

by Act of the Provincial Parliament, and duly affiliated to McGill College. In plan and intention it is perfect in all its parts, and only needs the active sympathy and support of the diocese to make it the Bishop's right hand. It is capable of expansion and extension, and I earnestly desire for it the confidence of the Synod, that it may grow and prosper. There is a succession of young men, about as many as we can employ, who will thankfully follow our Theological course, when it can be done without separation from the Arts course of McGill. The instruction of these is a natural object of interest to the Bishop and Clergy, and an advantage to the whole Church. During the past year lectures, excellent in quality, and in kind precisely adapted to our needs, have been delivered. Archdeacon Leach, Canon Baldwin, Dr. Sullivan, the Revs. J. P. Dumoulin and J. Empson, have given their time and talents, without fee or recompense, to the great enriching of our course of study. I wish all our capable and experienced clergy would take part in this work in turn. They would find it to be its own reward; they would rejoice in their labors, as they felt the life and marked the intelligence of the generation which is to follow them. The college, moreover, enjoys the undivided attention of the Principal, the Rev. Canon Henderson, who, to the eminent qualification of a Trinity College Dublin degree possesses that which is invaluable in his present position, a practical and varied experience of mission work. Were he not present, I should be disposed to lay stress upon his personal virtues, his self-forgetfulness and general nobility of character, but I forbear, for reasons apparent. We have had twelve students on the college roll in the past year, all of whom, with one exception, belong to this country and diocese; of these gentlemen, four have graduated this year, one of them with honors, at McGill; and I have just admitted four to deacons' orders, and sent them to minister in different parts of the Diocese, in full confidence that they will justify the high expectations we have formed of them from our knowledge of their college life.

## CLERICAL CONFERENCE.

I must now refer to some things which I hoped to have accomplished, but have of necessity left undone. Way has not been made for a general conference of the clergy. There are many things in our sacred profession which we ought to discuss together, in order to profit the Church at large. I refer of course to those duties especially appertaining to the pastoral office; these, by our Synodal constitution, are purposely excluded from the deliberations of the Assembly. They require and should have separate attention. I shall, however, venture to obtrude one of these duties upon you now, because it seems to me urgent.

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