

for all who could read the Greek New Testament with some ease at entrance.* A preparatory course, similar to the ordinary grammar school course, for at least two years, would be of far more consequence to candidates for the ministry, to the Independents and to the public, than an affiliation with McGill College, without any disparagement to that affiliation at all.

Were the first two years placed in affiliation with some grammar school (taking bonds, as in the States, from all students, that in case they leave the ministry for which the funds are spent to fit them, they shall refund blank sum for their expenses), this would put a vigorous spring into the machinery where it is wanted; still better, let a teacher who *can* discharge the whole duties of a grammar school master be placed in the faculty, and let him work up the students, including those who are preparing for degrees. A class of ten—and more could, no doubt, be obtained—would give a good day's work to any man. A hard-working man might unite history, geography and chronology with general literature, according to a well-devised programme. Then your two external wheels would be thrown to the centre, and in didactic, polemic and historic divinity, sacred rhetoric—that is, sermons—with Christian economy or church government, the centres, although united, would somewhat separate themselves, and afford a healthy stimulus to all concerned.

This, I dare say, is the nearest approach to a theological seminary that could be made at present, and for the number of students, all-sufficient. I will venture to say that it is what the country needs. It might be made to pay well, and without notorious bungling could not fail. In fact the whole expense of the College Grammar School might be met by receiving pupils whose general tuition would be similar, at least, to the students in the preparatory course.

I beg pardon, Mr. Editor, for the length of my letter, which, I am persuaded, will not be considered too long if those who are deeply concerned will give it candid attention.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM LUMSDEN.

Vankleek Hill,
Dec. 15, 1869.

THE COLLEGE MEETING.

(A CIRCULAR.)

DEAR SIR,—You have doubtless observed the advertisement in the *Globe* Newspaper, and also in the "Canadian Independent," calling a meeting of the Subscribers to the CONGREGATIONAL COLLEGE OF B. N. A., for the 4th prox., said Meeting to be held in Zion Church, in this City.

In the course of conversation with some of the past and probable future subscribers to the College, we find a desire exists, on account of the importance of the object for which the meeting is called, that it should be as largely attended as possible by subscribers from various parts of the country, as the friends in Toronto feel the delicacy of the position in which they are placed in consequence of the meeting being held here.

We therefore respectfully request that the Church over which you are Pastor will endeavour to be represented at the coming meeting, by the presence of at least one subscriber, to take part in the consideration of the various matters that may then be submitted to them.

We are, dear Sir, yours very truly,
GEORGE HAGUE,
JOHN TURNER,
DAVID HIGGINS.

Toronto, 17th December, 1869.

*If our correspondent will refer to chapter VI, section I, of the By-laws and Regulations of the College, he will find that the course he recommends was adopted by the Corporation several years ago.—Ed. C. I.