

## The Presbyterian Review.

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Toronto, April 25, 1895.

### Resignation of Professor Gregg.

The many friends of Knox College, and indeed the whole Church, will learn with much regret, that Rev. Dr. Gregg has found it necessary on account of advancing years, to place his resignation as Professor in the College in the hands of the Board. Dr. Gregg has for years been pressing the acceptance of his resignation on the College authorities, but they have so far induced him to withhold finally resigning his position. Owing to the lamented death of Rev. Professor Thomson, and the resignation of Dr. Gregg, the Church will be called upon to select two new professors for the college. The responsibility is a very great one, and it is to be hoped that in the selection of successors for those two highly esteemed gentlemen the Church will be guided aright, and that the college will continue to be in the future as it has been in the past distinguished as a bulwark of evangelical religion.

The appoints to fill these vacancies will be made under the regulations finally adopted at last Assembly. By these it will be remembered, that of the appointment, of a professor in any of the Theological Colleges of the Church the Board of Management of the college shall nominate to the Assembly the person whom they deem suitable for the position and that the appointment rest with the Assembly. Intimation of the nomination shall be made by the Board of the college to the Presbyteries so that they may have the opportunity of submitting any other named to the governing body of the college in question to aid the Board in selecting a suitable name for submitting to the Assembly.

It is further provided that if possible the name to be presented by the College Board shall be made known to the Church at least four weeks before the General Assembly is called to decide upon any nomination.

### Women's Foreign Missions.

There is no organization of which the Church has reason to feel prouder of and more thankful for, than the Women's Foreign Missionary Society. The devotion with which those composing it dedicate themselves to their noble work is worthy of the greatest praise. It is no idle boast to say that in respect of their influence for good, the inspiration they impart to others, the thoroughness of their methods and the results accomplished, they surpass the most successful of kindred organizations in the sister Churches while the prestige in their own Church has been richly deserved. Year by year their reports shed greater lustre on their self-sacrifices and achievements. The annual meeting, the starting point from which direction is taken, authority

derived, and the work focussed, brings together representatives who manifest, all the qualities requisite for the proper discharge of important business, by which is revealed the secret of the great success which has never failed to crown their efforts. The meeting held last week was the nineteenth; two years more and the majority of the Society will be celebrated. It is admitted to have been the best meeting ever held by the Society. The full and interesting report which we are able to give of the proceedings shows that the main features of the meeting, and the great expansion of the field in which the society so cheerfully labors. It is to be hoped that every paragraph will be carefully read and the valuable information noted in the mind, and cherished in the heart. No reading can be more interesting. It is no small thing to know what is being done, and so well done, by the women of the Church. the knowledge of it, however, ought not to be simply regarded as a matter of mere information, it ought to lead to co-operation with those already engaged, so that good fruit may be the result.

### Free Church Secessionists.

A movement to which we have several times directed attention as one of serious importance is that which is known as the Free Church secession. It is confined chiefly to the Highlands of Scotland, although there are not a few sympathizers elsewhere. A Rosshire contemporary, with noted fairness, thus describes its most recent aspect:

The Secession, from the Free Church, throughout the Highlands is assuming proportions which, it must be admitted, were not at one time anticipated. The wild and haphazard agitation which marked the earlier stages of the movement have gradually subsided, and the new sect are now quietly but persistently propagating the cause which they have espoused. A leader who can command the ear of the people the Seceders certainly lack, but they are making the best of the material at their disposal, and within the past few days the foremost among them—Rev. J. R. Mackay, of Gairloch—has been addressing large and what were apparently sympathetic meetings in the vicinity of Dingwall.

On the issue from which the Secession sprung Mr. Mackays position is perfectly clear, but it is a subject for interesting study as well as for curious reflection how it has come about that the list of the Secession grievances against the Free Church have been so largely augmented since the disruption took place. The primary occasion of the movement was the passing of the Declaratory Act and the supposed danger to which it exposed the fundamental doctrines of the Church. To this, however, has since been added other short comings of the Church, such as a tendency to Voluntaryism, and an avowed opposition to the national recognition of religion; the use of instrumental music; the singing of uninspired hymns, and kindred iniquities. Yet Mr. Mackay delivers his criticism in a fair and honorable spirit.

### Aged Minister's Fund.

From a circular recently issued by the Secretary to congregations which have not sent contributions, it appears that the Fund is suffering from the depression,