

CHAPTER IX.

LIBRARY—HONORS—DEGREES—CONCLUSION.

We may regard the growth of our Library as having kept pace with that of other departments, although eager Professors and students often wish that it might some day make a sudden rush, and place within their reach many works they desire to consult. It now contains the respectable number of over 7,200 volumes, nearly all fundamental and permanently valuable works, and very few, indeed, that should ever be removed from the shelves to make room for better ones.

It has all along had many good friends, and we are hopefully waiting for the person or persons to appear who will make it the special object of benevolent care and outlay. Shortly after his appointment the Principal raised one thousand dollars in Quebec and Montreal for the purchase of books. This, with the gift from Knox College, already referred to, made a beginning, and from that time onward various sums of money and valuable donations greatly contributed to its extension. In 1875 Mr. Peter Redpath presented the costly and complete collection of Abbé Miguë's *Patrologia*, consisting of 387 volumes, handsomely bound, bearing the College arms, containing the works of the Greek and Latin Fathers and Ecclesiastical Writers from the Apostolic age to the middle of the fifteenth century. In 1877 the entire Library of the Rev. Arch. Henderson, St. Andrews, Que., bequeathed by him to the College, was received from his executors. It consisted of 1,500 volumes of carefully selected standard works in an excellent state of preservation. In 1878 a unique treasure, one the value of which cannot be stated in figures, came into our possession. This was the gift of Alexander II., Emperor of Russia, of a *fac simile* copy of the *Codex Sinaiticus*, in four volumes. The story of the way in which this reached us was published in a former volume of the JOURNAL, so that it is sufficient now to say that it was through the kind intervention of the Rev. A. B. MacKay. Shortly after the Rev. George Coul, Valleyfield, presented a *fac simile* copy of the *Codex Alexandrinus*. Both these works have been magnificently bound in Russian leather, *gratis*, by Mr. Henry Morton. In 1885 there were 450 volumes added by bequest of the late Mr. Thos. Robin. Among others who have made large additions by purchase and donation may be mentioned Mrs. Redpath, Hon. Justice Tarrant and Mr. P. S. Ross.

In 1879 the Board of Management reported to the Assembly that "a plan had been formed for obtaining a library endowment; and that one of its members was interesting himself specially in the matter, and had good hope of success." This is what is needed. The "plan" is good, but let us have the execution of it. Here we must close the sketch of our Library, ardently hoping that far greater things than any we have noted may fill up the chapters of its future history.