

lus to those who require it is not to make the work so difficult that the majority give up in despair. By a judicious extension of the length of the session it would be possible, without adding to the work prescribed in each subject, to allow time for a fuller explanation in class, and by this means the interest of a larger number of students might be aroused. Each day's recitation could cover less ground, and at the same time be productive of greater benefit to the class. The extension of the session would also permit students to devote more time to the work of College Societies, reaping the culture which they are so eminently calculated to impart, and, moreover, would render possible more systematic and less fitful periods of recreation, which latter are as necessary to the hard-working student as the sun's rays to the flower.

THE Sunday afternoon religious services in Convocation Hall are, comparatively speaking, a recent introduction into the routine of the College, and yet since their re-inauguration, a little over a year ago, have done considerable service as a target for a fusillade of criticism right and left. As long as the JOURNAL is under the present management its pronouncements on religious topics will be of a neutral character, but, as an impartial observer of the aforementioned criticism, we may be allowed to say a few words on the subject. We do not intend to review the objections to these services which have been raised by some of the local ministers and members of the Kingston Presbytery, who seem to have imagined that, as a Court, they had power to dictate to the authorities of the University. Since the petition anent these services, which was presented to the Presbytery at its recent meeting here, has been wisely tabled by that body, we do not deem it charitable to have anything to say regarding the spirit which

actuated the supporters of the petition, but it might have been advisable for these gentlemen to have considered that the students of the University are the particular class for whose benefit the services were instituted, and as such are entitled to an expression of opinion regarding the advisability of continuing them. We speak the mind of nine-tenths of the students of this University, when we say that these services on Sunday afternoons have been highly appreciated as a means of culture and mental growth. To those who are religiously inclined there has been no lack of spiritual food contained in the addresses of the gentlemen who have occupied the platform of Convocation Hall, and to those who occupy the position merely of outside critics the discourses have appealed with a fairness which, we are persuaded, has not been without its effect. There are among the those students whose minds, in regard to religious subjects generally, are in process of formation, and we consider it a not unwise policy on the part of the University authorities to adopt this method of aiding original investigation of truth. To agnostics and creed-subscribers alike there have been remarkably liberal and honest appeals made by men of commanding intellectual power and known research, and it is difficult to conceive of the result being otherwise than beneficial. The value of these services may not be recognized by those who pin their faith to a shibboleth, but honest inquirers after truth will welcome them as a boon, and we have no hesitation in expressing a wish for their continuance.

BOOK NOTICES.

PICTURESQUE CANADA. The publication of this work marks a distinct epoch in the progress of illustrative art in this country, and we now have a work which the Canadian book-loving public may well be proud of. The views of Canadian scenery and pictures of national life are from paintings by the most talented artists in Canada, under the superintendence of Mr. O'Brien, President of the Canadian Academy, who himself furnishes many