

This institution is little more than a decade old. It sprung out of a necessity universally felt by the ministers and members of our Church in the year 1844. Its first professors were men whom we all delight to honour. They were scholars and christian gentlemen. Their Students remember them with reverence and are no discredit to their teachers. The College has had a variety of fortunes. It "hath had troubles." The Church has been most prolific in legislation on its behalf. Many a Committee has sat upon it, and many a lengthly and carefully penned report has been made of its state and prospects. Numerous are the recommendations, schemes and instructions of which it has been the subject. We do not know a Synod since the year 1844, in which it has not been a prominent topic of discussion. Its future historian will find a mass of curious material scattered throughout our Church's archives, for the illustration of its early history. It has now happily reached a *corporate* condition. Legally it is no longer a name and nothing more, it has now a statutable existence, and can present itself bodily in prescribed attire at her Majesty's Courts of jurisprudence. Ere another year elapses it will be organised in that form, which, considering the conservative character of Colleges in general, it will in all probability retain for many ages to come.

The difficulty which our College has hitherto chiefly had to contend with, is not the want of men but the want of money. For some years there has been a growing deficit in its income. Spasmodic efforts have from time to time, to be made to keep its head above water. It is a labour like that of Sisyphus to keep it going even in a moderate way. Every year we have to make an outcry about its empty exchequer; and it puzzles the brains of its wisest friends to know what is best to be done to improve its financial position. Perhaps some unreflecting person will say to this, that we are attempting more than the Church is able to undertake. What are we attempting it may be proper to ask in reply? We are attempting to rear a native christian ministry, not only for the Church of the present, but of the future. We are endeavouring to educate efficiently between 40 and 50 young men willing to devote themselves to the service of Christ. For this end we are doing our best to provide convenient, certainly not elegant, College buildings, and to maintain three competent professors of theology. For these purposes we require at least an income of £1500 per annum. We cannot do well with less. To reduce our expenditure would be a discredit to the Church. The College fabric is, in our judgment, the most humble if not shabby of mansions that could be chosen for so noble a purpose. The last time we visited the College we felt quite ashamed to look at its ungarished, uncarpeted and unfurnished comfortless apartments. What grieved us much, too, was to find that many of its friends thought every thing very nice. The Ladies of Toronto ought not, for their own credit, to allow another year to pass without seeing that the apartments and halls of the College are painted, carpeted and decently furnished. The Ladies of Scotland are building an Assembly Hall, surely the Ladies of Toronto can beautify and furnish our Hall of Divinity. We can vouch for it that Hamilton and London