

and Montreal will lend their valuable aid. Our staff of Professors is barely large enough to make us respectable, and that they are remunerated as they ought to be on a stipend of £400 a year, is not our opinion. The expense of residing in a city like Toronto is very great. The duty of entertaining strangers and the necessity of purchasing books, for the most part of an expensive kind, entail upon them considerable expenditure. To propose, therefore, to reduce their stipends, would be virtually to discharge them from their office. To subtract from the number of the professors even one would be to cripple the institution. Three is the least that ought to be appointed to conduct anything like a complete curriculum of theology. More would be very desirable, but less would be a calamity. The Church is besides pledged to maintain the College in at least its present efficiency. That it is able to do this, who that knows the numbers and standing of her membership can for a moment doubt. We have 15957 members in full communion, besides a large body of adherents, many of whom are both able and willing to contribute to the Church's exchequer. Now who will say that it would be a difficult matter for us to raise the sum of £1500 for the College. Half a dollar from each member would realise the sum of £1094. Surely it is possible to obtain from congregations contributions for this most vital scheme of the Church to the amount of one half-dollar per member! We fear that the proper effort for the support of the College has not yet been begun in most of our congregations. In many of them a Sabbath day collection once in the year is deemed sufficient—a collection to which in many cases there is little more given even by the wealthy than the usual copper. In looking down the list of contributions for last year, we find very few congregations who come up to the minimum sum of 2s. 6d. per member, and many are very far below it. We do not think that this state of things arises from the inability or unwillingness of the people to give, or from their want of appreciation of the College. On the contrary, we believe, that none of our schemes are so generally popular as this. To none of them is there a more general liberality shown. The matter needs only to be properly presented to the attention of congregations. There is no object for which ministers may more legitimately or freely plead than this. It commends itself to the christian understanding, as a means by which the command of Christ to the Church to "preach the Gospel to every creature" may be most truly obeyed. There is besides no feeling more deep or universal among Presbyterians than the necessity of an educated christian ministry. An amusing instance of this we remember in the case of a worthy man in one of the Free Church congregations in the west of Scotland. He was noticed by the elder to leave the Church just as the minister, who happened that morning to be a student—an unlicensed man—entered the pulpit. On being questioned as to this unusual act on his part, he replied "If ministers dinna need to be College-bred I can preach mysel." We have therefore this noble basis of intelligent common sense appreciation of an educated ministry to work upon, and if proper measures be adopted, we see no reason why the means to maintain not only our present College with efficiency, but even a fourth professor, may not be obtained from the Church.