

cussed theological problems with such spirit as would seem to indicate that the participants were Doctors of Divinity skilled in Polemics rather than students in theology, and then reflect that to us all these have now become part and parcel of the irrevocable past ; that soon we are not only to leave you, but to be separated from one another, perhaps by continents or oceans intervening, a feeling of loneliness comes over us which words cannot express, and which must be experienced in order that it may be fully realized.

Although we have now reached the goal towards which we have toiled for years, and for which we oft have trimmed the midnight lamp, yet we do not find in it that complete satisfaction which once we fondly anticipated. Memories of the past are still vivid, the future is unknown. The preparation for entering upon our life-work is now complete, and although uncertain as to the particular portion of the Master's vineyard he wishes us to cultivate, we rely with the fullest confidence on his promise "I will be with you alway even to the end of the world."

But, gentlemen, as we live in a practical age no doubt you look to us for a few practical remarks before we bid you farewell.

You are aware that it is a prevalent opinion among students that as they advance from year to year in their course they gain wisdom with their increasing experience. Taking this for granted, I wish to say a few words to you on college reminiscences and college prospects.

Students resident in the college do not long remain in ignorance of the Metaphysical and Literary Society which meets every Friday evening. The importance of the work done by this society can scarcely be over-estimated.

Its benefits are not confined to those who prepare readings or essays, or take part in the debates, for even those who merely attend the meetings cannot but be greatly benefited by observing the orderly manner in which its affairs are conducted. These benefits will be more fully appreciated hereafter, when the members of the society become members of Presbytery or of the General Assembly.

That the society has continued to prosper during the past seven years is amply attested by the success which has attended the Knox College Monthly, which is published under the patronage of the society, and which has now almost completed the *thirt* year of its history. The short, spicy articles which have characterized its later numbers, no doubt will make it even more popular in the future.

We wish you, gentlemen, all success in the publication of your journal, and trust that prosperity may always attend the society which it represents.

The progress made by your Students' Missionary Society is well worthy of being noted. Seven years ago the idea of sending a missionary to Manitoba seems not even to have dawned upon the society. Six years ago the subject was considered for the first time, and abandoned as impracticable. This year the society sends *five* missionaries to Manitoba and sixteen to other fields, in all twenty-one missionaries, while seven years ago the total number of missionaries sent out by the society was eight. Further, the amount expended this year in prosecuting the work of the society is \$2,857 as compared with \$1,466 then. These facts are surely very encouraging, and should stimulate the society to still greater exertions in the future. The public meetings of the society have been well attended, and I think I can safely say that at no period in the history of the college has the missionary spirit so thoroughly permeated its members as at the present. A bright future is before you ; we wish you con-