

Dr. Mackay, Moderator of the Assembly, who was appointed twenty-two years ago as a missionary to China, next addressed the assembly. He told briefly the intensely interesting story of his appointment and of his trip to China, of his first days among the millions there, and how he was providentially led to North Formosa. As soon as he reached Tamsui, he felt and knew that he had reached the field in which it was the Lord's will he should labour. He referred briefly to the geography and geology of the Island of Formosa. A large map of Formosa served to illustrate his remarks, and gave an idea of the field. There were also life-size coloured crayon pictures of the four principal classes of women in Formosa, the aborigines, savage and civilized, and the Chinese, with bound and with natural feet. The missionary explained that the Chinese quene is a badge of subjection to the Tartar dynasty, and has nothing to do with idolatry. One of the obstacles to missionary work was their racial prejudice. But are Canadians clear cut free from racial prejudice? Another obstacle was suspicion. If he looked at anything, he was suspected to be in search of hidden treasure, and was supposed to be able to see several feet into the ground. He could not move or stand or look out to sea without being suspected. Another great obstacle was the duplicity of the officials, of which illustrations were given. Other obstacles were the superstitions of the people, the slavish idolatry, and the ancestral worship of the people, which last is the greatest of all. He referred very touchingly to the parental affection which is the basis of the worship of their ancestors. But after all, the citadel is in there, just as it is here and everywhere. Dr. Mackay then stated some of the principal objections raised. First, the keeping of the Sabbath; then the cross of Christ was a great offence; then holiness of life. Their ideas of holiness were far different from ours. But there is not a thorough-going Confucianist in China. He then told of the success of the work, how from small beginnings here and there, it grew and spread, showing several large photographs of chapels that had been erected by the native Christians. Referring to the question of self-support in native churches, he contrasted the number of converts in missions where large numbers of missionaries were employed with the number where there were fewer missionaries with bands of capable and well-trained native helpers. He illustrated the power of the native preacher by referring to the charm of the Gaelic for the Highlander. He attributed all his success to the spirit of God and to his endeavouring to look at the Chinese as far as possible from a Chinese standpoint. There are now in Northern Formosa fifty chapels with native ministers, and 1,800 living communicants in the Church.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16.

The Assembly sat only during the forenoon on Saturday, which was spent in consideration of the reports of theological colleges of the Church.

The Colleges.

HALIFAX COLLEGE.

The report of Halifax College was presented by the Rev. Mr. Gordon, Halifax, and its reception was seconded by Dr. Caven.

The report of the Senate for the session 1893-94, states that the Senate, while acknowledging the good hand of God upon the institution under their care, have to record with great sorrow the loss which the College has recently sustained by the death of Principal McKnight. Richly endowed by nature and grace, possessing scholarship of the highest order, and with a remarkable aptitude to teach, he was thoroughly qualified for the important chair which he filled for so many years. While regarding the loss as all but irreparable, the Senate would take comfort in the thought that though the workmen are removed the work shall go on. It is hoped that ere next session a suitable occupant will be found for the vacant chair.

During the session the classes were attended by forty students, the highest number in the history of the institution. Of these, six were of the senior year, nine of the middle year, twenty two of the junior year, including both divisions, and three who took a partial course. The health of the students on the whole was good, the attendance was regular, and the progress in study very satisfactory. Though the graduating class was small, containing only six members, there is at present every indication that the number will be at least doubled for the next year, and trebled for the year following.

Three of the graduates after passing very creditable examinations obtained the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. These gentlemen are the Rev. A. W. Mahon, of St. Peter's, P. E. I., the Rev. J. A. M. Glashen, B.A., of Bridgeport, Cape Breton, and Mr. J. B. McLean, B.A.

The various societies meeting within the College walls have had a happy educative value. Specially must be noticed the Missionary Association, which for several years has supported a missionary in Labrador; and the Theological and Literary Society, which, under the conduct of R. A. Falconer, B.D., the resident lecturer in N. T. Exegesis, has accomplished much good in affording an opportunity for the discussion of many of the theological questions of the day.

During the year the library has been extended by the expenditure of a grant from the Board by the proceeds of the Morrison Memorial Fund, and the Roy McG. McCurdy Memorial Fund, and by private benefactions. Among other valuable works which have thus found a place on the library shelves, may be mentioned the publications of the Palestine Exploration Fund, regarding surveys on the east of the Jordan. During no previous session has the library afforded the students such important aid in all departments of theological study. The library committee, composed of members of the Alumni Association and of the Board, purpose supplying means of further enriching the library shelves.

Dr. Pollok, the professor of theology in the College, was unanimously appointed principal of the College, and the Synod of the Maritime Provinces was authorized to appoint a professor of theology, subject to the ratification of the next General Assembly, or, if found impossible to decide on such appointment, to make the best possible provis-

ional arrangement for carrying on the work of the chair during the year.

MONTREAL COLLEGE.

The Board of Management are gratified in being able to report the continued prosperity of the College. From the annual report of the Senate, herewith transmitted, it will be observed that the number of students in attendance last session was ninety-two. Of this number, fifteen completed the prescribed course, and have been licensed to preach. Four of them are engaged in the work of French Evangelization, and most of the others are already under call by congregations of the Church.

Although the year began with a balance on hand of \$419.93, the ordinary income was insufficient to meet the expenditure of the year by about \$1,200. A special effort, however, was made before the Treasurer's books were closed, and through the liberality of a few generous friends in Montreal, the deficiency was made good, and the year ended without debt. The total expenditure in the ordinary fund was \$17,486.50. About \$1,500 of this was for special repairs to the College buildings. A similar sum will be required this year, over and above the ordinary expenditure, to put a new roof on the College, and to do other work necessary to the maintenance of the buildings in good condition. It is hoped that the receipts from the congregations of the Church will increase to such an extent as to permit of the work being done without incurring debt.

As will be seen by the Treasurer's statement, the endowment fund has been increased during the year by \$3,785.15, and there has been added to the scholarship endowment fund the sum of \$300, being the amount of a legacy from the late Rev. Wm. Lochhead, Almonte.

KNOX COLLEGE.

The Board of Management, of which Mr. W. Mortimer Clark, Q. C., is chairman, submitted a very satisfactory report. The chief clauses are as follows:

The Board of Management have great pleasure in presenting the report of the work of the College for the fiftieth year of its existence. In doing so they desire to express their gratitude to Almighty God for the success which has attended the institution since its small beginning half a century ago, and their thankfulness that it has been the means of affording a theological education to so many students, and that upwards of four hundred ministers have left its halls to serve the Church as professors, pastors and missionaries at home and abroad. They are encouraged to hope that the blessing which has followed the College in the past may accompany its progress in the future.

During the past year 119 students have been in attendance, and Board observes with pleasure that this is a larger number than that recorded in any previous year. In addition to those actually enrolled as students in theology, a large number of young men are attending the University of Toronto, having in view the ministry of our Church.

The accommodation of the residence for students is taxed to its utmost capacity, and the Board are most anxious to make arrangements for improving the residence as a home for the students, by securing the services of a gentleman who would reside in the College and while superintending the preparatory department would exercise a supervision over the young men in residence. This matter was referred to in the report of last year, but the want of funds has so far prevented anything being done in this direction. The Board feel that this is a very clamant want and urge on the Church the necessity of supplying them with funds to effect this greatly needed improvement. Meanwhile, Mr. Logic, B.A., continues to discharge his important duties to the entire satisfaction of the Board.

The Board observe with pleasure the interest manifested by the students in the re-organization of the Museum. They acknowledge with many thanks the large and instructive collection of objects illustrating the religion of China, donated by Dr. Mackay of Formosa. The Museum is now possessed of a very extensive and in some respects unique collection of objects of deep interest to all friends of our Mission. Proper cases have been provided for preserving specimens and objects of interest, and our alumni and students can now feel certain that any donations made by them will be properly cared for.

Thanks to the considerate bequest of the late Mr. James McLaren, very considerable additions have been made to the Library, and under the care of Rev. W. A. J. Martin it bids fair at no distant date to become worthy of the institution. An admirable portrait of Mr. McLaren has, in accordance with the Assembly's instructions, been procured and will shortly be placed in Convocation Hall, as a fitting memorial to the beneficent interest manifested by him during his lifetime and also in his will on behalf of the College.

While the educational work of the College continues to increase and the necessity of maintaining a fully equipped theological seminary of our Church in connection with the University of Toronto is every year becoming more apparent, it is to be regretted that the Church does not put the Board in funds to support the College even in its running expenses, far less to increase its efficiency. From the treasurer's statement herewith submitted it will be seen that the total expenditure amounts to \$19,521.01, while the receipts from all sources are \$17,218.40, leaving a deficiency of \$2,302.61. There has been a falling off in the congregational contributions of \$627.47 and a considerable decrease in the returns from investments. This is not, however, so much as a comparison with the receipts from this source in 1893, may seem to indicate, for a considerable amount of arrears for 1892 was paid in 1893, and this somewhat unduly swelled the returns of the latter year. There has been, however, a very serious deficit arising from the decline in the rate of interest and this decrease must be looked for in a greater degree, as securities bearing the old rates fall in and have to be re-invested at the reduced rates of interest now prevailing.

The Board again remind the Church that a mortgage of \$26,000 yet remains on the College, entailing an annual expenditure of \$1,590 per interest. It is the intention of the Board to take some steps to celebrate the semi-centenary of the College in October next, and they are