

the Rev. D. Inglis to the chair of Systematic Theology in Knox College, into which he was inducted at the commencement of the College session. At the same time the College sustained a loss in the appointment of the Rev. Professor Young to the chair of Metaphysics and Ethics in University College, a position for which it was universally agreed that no one on the continent was better fitted, and in which his valuable instructions are still available for the students of the Church. A short time previous the Rev. G. L. McKay was ordained as the first foreign missionary of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and is now on his way to his field of labour in China. The work of French evangelization has been thoroughly and efficiently taken up by the committee in Montreal. Some of the missionaries have suffered at the hands of the bigotted Catholics while endeavouring to make known the truth to them, but the principle of religious liberty has been asserted and recognized, and ere long the labours of these self-denying men will bear fruit. M. Chiniquy has rebuilt the mission premises destroyed by fire, and is preparing to send labourers into the harvest where he himself has been reaping. At the beginning of the year the Rev. Mr. Nisbet, of the Saskatchewan Mission, had much to contend with from the ravages of small pox among the Blackfeet and Crees of the plains. He was at the same time able to be of much service to the Indians in averting the progress of disease by vaccination. Many families have settled about the Mission premises, and additions have been made to the communion roll of the small Church in the wilderness. Progress has been made in the other Mission work of the Church. New districts have been opened up and new labourers received into communion with us, who have helped to carry on the work in them. Yet, in spite of these additions, it has been found impossible to send missionaries to the important stations in the north of Lake Huron and Lake Superior for the winter months, and thus there is danger of these important links in our westward line of progress being transferred to other denominations. Two ministers are wanted by the Home Mission Committee to go to Manitoba, but none seem so far to be forthcoming for this work. The 16th of November was observed as a day of thanksgiving throughout the whole of Ontario, having been first agreed on and proposed to the other Churches by the General Assembly of our Church in June, and having subsequently received the gubernatorial sanction and recommendation. During the year the people of Bayfield and Innisfil, together with the Church at large, have been called to mourn the loss of the Rev. James Duncan and the Rev. T. Wightman. An interesting mark of progress is the number of volumes that have appeared and are still appearing, embalming the lives or some portion of the work of the Church's faithful servants, who have entered upon a higher life and into everlasting rest.

Such is the record of the past. It is full of important lessons, and every one of its items, gloomy as some may appear, yet in the light of divine truth is full of hope for the future. The Lord reigneth, and all things work together for good to His cause, and to them that are His. We cannot better close than with a single verse of the Dutch hymn, "Nun geve Godt dat ons' gesang," which is sung on New Year's Day in many of the churches of Holland:—

"Now God grant that our song this day
With faith's pure joy go on its way;
A good New Year we wish to you,
May His grace make our wishes true."