

glean from it all items of news from their field, but send them to us direct, still. Says the prospectus.—

"Unless we have made up our minds always to remain few in numbers; unless we are resigned to struggle on without those aids which other denominations in the Maritime Provinces possess, and which they could in no case dispense with, our question can only be answered in the affirmative. We are by no means insensible to the very great service rendered us by the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT, and we yield to none in our admiration of the ability with which it has always been conducted, and the kindly spirit which it has ever breathed towards these churches "by the way of the sea." It will ever be needed by us. We shall not cross its track. We shall always labour for its increased circulation; but if a magazine is needed not less so is a local paper, which shall be the acknowledged organ of Congregational principles so dear to us all, but in these Provinces, too little known and too often misunderstood and misrepresented."

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE—THE NATURAL HISTORY CHAIR.

The most violent assaults on *Christianity* in our day are those professedly based on the study of Nature. To make God's Works contradict His Word, would indeed be a victory for unbelief. The High Priests of Nature, who just now have the ear of the world, are unhappily, in too many cases, if not disbelievers in a Creator and Ruler of the universe, yet bitterly opposed to the idea of such interventions in its order as the Christian miracles are claimed to be. A teacher of this school, in a chief seat of learning, imparting a sceptical bias to successive classes of students, would do much to leaven a whole province with pseudo-scientific errors that would sap the very foundations of faith in God and the Bible. We are therefore deeply gratified to be able to say, that we believe that the new Professor of Botany and Zoology in University College, Dr. Alleyne Nicholson, of Edinburgh, is not of the Darwin or Huxley type of naturalists, while bearing the highest testimonials to his professional attainments and teaching power. We trust that he may do the work in Toronto, which Principal Dawson performs so ably in Montreal. As we go to press, there is a rumour that Professor Young is to succeed Dr. Beaven in the Mental and Moral Philosophy Chair. Such an appointment would be hailed with universal satisfaction.

THE "TRUNK MURDER" CASE.

All the world has joined, and none too loudly, in the hue and cry against the vile acts of the abortionist by which poor Alice Bowlsby came to such a dreadful end. Earnestly do we hope that the terrible warning against all tampering with illicit love—and the almost impossibility of concealing crime, will not be unheeded. But there is another lesson of the occasion that must be plainly spoken of, repulsive as the task may be. These abortionists, male and female, are very numerous. They make enormous fortunes, and build splendid mansions. And who are their customers? Not the unmarried alone, but many wives who would fain escape the burdens of motherhood. Family physicians are importuned to perform such services for their regular patients. "French families"—of two or