

Professor Fenwick does not see the need of any new departure, and rather *naively* asks, in what way that is going to help us? It is a somewhat simple question and indicates, amongst other things, a curious want of consideration as to the real bearings of the question.

Isolation is not good for any man, least of all for any one who occupies a public position.

Surely Professor Fenwick is aware that in the present day a College without a building is in the position of a makeshift.

Other colleges have commenced their existence with no better appliances than ours, but they have risen out of their imperfections at the very earliest period possible.

Our students have long been aware that, in the Congregational College, as it now exists, they have been, and are now, at a disadvantage as compared with the students of better equipped institutions.

The friends of the College, too, have been aware that some of the students have had to endure privations in their wretched lodging houses, which have been a most serious hindrance to their studies. From the want of a building, the College Professors can neither perform their duties with the efficiency that could be attained otherwise, nor can they exercise that proper supervision over the students, which is necessary to their well being. There is an entire want, too, with such imperfect appliances, of that stimulating influence which students exercise over one another, and which amongst other things so largely contributes to "take the nonsense out of a man," if I may use so homely a phrase in this connection. I do verily believe that some of our ministerial failures have arisen from the want of this wholesome influence during the collegiate course.

Professor Fenwick may be content with the present state of things. But in this, as in many other respects he occupies, I humbly think a position of regrettable isolation. At all events, many of those who care for the young men, who love the College, and who are charged with its administration, are about to make an effort after better things. In this effort they will have, beyond doubt, the sympathy and prayers of the great body of the churches of the Dominion, and of that Missionary Society in England which has so long shown a practical interest in their welfares. I am, Sir Yours very respectfully,
GEO. HAGUE.
Montreal, December 16th, 1882.

OBITUARY.

On Monday, December 11th, Mr. J. D. Eccles, of Watford, one of the pioneers of the county and a prominent public man, gave up this life. One week before his death he was attending to his business as clerk of the Division Court, only three days was he

confined to his bed with inflammation of the lungs. The funeral, which took place on Wednesday in the family burying ground at Bethel Church, Warwick, was attended by leading public men of Lambton and adjoining counties.

John Dickson Eccles was born in Ecclesville, Co. Tyrone, Ireland. In 1835, when but eighteen years of age, he emigrated to America, coming direct to Lambton, and settling on the family homestead, where the youngest son, J. D. Eccles, jr., now resides.

Warwick at the time of Mr. Eccles' settlement was a very wild place, and though he was not a man of strong physical powers at the time, he, singlehanded and alone, faced the task of hewing out a home in the wilderness. The rebellion of '36 and '37 broke out shortly after he arrived in the country, and, true to the loyal instincts of the family, he shouldered his rifle in defence of the government, serving under Col. Freer.

In 1840 he married Mary Bissell, of Talbot street, Co. Elgin, an excellent and highly esteemed lady, who lived to enjoy with him the success which crowned their early efforts, and to leave the youngest of her family on the threshold of woman's estate. It is about seven years since she died. The family consisted of four sons and four daughters, all of whom are now living except one son who died in youth. Mr. Eccles chose for his second wife Mrs. Alexander of Warwick, now his widow; a little girl in her fourth year, the result of this union, is left with her mother to mourn the loss.

Mr. Eccles was a man of good education for pioneer days, and possessing much public spirit, together with an amiable disposition, he readily became a popular public man. He was the recipient of many honours and positions of trust, representing the people as councillor, reeve and warden of the county. He early espoused the Reform cause in politics, occupied the position and performed the functions of a magistrate for years.

He retired from farm life a few years ago, and took up his residence in Watford.

Mr. Eccles was converted when a young man, and united with the second church organized in Warwick, now known as Zion Congregational Church. He was a leading member of this church, until he removed to Watford, where he connected himself with the Watford Congregational Church, and was, at the time of his death, one of its deacons. He was a man of sterling character, esteemed for his uprightness, whose life, labour, and personal influence stood out boldly on the side of right. He acted well his part, he died the death of a Christian; he rests from his labours; his works live after him.

A CHRISTIAN must be a man of faith every step of the way—one whom the world knows not, though he well knows the world.—*Cecil*.