

Correspondence.

ENDOWMENT.

To the Editors of the Knox College Monthly :

"WHAT is this endowment, anyway?" was the question asked by one who had not been a reader of any of our Presbyterian papers, but a question which is often repeated in somewhat different form in many congregations visited ; and though that question is not likely to be put by any of the subscribers to the MONTHLY, a short statement here may meet the eye of some friend of the college, and help to such a thoughtful adjustment of affairs as to make some future provision to help the old school of the prophets where such men as Gale and Esson, Rinstone and Willis, Burns and Young, helped to form the character of men who have done noble service for Christ and Presbyterianism in this land.

The sum at which the Board sets present bounds to its ambition is \$200,000, a sum the interest of which, if fully collected, would not, without a collection, fully provide for present needs, without making any provision for an increase of the staff which is not only desirable but imperatively necessary, if our college is to maintain a character for breadth and efficiency, such as every friend of Knox College would desire.

There is no doubt that the endowment will succeed; indeed it is now so far a success that good hope may be cherished that ere another year passes there will be a sum promised, sufficient, when all invested together, with an annual collection, to keep the college free from embarrassment, yet leave ample room for personal beneficence, by gift or will, to add to the staff until it is double its present strength ; a position we would greatly desire to see attained, and which, ere very long, if we judge from the expressed feelings of some of our intelligent laymen, will be reached.

The cry meets us often in this work, "we have too many colleges." I am not quite sure of the sincerity of this objection in every case ; some really feel it to be the case, and with such we have no controversy—but in others it is only a plausible excuse for refusing to give. Is there, so far as this endowment is concerned,