

fulness and confidence have characterized all our sedulous. And the hopeful we know are successful.

1. Our colleges? What a grand spirit was shown in regard to them! How bright their prospects! We are withdrawing some monetary support from Dalhousie, but we were never more loyal to it. And we have good reasons for abiding loyally to it. Let me bear testimony to the character of its students. The number is increasing from year to year—but better still their character is excellent. There is an improved religious atmosphere about the college. Many of the young men attend my own church regularly. I know them well and a finer body of young men I never saw. Most of them are good students, and earnest robust Christians. I am glad to say that a larger number than ever before is studying for the ministry.

Coming to our Theological Hall, we are now more hopeful than ever. I remember hearing it seriously proposed and argued in this Synod that our Hall should be closed and united with the colleges in the West. There was no such talk at this Synod. We need our own college in the East, and we are determined to sustain it in increased efficiency. This year we have largely increased accommodation for the students—magnificent rooms. They receive excellent board, and enjoy every comfort, for \$2 per week, owing to assistance rendered by the Bursary Fund. Of this fund nothing was said during the Synod, but the College owes its success very largely to it, and consequently I hope that it will not be overlooked by any of our congregations.

We have also increased the salaries of our esteemed Professors, and we hope ere long to increase the staff.

The number of students we shall have this winter cannot yet be given, but we expect more than ever before. On the whole, therefore, the prospects of our Hall were never brighter!

Coming to the Ladies' College, what a hopeful report we had. A few years ago no one would have dreamed that in 1890 we should have such a splendidly equipped Ladies College, with so many students, and doing such a grand work! I trust that Mr. Laing, to whom the Church owes so much, shall receive every possible encouragement from all our people.

2. Our Home Mission work. This also is exceedingly hopeful, never had we a better year. Our missionaries without an exception have done grand work, and our people have given more liberally than ever before. Five years ago our receipts for Home Missions were a little over \$4000. Last year they

were \$11,600 including the \$3000 raised for the North West. Three years ago there were \$6600—last year they were \$5000 more. Is not that a noble record!

We want, however, more men. Our vacant congregations are very numerous and our probationers are very few. We may from year to year get some men from abroad, but we must depend mainly upon our own young men. All our ministers therefore should repeatedly from the pulpit speak to their people upon the duty of consecrating their sons to the ministry. They who give their money do well; they who give their sons do far better.

3. Augmentation. The temper of the Synod regarding Augmentation was most cheering. If the Committee felt a little gloomy, not so the Synod. "No surrender, no going back" was the motto of ministers and every elder-like. "For every minister \$750 and a manse" is the Synod's decree, and it shall be executed.

4. Foreign Missions. We have heard our beloved Missionary, Mr. Grant, telling about the work and prospects in Trinidad. How charming and hopeful his story. A College in Trinidad for the training of a native ministry. Wonderful! Thank God!!

And then, our 5th Missionary, Rev. Mr. Thompson, and another lady teacher, will proceed to Trinidad! Praise God for this! We have now eight ordained missionaries, supported by our Synod. We have brought the tithes into the storehouse. We have given men and money to the Lord—and we look confident for the fulfilment of the promise—"I will pour out my blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."

I must not dwell particularly upon the other reports. All were encouraging. There has been progress all along the line. The former days were not better than these. The cause of Temperance is advancing—the Sabbath Schools are prospering—and there is increasing determination to resist every effort to destroy the sanctity of the Lord's Day. It is difficult to determine truly the state of religion with the bounds of the Church. It is easy to take a gloomy view of it, when we see so much that might be better, but on the whole all the members spoke hopefully.

Fathers and brethren, we go forth now to our respective fields for another year's work. Let the rousing charge ring in our ears—"Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war

Looking unto Jesus who has gone before."

Ever trusting in Jesus, not in ourselves, our labors shall not be in vain—we shall be mighty through God to the pulling down of Satan's strongholds.

Who of us shall meet in Synod this time