

as an additional Professor; the Department of Church History and Evidences being assigned to him, while the Department of Exegetical Theology was assigned to Professor Young.

In 1858, an "Act of Incorporation" for the College was obtained from the Legislature. From the first establishment of the College it was not intended that permanent provision should be made for instruction in the literary branches. After Professor Gale's retirement and death, which took place in 1854, Rev. John Laing, and subsequently Mr. James Smith, acted as teachers in the preparatory department. After the retirement of the last named gentleman, instruction in the preparatory department has been given by some of the senior students, appointed from year to year by the Senate, with the exception of these years 1868-9, 69-70, 70-71, when Reverend Professor Young, who had resigned his position on the College staff in 1864, undertook at the request of the Synod, the charge of the literary classes.

Professor Young having resigned his professorship as has been mentioned in 1864, the Rev. W. Caven was in 1866 appointed Professor of Exegetical Theology; assistance having been given during the intervening years by Rev. W. Gregg of Cooke's Church, Toronto, and Rev. W. Caven of St. Mary's, as lecturer. In subsequent years valuable assistance was rendered in the College by the following gentlemen, who were appointed by the Supreme Court of the Church to lecture on particular branches, viz.:—Rev. Robert Ure of Goderich, Rev. D. Inglis of Hamilton, Rev. Dr. Topp of Toronto, and Rev. Dr. Proudfoot of London, who continues by appointment of Assembly to lecture on Homiletics, and Pastoral Theology.

Dr. Burns having resigned his position as Professor of Church History in 1864, became Emeritus Professor, but continued to give service in the department until his death which took place in 1869.

In 1870 Dr. Willis, to the great regret of many friends, resigned the position which he had so long and so well filled. His resignation was accepted and the very warm expression of the Assembly's sense of his services, was placed on record. In the following year Rev. Dr. Inglis of McNab street Church, Hamilton, was appointed to the vacant chair. After holding it for one year, Dr. Inglis resigned his Professorship.

In 1872, Rev. W. Gregg, M.A., of Cooke's Church, Toronto, was appointed Professor of Apologetics. To fill up the vacancy occasioned by the Rev. Dr. Inglis, the Rev. W. McLaren of Knox Church, Ottawa, was appointed in 1873, Professor of Systematic Theology, the classes during the intervening session having been taught by Rev. Dr. Topp of Knox Church, Toronto, and Rev. Professor Gregg. It may be interesting to state that from the first establishment of the College to the present time, the number of names entered in the College register is 389. Of these there are, exclusive of probationers and students, and exclusive also of those who are in other churches, either on this Continent or in the parent countries in the service of the Canada Presbyterian Church, about 170.

At the Union in 1861 the Theological Institution of the United Presbyterian Church became united with that of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, so that both institutions are now represented by Knox College. It is proper, therefore, that in this connection some brief account should be given of the work of Theological education as conducted in the United Presbyterian Church previous to the Union.

The "Missionary Presbytery of the Canadas" representing what afterwards became known as the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, early recognized the importance of providing for a native trained ministry, but no steps were taken in the matter till 1845, when the Presbytery was constituted into a Synod. At this date a scheme for the establishment of a Theological Institution was adopted, and the Rev. Wm. Proudfoot, of London, was appointed first Professor of Theology.

The Institution was located in London. Owing to the position in which King's College, Toronto, then stood, it was found necessary to provide for the literary training of students, as well as for their instruction in the subjects of a theological course. The curriculum adopted embraced classics, mental and moral philosophy, logic and rhetoric as well as systematic theology, church history, and biblical literature; it was made to extend over four sections of eight months' each.

The work of the Institute commenced in the fall of 1845, the first student enrolled being Mr. J. J. A. Proudfoot, now the Rev. Dr. Proudfoot, of London, son of the eminent man appointed to preside over the Seminary.

The entire work of teaching rested upon Mr. Proudfoot till 1847, when the Rev. Alexander Mackenzie, of Goderich, was appointed to teach Hebrew, which he continued to do till the plan of study in the Institute was re-modelled and the Institute was removed to Toronto. Mr. Mackenzie was an accurate scholar and an earnest and painstaking teacher, and is affectionately remembered by those who had the privilege of waiting upon his instructions.

In 1849, it was carried in the Synod, "That owing to the change now effected in King's College, Toronto, whereby it was made a Provincial Institution, it is no longer necessary that the object of the Institute extend beyond the Teaching of Theology." It was at the same time resolved to transfer the Theological Institute to Toronto. Its next Session was accordingly held in that city, in the Church of the Rev. Dr. Jennings. This was the last session conducted by Mr. Proudfoot, for he became ill immediately on returning from London, at its close, and died on the January following. Mr. Proudfoot was a man of rare abilities and attainments, possessing a mind of uncommon strength and clearness, but finely harmonized in all its intellectual attributes. He was not less distinguished by his high moral qualities and the singleness of purpose with which he consecrated all his powers to his Master's service.

In 1852, the Rev. Dr. John Taylor, of Auchtermuchty, Scotland, who had been chosen successor to Mr. Proudfoot, came to Toronto, and continued to discharge the duties of Theological Professor till 1860, in which year he returned to his native land. The Institute flourished under Dr. Taylor, and sent forth from session to session men who proved valuable additions to the Church's staff of labourers. In 1860, as above said, Dr. Taylor, to the great regret of all, returned to Scotland, and the Church was deprived of the services of one preeminently fitted, by his high talents, his accurate scholarship, and his extensive acquaintance with theological learning, to take part in moulding the future ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The union of the Presbyterian Church of Canada and the United Presbyterian Church in Canada was auspiciously consummated in 1861. At this time ten young men were in their theological course in connection with the United Presbyterian Church. These all entered Knox College and completed their curriculum there, and from this date till the establishment of the Presbyterian College in Montreal, the history of Knox College is the history of theological education in the Canada Presbyterian Church. The larger stream and the smaller have now united, and Knox College is now regarded, it is believed, with equal affection by all members of the United Church who take an enlightened interest in the Church's work.

For some time it has been felt that more commodious and suitable buildings were necessary for College purposes. The matter was taken up by the College Board in 1873, and the sanction of the Assembly having been obtained, an appeal was made to the congregations, the Professors taking a leading part in the work. The result has been highly satisfactory, and it is hoped that the building, the corner-stone of which is to be laid to-day, will long remain an ornament to the city, and a credit to the Presbyterian Church, and that from it will go forth many able and faithful ministers of the New Testament.

The staff at present is as follows:—Rev. W. Caven,—Principal and Professor of Exegetical Theology. Rev. W. Gregg,—Professor of Apologetics and Church History. Rev. W. McLaren,—Professor of Systematic Theology. Rev. J. J. A. Proudfoot, D.D.—Lecturer on Homiletics and Pastoral Theology. H. H. McPherson, M.A., and P. Straith,—Classical Tutors.

Professor Caven said, that up to the present 76 congregations of the Church had been canvassed with much success, the subscriptions up to the present amounting to \$74,400. But he might state that still more was required. A further sum of \$26,000 was required in order to make the list secure. There were some 130 congregations on the list, but a large number of these were not expected to do much. They wanted the old congregations to do all they could, and he hoped that many of the strong congregations would do as well as those at Hamilton, Toronto, Guelph, and other places. The work was begun in the name of God; and they must not forget the words of Psalmist, as just now read by the Moderator: "Except the Lord build the house they labour in vain that build it." This was a religious work, and he trusted that the work of the College would continue to be conducted in a religious spirit.

The Moderator then called the Hon. J. McMurrich to lay the foundation stone. Hon. Mr. McMurrich said he felt very much gratified in being called on to take part in this interesting ceremony. Some thirty years ago Knox College commenced in an humble building on James St. and the history of the College was continued to be raised up from that time until now. They commenced with two professors, one of whom had long since gone to his rest and reward. Professor Burns, Rev. Mr. Gale, and the Rev. Mr. Rintoul, had all gone to the rest where they rest neither day nor night. When the College was first started, the accommodation provided was very small; in the following year more extended accommodation was provided, and more respectable too—by the leasing of two houses on Front street, which were united by the breaking through of the dividing walls of the two houses. Ten years' work was carried on in these premises, and in 1855 they removed to other buildings close by, where the good work had been carried on with success for the past nineteen years, making thirty years from the commencement. The work had been carried on with success attending it, although surrounded with inconveniences and difficulties, arising from the fact of the building not having been originally built for the purpose of college work. The time has now come when the Church has become alive to its duty. They have commenced this building, which, when erected will be worthy of the Presbyterian Church, and the pride of all the Presbyterian brethren who take an interest in it. This was a step in the history of the college which marks not only the progress to completion of the work, but also from this time the church and college will take their various departures. And when the building is completed and set apart for the purposes for which it is being erected, he trusted there will be found within its walls professors eminent for their piety—men of ability, apt to teach and keep abreast of the times; and that the result of their labours will be to send forth from year to year, able ministers of the New Testament. With these few remarks, he would proceed in laying the foundation stone in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the only King and Head of His Church. May He crown their labours with abundant success, and to the glory of His name. The stone, having been properly prepared, was then lowered into position, and Mr. McMurrich declared the stone to be well made and truly laid.

Professor Gregg said, that reference had already been made to the steps taken towards the erection of the present building, the amount of money required to complete it, and the amount of money already subscribed, and therefore he would not again revert to these topics. But he might make a few remarks as to the present state of the College, so far as the students are concerned. They had, at the close of the last session, 38 theological students in the classes, of whom sixteen were graduate students, who probably would receive their licenses during the next few months. Besides these there were the literary classes immediately under their charge, in which there were eighteen students pursuing their studies within the walls of Knox College and the University. In illustration of this he might mention that they had thirty-six students in the University pursuing their studies with a view of entering Knox College. So altogether in Toronto they had in connection with the Church upwards of 90 young men who were to become ministers in the Canada Presbyterian Church. There were also about 40 students pursuing their studies in the Montreal Presbyterian College and McGill University with a view of becoming ministers of the Church. Thus there were 130 students in the literary and theological classes pursuing their studies. He hoped to have another opportunity of saying a few words in the evening, and he would be glad if those present would try to be present at that meeting, which would be held in the school house at Knox Church.

The Rev. Dr. Topp then pronounced the Benediction, and the proceedings closed. — *British American Presbyterian*.