

THE circular recently issued to the Alumni of Knox College, in reference to the proposed Knox College Mission, has met, on the whole, with a satisfactory response. It is true that only some seventy-five of the three hundred addressed have, up to the present, replied; but it is very gratifying to be able to announce that by these about five hundred dollars have been promised. There can be little doubt that many, if not all of the rest, will yet reply, and if these should even give comparatively small contributions, the eight hundred or thousand dollars required will be insured. In many instances letters of a most encouraging character have been sent with the filled in blank form. Extracts from a few of these may appear in our next number.

SECULARISM is struggling in Toronto. Its latest effort was the publication of a weekly paper, the first number of which appeared last week. "Its aim will be two-fold—Destructive and Constructive"—to destroy Christianity and construct Secularism—certainly a large contract. Of course the changes are rung on "Science" and "Reason." That the writers have even the average share of "Science" or "Reason" one would never suppose from the articles written. They have, however, a large supply of hatred for Christianity and Christian morality. One article is headed "The Modesty of Agnosticism." Modesty!! Allen Pringle contributes a characteristically blatant paper on "The Failure of Theology." He possibly knows enough about theology to misunderstand theologians. The other articles, original and selected, are such as one would find in *The Truth-seeker*, or other second-rate infidel papers. From its title cut to the last advertisement it breathes venom against religion. It is scarcely worth while to notice the birth of this member of the journalistic family, as, being diseased, it is likely to be short-lived. Before very long we may able to say: "I sat by its cradle; I followed its hearse."

THE *Globe* in a recent review said:—"KNOX COLLEGE MONTHLY is improving every issue. The December number is particularly good. There is not a heavy or a badly written article in it." It is our desire that the MONTHLY should improve every issue; and in order that there may not be a "heavy or a badly written article in it," some articles shall have to be put in the waste basket. This we shall do, not only for the sake of the MONTHLY, and of the authors, and of our readers, but also because it would be an offence to our contributors to be asked to write for a magazine whose literary standard is so low as to admit "a thing dashed off in a hurry." We shall always make room for good articles well written; but we have no use whatever for poor articles badly written. We are anxious that students and graduates avail themselves of the opportunity we offer, and prepare articles on suitable subjects. But, as we ask a man to contribute only one article during the year, we expect that one to be the best possible under the circumstances. A literary man has no right to throw on the editors, the responsibility of rejecting his contribution because its sentences will not parse. He should mercilessly destroy it himself, as being a thing unworthy. One article carefully prepared does the writer more good than a dozen ill-prepared ones.