

tive, and more worthy of the name it bears? Surely we, as students loyal to our College, will not stand idly by while others work, if there is anything we can do. Shall we not rather manifest our interest in some practical way, if a sphere of labour be opened up to us? Here then, we consider, is a department in which we can find ample space in which to expend a portion of our energies.

Many of us are sent to fields of labour during the summer where specimens are easily procurable. We are aware that the labours of the missionary allow little time for botanical or geological expeditions. But it is not necessary to organize an expedition, or to go out thoroughly equipped with hammer and blowpipe, with magnifying lens and full botanical outfit. Let us, where we see a good mineral specimen, perhaps while upon one of our many "long tramps," perhaps in the cottage of one of our people, endeavour to obtain it, if possible, for our museum.

Many, we have no doubt, would cheerfully give what to us would be a very valuable specimen, feeling that they were thus doing something to aid in the proper equipment of our College.

Again, in many of our fields of labour some plant not known, or not common in our more southern climate, might catch the eye. By a very simple device such a specimen could be preserved with almost a natural appearance of freshness and vigour.

Many insects, too, are found in the northern and western parts of our Dominion, which are not met with here. These could be even more easily preserved and transported. Nor does the collector need to be a mineralogist, or botanist, or entomologist, to accomplish all this. All the necessary instruction could be obtained in a few minutes, and the necessary equipment could be readily carried in a small hand-satchel. The field for investigation opened up is practically boundless. We venture the opinion that not many who leave the College halls with a determination to return with some contribution to our museum, but will return with a new desire awakened within them to know more of those wonderful laws of Nature, whose working is exhibited in even the most insignificant object examined.

We need not further enumerate methods of enriching our collection. Many will doubtless occur to the minds of your readers. Let us each go from our halls with the determination that, when we return, it shall be with some contribution to our College. Friends of the College have liberally aided us in our collection of curiosities; let us endeavour to do our part, and we shall soon be able to point to a collection of natural specimens, which we may be proud to exhibit, and of many of which we shall in addition be able to give, if not the life-history, at least that portion in it with which we were connected.

R. C. TIBB.

SYRIA.—Dr. Matheny, who has been a missionary of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of the United States at Latakiah in Syria, has been deputed to establish a mission in or near Tarsus, the birth-place of the Great Apostle to the Gentiles.

CHINA.—China received its first Protestant missionary in 1807. Six long years of labour and anxiety rewarded him with only one convert. In 1843 the converts did not exceed ten. Now the number is considerably over 20,000.