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Toronto, September 6, 1894.

Knox College Jubilee.

AS the time is drawing nigh when the Jubilee of
Knox College will be celebrated, interest is
widening and deepening in what will rank as an im-
portant historic event to the Church in Canada. The
holidays intervening just before the date set apart for
the celebration have proved somewhat inconvenient
and now that the time is so brief it behoves all the
friends of the institution to be up and doing, so that no
stone may be left unturned to secure the greatest pos-
sible success. Money is greatly needed. An appeal
has gone forth which will doubtless produce the "sinews
of war," but much beyond what has thus far been done
is absolutely necessary, if the credit of the College is to
be maintained. And the college has many friends who
are well-to-do, even wealthy. Few institutions are as
ardently loved and loyally supported. On this occasion
let not these friends fail "dear old Knox" as a graduate
writing on the subject recently wrote of his Alma mater.
Indeed the love with which "dear old Knox" is re-
garded is one of the finest features in the life of her
many and scattered children. On behalf of the mother
there is now an appeal which ought to fan the spark
of devotion into a glowing flame. We hear of some of
her sons who are working hard among the members of
their congregations for funds to meet the jubilee wants.
They are loyal sons, May their number be legion and
their success worthy of their efforts. Here is a letter
from Mr. Burus, the indefatigable agent of the Church
which ought to have a golden effect:—

TO THE GRADUATES OF KNOX COLLEGE:

Will you permit me to say a few things in regard to
the Jubilee Fund the time for collecting which is now
very short. Without some arrangement in each Pres-
bytery there is danger lest some of our congregations
may be overlooked, and unless we have a general under-
standing in a district it may be that some congregations
will not do what they might be glad to do if they were
appealed to personally. There are some congregations
formerly warm supporters of Knox College that would
be pleased, were an opportunity afforded them, to aid
in the Jubilee. There is certainly a great propriety in
affording such friends a chance to contribute. Then it
may be that some of you feel it necessary to protect
your congregation against frequent appeals. You will
not be here in all probability at the next Jubilee and
your regrets will be in vain after this one is over. Only
six graduates to-day can date their graduation back of
1850, and three of these are in active service, but it is
not usually necessary to care for the liberality in this
direction. It usually is sufficiently watchful against
appeals, and the minister who hinders Christian liber-
ality is usually first to suffer. Do not wait for some
one from a distance to organize, but meet in some cen-

tral point in the district or Presbytery, and arrange that
as far as possible an appeal be presented to each con-
gregation. This is the opportunity of a lifetime.

Yours in the work,
W. BURNS.

A Visitor's View.

C. M. DesIslets, who is touring the Dominion,
writes to the *Presbyterian Messenger* from Montreal,
about things in Quebec. He professes to have drawn
his information from some of the leaders of liberal
thought in the province, and these are some of the im-
pressions he has received:

"This is probably the most Catholic country in the
world; or at least has been so up to the present time.
The priesthood has here taken its strongest foothold
and has ruled with undisputed sway for more than one
hundred years; even the civil authorities doing obeis-
ance to its power. To understand how the church came
into such absolute control, we must go back to the days
when the colony was founded. The founding of French
Canada was peculiar. The leading men who founded
this province were churchmen (*gens d'église*) who
brought with them people whose sole ambition was to
extend the dominion of the Roman Catholic faith by
means different from those used by other colonists.
Hence it came about that the churchmen have had an
influence out of proportion over the other settlers of the
country. Laymen were ignored from the first and this
was assumed to be a Canaan promised to the priests
and theirs by prescriptive rights. So the priest came
to be looked up to by the common people as the foun-
tain of religious light not only, but also the source of
all authority to whom deference must be paid on all
matters. So that for many generations passed, it was
the priest who dispensed salvation; he might keep
people out of heaven and in purgatory indefinitely; no
one might be married, baptized or buried without his
permission. He decided what schools the people should
patronize, or indeed whether there was to be a school
at all. He selected the text books that were to be
used, the branches that were to be taught and the
teachers that were to teach; when and what church
building was to be erected, its location and its cost.
He was even lord in private matters, deciding even on
such matters as to the companions the young people
were to associate with. The English accession had a
large influence in increasing the power of the clergy
and the church. For the English have bartered with
the priesthood who have never scrupled to sell their
own people in order to gain for themselves some poli-
tical advantage. One of the most recent examples is
the late Archbishop Tache of Manitoba, who sold out
his compatriots on the language question. But the
people have their eyes opened. One of the leading
minds of Canada said to me, 'The men are all awake;
but the priests have our women and they teach our
children as they have all the schools in their own hands.
We are fighting for secular schools; although, since we
have commenced this fight for secular schools, the
church schools have been greatly improved in the char-
acter of their instruction.' This is the most critical
period in the history of the Roman Catholic Church in
Canada; for there is a general awakening, especially
among the brightest and best people."

With respect to the progress of evangelization among
the French, Des Islets expresses surprise that there are