



PRESBYTERIAN College Journal.

MONTREAL, JANUARY 1st, 1881.

A New Venture.

WISHING our readers, "A Happy New Year," we begin the publication of a new Journal. A prospectus is not at all necessary. Suffice it to say, that this is the Journal of a Theological College, and will be conducted as such. Being personally responsible for this undertaking, we ask the co-operation of all the students and graduates in two forms: 1st, By becoming contributors to our pages; 2nd, By becoming subscribers and obtaining others. Items and articles from graduates are specially invited. All MSS. should be in our hands not later than the 20th of each month.

Retrospect.

A glance at the past is appropriate for our first issue and the opening of a new year. Twelve years ago our College existed only in its charter. There were no students, no library, no buildings, no money, and no professors. Now we have a staff of three regular Professors, assisted by several Lecturers, a library of 7,000 volumes, 21 Scholarships, varying from \$40 to \$100 each, an Endowment Fund and buildings, including those to be erected this year, amounting to about \$170,000. Our Graduates next April will number in all 72, of whom 16 preach both in French and English.

The past year has been one of remarkable progress. In June last the General Assembly appointed the Rev. Daniel Coussirat, M.A., B.D., Professor of Theology. He is a gentleman of high literary and theological culture, and fills this position with the utmost success. The same Assembly gave the College authority to have its charter so amended as to secure power to conduct examinations for the degree of B.D., and to confer the honorary degree of D.D. This has been done. The printed Regulations of the Senate in this behalf are before us. They are silent about D.D., but the amount of work prescribed for B.D. makes it pretty clear that this degree is intended to be significant of real merit.

The great event of the year has been the princely gift to the College, by Mr. David Morrice, chairman of the Board of Management, of a Convocation Hall, Library, Dining Hall, and twenty-five or thirty additional rooms for students. The editor of the *Presbyterian Record*, speaking of this, says:—"Mr. Morrice is well known to be a man who does nothing by halves. What he is now going to do will be done handsomely. The buildings will be an ornament to the city of Montreal, and a credit to the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The work will be commenced early in spring, and the building will, in all likelihood, be ready for occupation at the commencement of the next College Session. They will cost in the neighbourhood of \$60,000."

We understand the work of building is to begin *at once*. With this correction we heartily endorse the words of the *Record*. For this noble deed Mr. Morrice is entitled to the lasting gratitude of the whole Church. We cannot overestimate the benefits it confers upon the College, and on coming generations of students. The Library will afford admirable facilities for research to Professors, ministers and laymen, as well as to students. And the Convocation Hall, in addition to its technical purposes, can be used for special classes and courses of lectures in Theology and kindred subjects, which should be open to all. May we venture without presumption to hint to the authorities that they might do well to take the lead, in providing in this way a well-arranged curriculum for lay missionaries—male and female. There are many Christian women anxious to be trained for usefulness in the home and foreign field, and surely they should not be denied this privilege.

The College and city have recently lost an able, scholarly and indefatigable worker, by the re-