The Presbyterian College, Montreal.

Clore of the Session. On the occasion of the close of Session 1673—4 of the Presbyterian College, a publie lecture was delivered yesterday evening by the Principal, the Rev. D. McVicar, in Erskine Church, St. Cathrine street, on the subject of "prayor and recent criticism." Besides the Professors of the College, several others, consisting mainly of the Presbyters of Montreel, now in Session, surrounded the lecturer. The audience, also, was at once large and select, many of the lay members of the Presbytery and relatives and friends of the students being present. After singing, reading, and prayer, the Rev. Principal prefaced his lecture by saying that it was one which had been intended for the class room, but had been omited from the ordinary course. The doctrine of prayer he held to be founded on scripture and common sense, reason and Revelation. The testimony of reason in its favour was definite and universal. At all times, among all races, whether barbarous or civilized, it was found that men had depended on beings higher than themselves and prayed to them for help; and the fact that they sometimes had recourse to gods that they sometimes had recourse to golds that saved not, so far from invalidating his argument, really confirmed it, proving, as it did, the inclination to pray was innate and indestructible. When all else was lost, oven in the basest forms of worship, this feeling of dependence, this seeking after aid from One above, this belief in a power to supply all human wants, remained as a devine witness in men's hearts. And all this was assumed in the Word of God. In the days of Enos, it was said that men began to call upon the name of the Lord—of Jehova. One interpretation of this passage was that at that period men began to utter their prayers aloud—he thought this notion was incredible. The contrary was the fact, as they had good evidence to show, for Cain reasoned and pleaded with God. The passage, he believed, had reference net to the origin, but to the mode of prayer—the calling upon God by the specific name of Televist. We have the contrary to the calling upon God by the specific name of Televist. We have there is to the calling upon God by the specific name of Televist. the calling upon God by the specific name of Jehovah. The lecturer then instanced the patriarchs antecedent to Moses, by whose code the duty of prayer, individual, domestic, national and occasional, was more distinctly inculcated. He also show ed a gradual progress of prayer from that ed a gradual progress of prayer from that which expressed the simple yearning of the human soul, for personal and domestic blessings to the comprehensive pleadings of Moses and the Prophets for the chosen people. He showed that all manner of temporal and spiritual blessings were sought and obtained; and called attention to the spiritual wealth of the Book of Psalms. Then from the Old Testament he pussed to the New where Christ's command to pray always and not faint, and the apostolic inalways and not faint, and the apostolic injunction to continuo steadfast in prayer, were complimented by the constant example of both the Master and His disciples. The Saviour, during His ministry on earth, was again and again beset by importunate petitioners for the cure or relief of sickness or sin or sorrow. He Himself was em-phatically a man of prayer—during His whole career till its last sad pause—at Gothsomane and on Calvery. The descent of the Holy Ghost at Pentecest, the inof the Holy Ghost at Pentecost, the increase of the early, struggling church, the healing of the sick who gathered round the fervent apostles, the raising of Dorcas, the conversion of Cornelius, the bursting of prisonbonds, the rendering innocuous of envenomed reptiles—all these miracles were the bounteous results of prayer. Were not these proofs enough that the doctrine and practice of prayer were in perfect accordance with both reason and Royalaaccordance with both reason and Revela-tion. It is the fool who says in his heart "There is no G d," who denies the efficacy of prayer. The prayorless creed of the of prayer. The prayerless creed of the atheist was only accepted irrational beings. The reverend and learned lecturer then proceeded to deal with the various other forms fof unbelief which prevalent at the present day. He showed by simple demonstration the fallacy of the "Substantia mas of unica" of the partheists, whose vagaries were among the most widespread of philo. sophic errors. He then exposed the weak-ness of those who misapplied the idea of e though natu touch of nature's God. He replied to their array of arguments by a counter-array of facts to prove that men have always prayed just as surely as light has always been refleated and refracted in a particular way, and that prayer, too, is a natural law; and as a corresponding truth, he adduced God's personality and freedom and power. The notion of the fatalists was an old and exploded fallacy, much as it was paraded by modern philosophy. It overlooked the in-troduction for new causes, producing new effects. Prayer, with God's freedom, was such a cause, and its effects were the answers to prayer. He dealt with the ob-jection made to prayer, that it was sometimes ignorantly or arrogantly opposed to the laws of God's universe, and the use made of the maxim that ignorance was the mother of piety. They had instances of absurd or selfish prayers even in the Gospel, and the rebuke to such, also, in the mode of their reception by Christ, and the

British writers. Our space does not allow us to add to even the very imperfect sketch of Dr. Mac-Vicar's lecture which we have given. It was deeply interesting, and admirably suitable to the times. In days when a man of such mark as Professor Tyndail will ven-ture, apparently without any fear for his reputation, to calmly publish a challange, reputation, to caimly publish a challange, which, even a quarter of a century age, such men as Bradlaugh would hardly dare to have publicly evened, is is well-that our clergy should supply their second with armour and antidots. Dr. MacVicar s lecture was listened to with the utmost attention, and the feeling of those who heard it must be one of satisfaction that the training of the enadddates tion that the training of the enudidates. Tor the ministry in the Montreal Presbyte am College is in such safe and able hands."

words "Ye ask and ye receive not, because ye ask amiss." The lecturer discussed at

length the views of Tyndall and other

At the conclusion of the lecture, the Rev. Mr. Gibson gave the following statistics con-nected with the College:

BCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED.

1. Fifty dollars by Peter Bedpath, Esq. to be awarded to the student in the first year at McGill College who shall pass the best examination in Euclid books I, II; Algobra. Colonso, part I to the end of Sumple Equations. Cicero, Epistelic Sel ectie; first half; Homer, Iliad book VI, 200 lines. Awarded to M. S. Scott. 2. Fifty dollars by Edward McKay, Esq.

to be awarded to the student in the second year of McGill College who shall pass the best examination in Euclid, books III, IV., VI, Horaco, Epistles book I, first ten epistles; Herodotus, book IX, first 14 pages. [Harper's Edition.] Awarded to J. Mathe-

8. Fifty dollars by Alex Walker, Esq, to be awarded to the student in the third year at McGill College who shall pass the best examination in Æschylus, Septem Contra Thebas, 260 lines; Plautus, Aulularia, Acts I, II; Hebrew Psal I-V, Hab I-III. Awarded to W McKibben.

4. Fifty dollars by Mrs P S Ross, to be awarded to the student entering the first year in theology, who shall pass the best examination in Horaco Odes Book III; Greek, Epistle to the Hobrows; Mackin-tosh's Dissertation on Ethical Science, sec-tion VI, to the end of Smith's Theory, A Alexander's Moral Science. Awarded to T

Pey, B A.
S. Fifty dollars by R. Anderson, Esq. for the best essay on Prayer, viewed in rolation to recent discussions. Awarded to J R. Mc-Leol and J. J. Cochrane.
9. Fifty dollars by D. McLannan, Esq. for the best essay, on the unity of covenants. Awarded to D. McRae.
10. Fifty dollars by D. McFarlane, Esq. for the best essay being a critical analysis of "The story of the Earth and Man." by Prin-

"The story of the Earth and Man, by Principal Dawson, with special reference to the theories of Darwin, Huxley, and Spencer. Awarded to McPheo.

II. Forty dollars by John Watson, Fsq for the best essay, not exceding thirty pages foolscap, on the distinguishing characteris-tics of the gospel, together with an examination on the historical harmony of the same. Awarded to R. Watt.

12, Sixty dollars by the Bible Class and Sabbath School of Knox Church, Montreal, to be awarded to the English student sindying for French evangelization, who shall pass the best examination in the following exercises:-

Reading in French, writing from dictation, answoring questions in Fronch grammer' translating from English into French, and from Freuch into English, and writing a short essay in French, subject: Le Can on du N. T., awarded to R. Hamilton,

12. Forty dollars by the C. P. Sabbath School, St. Mary's Ontario, to be awarded to the French student who shall pass the best written examination and write the best essay on Jacques Abbadio: Troit de la Verito de la Religion Chretienue, second volum, awarded to B. D. Polletier.

14. Forty dollars by the Sabbath School of Chamers Church, Guelph, Ont., to be awarded to the French student who shall write the best essay, and pass the best written examination in the Pensees de Pascal. Awarded to A. B. Cruchet.

15. Forty dollars by the Sabbath School of knox Ceurch, Galt, Ont., to be awarded to the French student who shall write the lolost e-say and pass the best written exlkamination on L'Histoire de la Litterature
of Francuise, par Demogeot. Essay to be on,
ly the sixth period, and the examination on fixed and changeless, impassive to even the the entire book. Awarded to C. Amaron

16. Twenty dollars by the Sabbath School of Knox Church, Galt, Ont., to be awarded to the French student who shall pass the best written examination on La Grammano Francaiso Superiouro, par P. Larousse, (Cours do Siemo anuce) Awarded to C. Amarou.

This scholarship tenable by a student who has gained another.

Scholarships by D. Morice, Esq., and by John Stirling, Esq., and the Mackay Scholarship, by Hugh Mackay, F q., have not been awarded this Session.

The following Medals were offered to the Students of the graduating class.

The medals not to be awarded to any student who has not taken three-fourths of the aggregate marks in all subjects of examinations for the medals, making for the gold medal cloven separate examinations, and for the silver model, nine.]

GOLD MEDAL.

(Founded by the Students in 1872.) SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION.

Canon-Westcott on the Now/Testament. Hermeneutics—Fairbarn's Manuel. Christology—Ellicott, Life of Christ. Historical Theology—Cunningham, vol.

I , chaps. 8, 4, 5, 6, 14, 16, 26, 17 and 18.

Inctitutes of the Christian Religion—
Calvin, bk. 1Va

History of Rationalism—Hagenbach.

Awarded to James Camoron, B. A.

SILVER MEDAL.

(Founded by Alf. Shandham, Esq. in 1975.) SUPJECTS FOR MEANINATION.

Hebrero-Gesenius, Grammar, Trans-lation and Analysisof the Prophet Nahum, (the whole book.)

Greek-Translation and Auslands of the

Epistle to the Phillippians,

**Mistory - Council of Trent, Bungener.

Awarded to B. Watt.

The reading-room has been supplied during the session with over fifty papers and periodicals, We present our thanks to the following persons for assisting us in this matter:—Editors Lady Witness and Gazette, Buttish American Preserverian and Fresbyterian, also, Principal Dawson, Dr. Burns, Roy, Mr. Wolls and Mr. W. B.

The following have been added to the library during the year:-

Purchases...... 64

Five students graduate this spring. These added to the seventeen who have gone forth from the college in former years, make in all twenty-two, of whom two speak both French and English. It will be evident from this that the results already achieved fully justify the expenditure of time and money in inaugurating and promoting the

The Students Missionary Society em-ployed five missionaries last summer in destitute parts of the country. The funds for carying out this important work are raised by the students, partly in the district where the work is done and partly by the conhibutions of those whom they are able to interest in the work.

In addition to this the Students' Lit. and Phil. Society deserves special notice.

Its work during the past session has been more successful than during any previous year. This is in a great measure due to the convenience enjoyed in the new college building. On behalf of the Society, as well as the College Board, I desire to tender thanks to the Rev. Wm. Reid, M. A., Medereter of the Assembly, for a set of Macaulay's works to be awarded as a prize by the Society.

to be awarded as a prize by the Society.
The Conversazione, held towards the
end of the session, under the suspices of this society, reflected credit on the students and gave much pleasure to the invited guests. The college was favoured during the session with the presence of several distinguished visitors. The Rev. Narayan Sheshadri of Iudia, Dr. Graham of Bonn, and Dr. Duryea, of Brooklyn, N. Y., were amongst those, and delivered most instructive and profession added to the contractive and profession and p most instructive and profitable addresses before the students.

The session has been signalized in the history of the institution by the opening of the new college building, and the installation as professor of Church History and Apologeties of the Rev. John Campbell, M. A., whose work among u has been already so highly appreciated.

The following figures will show the pre-sent position of the Building Fund:-Ar ount subscribed, \$41,180; amount paid, \$50,906; amount expended to date, \$59,509. From this it appears that the Treasurer has advanced over \$8,000.

The medals were then awarded to the successful competitors by Dr. McVicar, after which Mr. James Cameron B A., delivered a valedictory address, which was marked by hearty feeling, good taste and elegance of style.

After the Doxology and the Benediction, the meeting closed.

In Liusday, April 2nd, by the Rev E W. Pauton Mr. John, Buller to Miss Jens Laidlaw daughter of Captain Laidlaw all of Liusday.

Official Announcements.

MEETINGS OF SYNODS.

MONTREAL—Wishin Knox Church, Montreal on first Tuesday of May, at 7:30 p.m. LONDON.—At London, on first Tuesday ol May, at 7:30 p in.

Syron of Hammon moets in First Presbyterion Church, Guelph, on the first Tuesday of May, at 7.39 p.m.

MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES.

LONDON.—At London, by adjournment, in 1st Presbyterian Church, on 1st Tresday in May, at 11 x.m. Next ordinary meeting in Sarnia, on 2nd Tuesday in July, at 7:39 p.m.

Brockville -At Piecott, (when Synodassembles) on the 1st Tuesday of May, at 2 p in. Tonoxro.-At Toronto, on let Tuesday of May, at 11 a.m.

ORTARIO.-At Port Perry, on 18th of May, at 11

Horox.—At Goderich, a the 1st Tuesday of July at 11 a m.

GUZLDH-Next ordinary meeting at Guelph, Chalmers' Church, on 2nd Tuesday of April, at MANITORI,-At Kildonan, on 13th of May, at 10

STRATFORD.—At Stratford, on let Tuesday in July, at 11 a.m.

Own: EGEND.—At Owen Sound, on Menday after and Sabbath, 'u May, at 10 a.m., by edjournment; next ordinary meeting at same place, on and Tues-day of July, at 10a.m. BRUCK.-At Kineardine, the last Tuesday of June, at 2 p.m.

Dundan.-At Durham, on last T weeday of July at 11 a.m.

Sincon.—At Barrie, on Tuesday 11th of July, at 11 am

Panis.—In Dumfries street Church, Paris, on Monday 14th April, at 11 a.m. Montreal. -- At Montreal, in Presbyterian College, on the first Wednesday of April, at ten o'clock force OOL HAMILTON—At Hamilton, in the Central Church,

on the 2nd Tuesday of April, at Assa Kings ox.-Adjoursed meeting in Naper and December, at 7 p.m. Next moving in Belle-wille, on second Tables of April, 1874, at 7 p.m.

ADDRESSES OF TREASURERS OF CHURCH FUNDS. Temporalities Board and Sectentiation Fund-

Janios Creit, Mistreal.

Ministers', Widews' and Orphane' Eund—Archi-ests Ferjassis, Montrial. French Mission-James Croil, Montreel Juvante Mission-Miss Machar, Kington, Oni, Manicola Mission-Oliofpe H. Wilson, Turesta, Scholastity and Simmer Fund-Fred. Forgan Engagen,

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RSOLVENT ACT OF 1869.

Canada.

Province of Ontarie.

In the County Court of the County of York. the matter of Jone Charlets, of Toronto, Butcher and Drover, an Inselvent.

On Monday, the thirteenth day of April next, at welve o'clock moon the understrand will apply to the Judge of the sale Court for a discharge under the sal Act.

by ING. WINCHSTER, Attorney ad illem JOHN CREALOCK. Desert at Toropte Rife 18th Nates, 2014.

TASOLVENT ACT OF 1869.

Canada, Orince of Ontarie, Orince of Ontarie, Orince of Ontarie, Oceany of York, Ceany of York, the Contractor and Builder, six Incolvent, Oil Monday, the 18th day of April next, at twalve slock Econy the underelessed with Apply to the radge of the said Cours for a discharge under the sid Act.

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