

work, they may safely rely on him for guidance, wisdom and strength. Nor can we doubt the forbearance, patience, sympathy, prayers and support of our brethren through whose voice the divine voice has called us to this sacred task. "Through your prayer," brethren, "and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ," we anticipate for the College a future of usefulness. Our toils will be severe but pleasant, for the hope of preaching Christ to many churches and in many lands through the lips of ministers taught in these halls will be an inspiration to do our best. And when we put into the work our best endeavors, who will complain? Certainly not the Master. Will you?

You have told us what the churches expect of this institution. We have listened attentively and reverently to the solemn charge just delivered by your spokesman, our Rev. Bro. Munro. We do not think these expectations unreasonable. No effort shall be lacking on our part to realize them.

But bear with me, fathers and brethren, while in a few words I suggest that our expectations and responsibilities are mutual.

A Board of Trustees however wisely chosen, a Faculty however competent and faithful, a building however commodious, comfortable and elegant, a library however complete in its departments, cannot make a successful College without the good will, the cheering sympathy and practical support of the membership, and pastors of the churches. Next to the direct benediction of heaven, we are dependent on the benediction of our brethren. What, then, do we expect of you?

We must have your aid in creating a wide and deep interest in ministerial education. We have not dared to prescribe any definite attainments in secular learning as indispensable for entrance on the ministry. We find no such prescription in the Word of God. "The unlearned and ignorant men, who have been with Jesus" amazed and confounded proud and cultured ecclesiastics. "For God chose the foolish things of the world that he might put to shame them that are wise; and God chose the weak things of the world that he might put to shame things that are strong." No,—we dare not insist on a definite standard of education, where the Lord did not insist on it. We may prefer Paul, the polished logician, the cultured and classic scholar.