

In 1880 the College sought and obtained from the Legislature of Quebec the following amendments to its charter, namely, "The Senate of the said Presbyterian College, Montreal, shall have power to confer the degree of Bachelor of Divinity, subject to such regulations and examinations as may be imposed by the said Senate, as well as to confer the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

And the said Senate shall have power to make by-laws touching any matter or thing pertaining to the conditions on which the said degrees of Bachelor of Divinity and Doctor of Divinity may be conferred; whether the said degrees be such as are gained in course or by examination, or such as are honorary, or whether they be conferred on matriculants of the said Presbyterian College, Montreal, or other persons, and such by-laws to amend, when the Senate shall see fit."

The powers thus obtained have been judiciously employed to stimulate theological research among students and ministers, and already thirty-one have passed the requisite examinations and received the degree of B. D., and four have in like manner obtained the higher degree of D. D. One of these, Dr. Ackerman, is now President of a college in the United States, and another, Dr. Beattie, is Professor of Systematic Theology and Apologetics in the Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

The first honorary degree conferred by the College was six years after its amended charter empowered it to act in such matters. The person selected for the distinction, in 1886, was the eminent Brahman and Presbyterian missionary, the Rev. Narayan Sheshadri, of Jalna, India. The same honour has also been conferred upon another missionary, the Rev. D. MacDonald, of Efate, New Hebrides, and upon Revs. J. R. MacDougall, Florence, and Alex. Robertson, Venice, Italy. And while the Senate has thus in a truly catholic spirit looked beyond the confines of Canada and of the Presbyterian Church, it has not forgotten men among our own ranks who are distinguished for attainments and special services rendered to the cause of truth and the Kingdom of our Saviour. Their names may be seen inscribed in our Calendar.

CONCLUSION.

In closing this necessarily brief and incomplete narrative we feel that we cannot do better than cite words spoken by the Principal at last Convocation. He said:

"The record of this College has been one of marked progress. We began in 1867 with little or nothing, our only property being a few plain desks and book-cases, containing the nucleus of what has already become a valuable library of over twelve thousand volumes. Our buildings, library,