

the discussion of questions affecting the welfare of the college and the interests of theological learning. The need for well equipped ministers and for more of them is, perhaps, more pressing than ever before. The field is immense and the mental requirements are great. "How shall we secure at the same time greater efficiency and larger numbers?" is a question the answer to which must have a profound effect on the future of our church and country. KNOX COLLEGE is concerned with the answer and the KNOX COLLEGE MONTHLY will welcome articles whose object it is to improve the facilities for the higher education of students.

In the theological science positions which but lately seemed impregnable are now assailed. Men of great learning and thoughtfulness are challenging the Church to prove the fundamental truths of Christianity. It behooves every Christian, certainly every man whose life work is the preaching of the Gospel, to establish himself in his faith by examining the questions that are raised. There are, we doubt not, many in the Presbyterian Church in Canada who are making this examination. Our young country does not, it is true, afford to ministers the leisure that may be obtained in older lands, yet we would not be even patriotic, did we suppose that no results, worthy of preservation, have been reached here. Such results we shall be glad to make known in the MONTHLY.

Our Church's situation would, perforce, cause her to take a deep interest in mission work. Knox College numbers amongst its graduates men who have been honored to do good work, as missionaries, both at home and abroad. The Students' Missionary Society has had a long and prosperous career. Students, graduates, all will agree, therefore, that a leading department of the MONTHLY should be

that of Missionary Intelligence. It will be our aim to obtain from every available source information of an interesting and reliable character, such as shall set forth the progress that has been made and the wants that are felt and shall foster in our readers and in ourselves the missionary spirit.

We shall strive to make our notices of books sent to us of real service by giving strict justice and avoiding flattery. Theological works published in Canada will receive special attention. When it is thought desirable, the work of reviewing will be entrusted to hands more experienced than our own.

We have thus indicated some of the principal objects proposed in the publication of this journal. The editorial staff ask all who sympathize with us to aid in issuing a journal worthy of the college. This they may do by sending original articles or the names of subscribers. Contributions will, unless otherwise desired, have the names of the writers attached to them. With these explanations we submit the MONTHLY to the judgment of its readers, content that by their verdict it stand or fall.

PREACHING, THE GREAT WORK OF THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY.

THE duties of a minister of the Gospel are many and various. He must visit the sick, dispense the sacraments, call upon his people in their own homes to deal personally with them, and maintain a general oversight of the spiritual interests of his charge. These and other duties pertaining to the ministerial office are doubtless important, and must be faithfully performed if the Master's work is to be done aright. But while this is true, we consider that the special function