

that it was well suited to settle the doubts and fears of many in regard to the authenticity of the Book in question; and that it triumphantly dealt with the special point which the Professor undertook to consider.

Mr. Gregg while duly emphasizing the fact that the authorship of Deuteronomy has never before been seriously doubted, very properly does not lay the weight of argument upon this point. He asks and answers the question as to the evidence of its genuineness which the Book itself furnishes. He goes into the Book, and brings together a large number of instances in which it is alleged that Moses spoke to the people the word of the Lord. It might be said that a writer for example in the time of Josiah had as a historian represented what Moses actually said; just as a dramatic writer of our own times puts into the mouths of persons living in a far distant past words which he thinks adequately represent the substance of their addresses which has been handed down in history or by tradition. To meet this, Professor Gregg in the second part of his lecture gathers up many direct and indirect references to the Book of Deuteronomy in other portions of the Old Testament. These he correctly holds the unlearned mind is as capable of judging as those who make a great parade of scholarship and cultured criticism. This part of the lecture presents a curious and interesting study. It will be well for us to go over the points one by one at our leisure, and give them their due and proper weight. By doing so we will be prepared to follow the lecture in its treatment of the New Testament evidence. Here we have an impregnable argument from the fact that our Lord who knew all things quotes several important passages from Deuteronomy, and it would be strange if he should quote from it as he does without adding a passing word as to its authority, if it were written by other pen than that of Moses. In other parts of the New Testament, *eg.*, in the address of Stephen, natural reference is made to the Book as to the writings of the great lawgiver.

Let us emphasize here what Professor Gregg incidentally alludes to, that all such criticism upon the word of God, while in some cases it may be intended to undermine its authority, can only do good in the end. For we can do nothing against the truth but for the truth. The Bible has frequently been assailed in all its parts. But the attack whether from proposed friend or foe has only resulted in benefit. The Book of books stands higher in public estimation than ever. Men may try to rule out of the canon some of its parts which they do not like or do not understand. But the criticism which has resulted, invariably places the book called in question on a sounder basis than ever. Even Luther would have cancelled the Epistle of St. James because of the apparent conflict of its doctrine of works with the pauline principle of justification by faith. But this epistle is received universally to-day as a book of undoubted authority, and of great practical value in Christian ethics. With such arguments as Professor Gregg furnishes for the genuineness of Deuteronomy—which are all the more valuable that they are supplied by the Bible itself—we need not fear the future standing of this portion of the word of God. As

Christians in other days have surmounted the critical opposition brought to bear against other parts of Scripture, we may well look forward calmly to the results which shall flow from the present discussions upon Deuteronomy, and other books of the Bible.

#### SYNOD SERMON.

WE have been requested to insert the following letter, which explains itself. This we do with pleasure, and also express our hope that Mr. Laing will give the sermon to the public, as we have heard it well spoken of:

MR. EDITOR, In addition to the kind suggestions made in the court, I have since that time been urged by several brethren to publish the sermon on "The Family as instituted by God," which, as retiring Moderator, I preached before the Synod of Hamilton and London at its late meeting. I shall have much pleasure in doing so, if it is deemed by those who heard it to be of sufficient value and importance. This can be ascertained by knowing how many desire to have the sermon in a printed form. If, therefore, a sufficient number of orders to the value of one dollar and over are received, to meet the expense of publishing, I will print it and will send to each subscriber the number which his subscription covers. The price will not, I think, exceed fifteen cents per copy to subscribers. I am, etc.,

JOHN LAING.

Dundas, April 13th, 1878.

#### PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE MONTREAL.

The Closing Exercises, Session 1877-78, of the above College was held in Erskine Church, St. Catherine street, on the evening of Wednesday, 3rd April, commencing at 8 o'clock. The audience, among whom were a considerable number of clergymen, was a very large and distinguished one, the whole of the body of the church being completely crammed, and the galleries nearly so.

The Rev. Principal MacVicar occupied the chair, and on the platform were, Revs. J. S. Black, A. B. Mackay, John Campbell, W. J. Dey, Professor Ouriere, D. H. McLennan, T. Bennett, Professor Murray, J. C. Baxter, Professor Campbell, Professor Scrimger, R. H. Warden, C. A. Doudiet, J. Watson, Huntingdon, and J. Patterson, (Hemmingford,) J. McLaren, Esq., etc. After the devotional services, which were conducted by Rev. J. S. Black, pastor of the church, the chairman said that the examinations which terminated yesterday were highly successful, all the students having acquitted themselves most creditably. Through the good providence of God the session now brought to a close, has been in all respects characterized by success. In October twenty-nine students took up their residence in the College, occupying all the rooms we possess, and thirty-four found lodgings in the city, making in all sixty-three. During the session, one student, Mr. Donaldson, was removed by death, and two otherwise. Mr. Donaldson was a young man of exemplary piety and much devotion to his Master's work. Six students have completed their theological curriculum, and are now prepared to proceed to license, making in all forty-two graduates of the College. During summer vacation between forty and fifty students will be employed in the Home Mission field; of these nineteen are French, or able to preach in French and English. Twenty-eight volumes have been added to the library; four of these—the *Codex Sinaiticus*—are invaluable, and such as money could not purchase; they are a gift to the College from the Emperor of Russia, secured through the kind offices of Rev. A. B. MacKay, Brighton, England, and Count Chouvaloff. With respect to finances, it is gratifying to be able to say that through the diligent and energetic efforts of the treasurer and other members of the Board, our circumstances are greatly improved, as compared with last year, and this notwithstanding the depressed state of the country. The debt resting on the library fund has been partly removed, and the scholarship fund placed in a much more satisfactory condition. In this connection the liberality of our graduates deserves special mention. In addition to contributions for the current year, one of their number offers a scholarship of fifty dollars for next session.

The lists of prizes were then read as follows:—

Scholarships for University Students—1st year, Mr. Gamble; 2nd year Mr. Currie, Mr. McKenzie; 3rd year, Mr. McKibbin; 4th year, Mr. Blakely. Presented by the Rev. W. J. Dey, M.A.  
French Scholarship—1st, Mr. Cruchet; 2nd, Mr. Amaron; 3rd, Mr. Bouchard; 4th, Mr. Allard. For English student taking French work, Mr. Taylor. Presented by the Rev. Professor Ouriere.  
Gaelic—Scholarship, Mr. Matheson, B.A., Mr. McLean; prize, Mr. Matheson, B.A. Mr. McLean. Presented by the Rev. D. H. McLennan, M.A., Examiner.  
Ecclesiastical Architecture—1st prize, Mr. Scott, B.A.; 2nd prize, J. E. Mitchell. Presented by Rev. T. Bennett.  
Sacred Music—1st prize, Mr. Scott, B.A.; 2nd prize, Mr. Amaron, B.A.; 3rd prize Mr. Mitchell. Presented by J. McLaren, Esq., Lecturer.  
Principal Dawson's Course of Lectures—1st prize, Mr. Scott, B.A.; 2nd prize, Mr. I. Mitchell. Presented by the Rev. Professor Murray, I.L.D.  
Sacred Rhetoric and Elocution—1st prize, Mr. Amaron, B.A.; 2nd prize, Mr. Cruchet; 1st special prize, Mr. Scott, B.A.; 2nd special prize, Mr. Cruchet. Presented by the Rev. J. C. Baxter, Lecturer.  
Philosophical and Literary Society's Prizes—Senate Prizes—Public Speaking, Mr. Walker; English Essay, Mr. Scott, B.A.; French Essay, Mr. Cruchet; English Reading, Mr. Shearer; French reading, Mr. Amaron, B.A. Society Prizes—English Essay, Mr. Hitchcock; English Reading, Mr. Geddes. Presented by the President.  
Theological Scholarships—First Year—1st, Mr. J. F. McLaren; 2nd, Mr. J. A. Anderson, B.A. Second Year—1st, Mr. J. Munro, B.A.; 2nd, Mr. Amaron, B.A.; 3rd, Mr. Penman. Presented by the Rev. Professor Campbell.  
Medal and McKay Scholarships—Gold Medal, Mr. C. McKillop, B.A.; McKay Scholarship—Mr. C. McKillop, B.A. Presented by the Rev. Professor Scrimger, M.A.  
Diplomas—1, Mr. C. McKillop, B.A.; 2, J. Allan, B.A.; 3, A. B. Cruchet; 4, Mr. J. R. McLeod; 5, G. F. Walker; 6, W. H. Russell. Presented by the Principal.

As the gentlemen above-named read the various lists of prizes, they also made a few remarks upon the auspicious occasion. Finally the Chairman, on reading out the list of diplomas, congratulated each of the successful graduates in language of high encomium, pointing out their different merits in a marked manner. He then presented the gold medal to Mr. C. McKillop, B.A., and stated that the diplomas would be ready for them to-morrow.

The audience during this part of the proceedings gave vent to frequent bursts of applause. The valedictory was then read by Mr. J. R. McLeod, who said that seven years ago he had been impressed by the vastness of the work he was about to undertake, and now that he was at the finish of his undertaking he was still more impressed. He pointed out the many branches of learning into which a theological student had to engage, and the great hardships to be encountered in eventually overcoming them. He expressed his heartfelt thanks for himself and class to their teachers, and that their many kindnesses would always be gratefully remembered by them.

The Chairman then introduced the Rev. A. B. McKay, who delivered an eloquent address upon Christian Work, after which the doxology was sung and the audience was dismissed with the benediction.

#### FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

The following circular is issued by the Chairman and Secretary of the Board of French Evangelization to all the congregations of the Church from whom no contribution has been received during the present year:—

"We beg to remind you that up to this date no contribution has been received from your congregation on behalf of the French Evangelization Scheme for the ecclesiastical year terminating in April.

The ordinary expenditure of the current year consequent on the extension of the work is greatly in excess of that of last year. Nineteen French Student Missionaries leave this week for their summer fields. Including these, there are at present forty labourers in the service of the Board. To meet the salaries of missionaries and to enable the Board to end the year free from debt, it is earnestly hoped that a liberal contribution from your congregation will be forwarded before the 30th April, at which date the Treasurer's books will be closed. Contributions to be addressed, —Rev. R. H. Warden, 210 St. James St., Montreal." We believe that there is a reasonable prospect of ending the year free from debt, provided contributions are received from all the congregations that have not yet sent any. We trust that this desirable result may be achieved.

THE Rev. Joseph Elliott has received a call from the congregation of Buckingham and Lochaber, in the Presbytery of Ottawa.