

While other Institutions are striving to improve their literary character, it will not do for us to allow our rivals to say that Acadia has become simply a Theological Hall. The College, in the broad sense of the term, was the original design here; and all will admit that it will not be wise to narrow the plan. It will then prove a difficult undertaking to arrange the two courses so as to give satisfaction.

Again, the means for working an enlarged Theological course are not likely to be what are needed. It is customary in Theological Schools to supply the students with such Text Books as may be needed for Class-room work, from term to term. We have no such books, and no means to buy them. The Library is defective, and we see no prospect of any immediate enlargement. We ought to be able to refer the students to the principal works in Theology, Interpretation, and History. But their reading must be very limited, and we must labour with the depressing sense of inferiority to other Institutions in this respect.

But one other reason for hesitation arises. Will students, looking forward to the Ministry, be satisfied with this arrangement? Two classes will object. Some will complain that the time is made too long. They may be able to study three or four years; this is longer than some are willing to stay; but the fifth year will be omitted. Others will say, we feel the importance of full preparation, and are willing to take time for it. They will prefer to go to other places where Theological study is the exclusive pursuit. The result will be that probably only a fraction of the students will conform to our plan. Advancement by classes will be irregular, and enthusiastic teachers will be discouraged.

Another serious objection against committing ourselves to the support of the proposed plan must be mentioned. The adoption of the plan will inevitably bring on the Governors ere long the necessity of appointing an additional Professor. There are some circumstances favourable to the introduction of the change at the present time; but we are forbidden to count on the permanency of these circumstances. It is understood that Dr. Cramp is willing, for a time, to take charge, without remuneration, of the departments of Ecclesiastical History and Pastoral Duties. This is commonly full work for one man in a regular Theological School. Dr. Crawley now carries full work in the College, and is expected to take Hebrew Exegesis and Theology. It is evident that he can venture to undertake all this only because he has been so long engaged in teaching. Now, whenever either of these gentlemen, from physical inability or disinclination to such labour, retires from the work, the Governors must at once meet considerable increase of responsibility in regard to increase of the staff of Teachers, or else allow our educational interests to fall back to a lower level. Our people say they find the College as it is, all they are able to support; but efforts should be commenced at once for the maintenance of an additional Professor. There is work for your Board then not only in providing such income, but in educating the people to see that they can do more, and that more is needed.

All these inducements lead us to speak cautiously in regard to the proposed enlargement. The success of the plan will depend chiefly on conditions beyond our control. When we are assured that you have