THE

Presbyterian College Journal.

VOL. XIV.-APRIL, 1895.-No. 6.

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The JOURNAL is published about the first of each month from November to April inclusive, under the auspices of the Philosophical and Literary Society of the Presbyterian College, Montreal.

Business communications should be addressed to the Treasurer, and all other correspondence to the Editor-in-Chief. Subscription, one dollar-payable strictly in advance.

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Gur Graduates' Pulpit.

THE POWER OF AN ENDLESS LIFE.

A SERMON BY THE REV. K. MACLENNAN, B.A., B.D., HONAN, CHINA.

Who is not made after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life.-Heb. vii., 16.

This epistle was written to people who were on the verge of apostacy. Persecution assisted the Judaizing teachers in leading the Hebrew converts astray, and away from the simplicity which is in Christ, back to carnal ordinances. It was possible to use very plausible arguments in favor of Judaism. God, they might say, was the author of the old dispensation, and hence there could be no harm in adhering or reverting to it. The author of the epistle is of a different The impending apostacy fills him with anxiety and borror. His elaborate argument is instructive in many ways. It shows us that a religion established by the Lord can become useless and obsolete. The Aaronic priesthood served its purpose, and then, when another priesthood arose, passed away. Its significance was at an end when He appeared who was after the order of Thus "the old order Melchizedek. changeth, giving place to the new-and God fulfils Himself in many ways, lest one good custom should corrupt the Time was when the devout worshipper could render God acceptable service by means of the Levitical priesthood and sacrifices; time was when the neglect of these was judged an implety worthy of sore punishment. All that has been changed. Worship is only acceptable through the Son, and His sacrifice leaves no place for another. Continuance in the old religion involves everlasting loss, and they who turn back into it have denounced against them, with all the solemnity and earnestness of inspiration, the wrath of God. Death put the stamp of imperfec-