

Open Letters.

LECTURES ON COMPARATIVE RELIGION.

I WAS glad to notice in the January number of the MONTHLY a letter from the managing editor on the subject of "The Study of Non-Christian Religions." With all that was said in that letter about the advantages of such study and the advisability of making provision for it in Knox College, I thoroughly agree. I hope that the matter will not be allowed to drop; but that it will not only be discussed in the MONTHLY, as the editor desires, but also that some practical result will follow. Though living in Halifax, and therefore naturally interested in the Theological Hall here, I feel as loyal as ever to my Alma Mater in Toronto. Hence it is that I am now writing this communication. It may be of interest to the students and graduates of Knox College, to know that a course of lectures on Comparative Religion is being given this session to our theological students in Halifax. The course is as follows: "Man as a Religious Being"; "Primeval Religion"; "Religion of the Patriarchs"; "Religion of Ancient Egypt"; "Religion of the Hindoos"; "The Buddhist Religion"; "The Religion of Zoroaster"; "The Religion of Confucius"; "Religion of Ancient Greece"; "Religion of Ancient Rome"; "The Mohammedan Religion"; "The Scandinavian Religion"; "The Aztec Religion"; "Religion of North American Indians"; "The Christian Religion." The fifteen lectures are being delivered by fifteen persons from various sections of the Maritime Provinces all of whom with two exceptions are ministers. The subjects and the lecturers were appointed by the senate of the college, but all the traveling expenses of the lecturers are paid by the Alumni Association. Two years ago a course, provided in the same way, was given on subjects relating to Church government. Last year the course was on certain departments of Church history. But this year's course has so far proved the most interesting. Could not the Alumni of Knox College provide a similar course of lectures for our theological students in Toronto? There can be no question in relation to the importance of the study of non-biblical systems of religion. The conceptions which men, the world over, have entertained regarding such great themes as the supernatural, the relation of man to God and of God to man, worship,