintains in these get, perhaps, more comfort out of them