

The Truth.

THE truth, "the whole truth, and nothing but the truth" has been committed to us as a Church, and we are to declare it and to witness for it before the people of this Dominion. We are to speak the truth of God in our pulpits, in our classes, in our families; we are to print it in our books and papers; we are to use all available channels for its diffusion. But, above all, we are to LIVE the truth! What is there more disastrous to the human soul than godless, false, and base lives giving the lie to the orthodox utterances of the lips? Nothing is more weakening and degrading than a life that is all a lie by the side of a creed that is all true. An error in the life of a disciple has a louder voice by far than an error in his creed. While we love the truth let us live the truth. If we cannot commend our creed by eloquent words, we can by godly works. If we cannot slay heresy by logical demonstration, we can shame heresy by lives becoming our profession. If we have truth in our hearts, shewing itself in and through all our sayings and doings, we shall do more for the Presbyterian Church in Canada, we shall do more for the glory of our Redeemer and the salvation of souls, than if we preached with the eloquence of a Demosthenes and belied our teaching by leading selfish and ungodly lives.

Theological Hall: Halifax.

LAST autumn, the Synod of the Maritime Provinces appealed to the people for \$100,000 for the Theological Hall,—\$30,000 for a building, and \$70,000 to augment the present endowment. The appeal was made not without anxiety, in view of the depression in business, and the scarcity of money; but the result has already amply vindicated the wisdom of the Synod in setting promptly to work. The amount already subscribed in the city of Halifax is considerably in advance of the original estimate, and the canvass is not yet completed. Pictou, New Glasgow, Maitland, and Dartmouth have been appealed to with

most satisfactory results. St. John has not yet been heard from; but when the time comes, no doubt there will be liberal and and worthy things devised and accomplished in that spirited city. The North Shore of New Brunswick will probably be visited before the winter closes by deputies from the Board at Halifax. "First fruits" have already come in from P. E. Island, and if we may judge from the precedent set by the venerable Father of the Synod, Rev. R. S. Patterson, the Presbyterians of the Island Province will not be a whit behind their brethren in the mainland. Mr. Patterson has forwarded to the Treasurer, as his contribution, ONE-FIFTH of his year's stipend. In a note accompanying the remittance he says:

"I am the last of the Students at Theology, who entered on the ministry, belonging to the first class in the Pictou Academy. I have lived to see what I never expected to witness, all the different bodies of Presbyterians united. Animositities and contentions have given place to harmony and love. It may be well said, 'what hath God wrought!' 'The Lord had done great things for us.'"

It is in this spirit of thanksgiving that many of the donors offer their gifts. It is hoped that an opportunity will be afforded to every member and adherent of the Church to contribute. The poor as well as the rich should claim the privilege of advancing the Kingdom of Christ according to their ability. Two of the poorer Churches in Halifax have made congregational collections on behalf of the fund. Chalmers Church contributed \$1150 in sums ranging from 50 cents to \$100. Poplar Grove Church contributed over \$2400 in sums ranging from \$1. to \$100. We mention these collections to illustrate the "power of littles." Dartmouth has given \$1200; Maitland, over \$5000, with "more to follow;" so with Pictou; and so too with New Glasgow. The Lord is evidently putting it into the hearts of His people in the Eastern Section of the Church to give liberally and cheerfully for this important purpose. What should hinder a similar movement in the Western Provinces? It cannot be said that our Colleges there do not require to be endowed—They must be sooner or later. Neither can the ability of the people to do what is needed be called in question.

The Claims of our Church.

THE territory over which our Church extends is almost "equal in area to the continent of Europe." Such is the opening