

The weakness produced by discouraging every effort at extension has ever since been made use of as an argument for the annihilation of the Church. On the part of the great bulk of pastors and people, there has been no desire—there is not now any desire—to have her blotted out of existence. Beyond the small knot of union men, those who now submit to what they believe to be the inevitable, do so from a feeling of dull despair at the future of a Church which, freed from the constant irritation to which it is exposed, would be active, energetic—a living, moving, growing body. When it was proposed to send missionaries to British Columbia, the members of the Union party opposed the suggestion, and it fell to the ground; when the propriety of forming charges in Manitoba and the North-West was urged, the Union party assented to it, but on the condition that the minister sent should be placed under the control of the other Presbyterian body, and so for the time the work was effectually killed. After long delay, a minister was sent, but so well had the spirit of the members of Synod been killed, that the party in, but scarcely of, the Church was suffered to instruct him that he was to report to the denomination which had denounced the members of the Church they had left as faithless to their vows. As a sequel to the melancholy story, the convener of the Committee appointed to carry on the mission to Manitoba, in his report published in October, recommends that the Church to which he professes to belong should abandon the field, because it was already occupied by other Presbyterians! These are but instances out of many which could be cited. Is it not time that those who really belong to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland should enquire what is the cause of the weakness which they deplore as inevitable? Let them reverse the treatment of the Sangrados who are bleeding the Church to death, and return to a more rational system. The people are willing to do what is required, but if they are constantly in dread of changes can they be expected to work with any heart for the advancement of a Church threatened with extinction?

There is a falling off in the colleges of the students for the Ministry. How can it be otherwise? The branch of the Church of