

Young and I came up here to look at the field, with a view to embrace any opening that might be given, but after two or three weeks' tantalizing negotiation with Chinese timidity and dilatoriness, all ended in disappointment, and as it appeared, that, in the meantime, we must take up our abode separately with Missionary brethren. Dr Young decided on returning to Hong Kong, while I remained here. I am comfortably lodged with an American Missionary, in a beautiful Chinese dwelling, fronting the river, and forming the termination of one of those large native "Hong" or warehouses, where tea is packed and dispatched to your, and other, distant shores. A regard to health and personal comfort might dispose me to remain where I am, and occupy myself in going out among the people in the suburbs of this great city, with tracts, &c., but I am anxious on every ground to have some more fixed and regular mode of making known the truth, and therefore have been, as already mentioned, making some personal inquiries as to a place where a school may be taught, the gospel preached, and should Dr Young come up, as I hope he will, the sick also occasionally relieved. The people here are much more friendly than I expected to find them, and, indeed, seem quite as much so as they are at Hong Kong. I have, as yet, met with hardly any incivility in going among them. Let us take this as a token for good. It shows, at least, that the wall of Chinese prejudice and seclusion in regard to foreign intercourse is giving way, and that in Canton where the feeling is strongest against foreigners. The time is coming, and may be near when the gates and highways of this great Empire will be opened to the gospel—when many of its holy messengers shall run to and fro, and knowledge—even the knowledge of the Lord, be increased. Oh let the people of God labour fervently in prayer, that this blessed time may be hastened. Ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence, and give Him no rest until He arise and until He make Jerusalem a praise in all the earth. Then shall be the time when "These shall come from far, and these from the north and from the west and from the land of Sinim."

We have just heard that the old Emperor, within the borders of whose dominions I now write, has died, in the 30th year of his reign, and I believe aged about 70 years. Let us hope that the reign of his son, who succeeds him, may be one of the speedy coming of the kingdom of God among his people, and that he himself now in his opening manhood, (he is not yet twenty) may be made acquainted with the grace and glory of Him, who has a name on his vesture and on his thigh written, "King of Kings and Lord of Lords"—whom God, even the Father, hath given for a covenant to the people, and to be God's salvation to the ends of the earth. Pray much for me. In this field much grace is needed, but in Jesus there is all fulness, and the word of promise is "Him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out." When looking across the great distance that now separates us on earth, what more can I wish for all my friends and brethren, than that they may know Jesus Christ and Him crucified, as their all in all, and for my beloved parents, what more can I seek or desire than that as they advance on the journey of life, they may know by daily richer foretastes, what it is to be when we shall see the King in his beauty and the land that is afar off. When the day shall come (in love to us and to many may it be far off) when they whom we love and venerate in the flesh and in the Lord, shall be no more among us, may an abundant entrance be ministered to them into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour.

Ever your affectionate Son,

(Signed) Wm. C. Burns.

The Rev. Hugh McLeod, late of Logie Easter, Scotland, has arrived at Halifax, on his way to Cape Breton, the sphere of his future labours.—We understand Mr McL. is peculiarly fitted for this important and extensive field.

The Record.

KNOX'S COLLEGE.

The history of the Reformation, Dr D'Aubigne, when in England, said he believed "the Presbyterian Church had a mission to England." Who can doubt that she has a mission to Canada? The call for supply from all parts of our missionary field, was never more painfully pressing than at the present time. Painful from the known and acknowledged destitution of the various localities, and the inability of Presbyteries to meet the demand. One of our preachers, in removing from his sphere of labour, writes, "this is a promising field and must not be neglected; we want men—thinking men—working men—and praying men." And the same thing is true in regard to many other portions of the Church.

While God has been opening doors of usefulness, and calling us to occupy new and inviting fields, He has, at the same time, in His inscrutable Providence, reduced the number of our ministers.

Although we have received, and may still receive accessions to the number of ministers from other churches, it is now quite obvious that our main source of supply is our own College; and if ever our Church is to fulfil what we believe to be her destiny, it will be, under God, by a ministry reared within herself. Congregations who have looked to the Free Church of Scotland for pastors, are now convinced that they must turn their attention to Knox's College.

We are authorized to announce the opening of the next session in that Institution, on the 17th of October. In doing so, we beg to remind all who feel an interest in its welfare, that exertions must be put forth to sustain it, if it is to answer the great end for which it was established, viz.: the education of those who are to dispense the word of life throughout the land. The past history of the College is full of encouragement and causes of thankfulness—the future full of hope. The number of Students has increased yearly, and will likely continue to increase. We cannot suppose that the Church will allow the College, as an Institution calculated to promote the cause of God in this country, to languish or be crippled by criminal neglect.

THE TORONTO ACADEMY.

We had purposed to notice in our last issue the exercises at the close of the fourth annual examination of the classes, in this Institution, but deferred until we could also announce the opening of another session, which takes place on Monday, the 2nd inst. In making this announcement, we cannot but add, that on no previous occasion were the exercises more interesting and satisfactory, than during the last examination. There was also a considerable number of visitors present, evincing the interest which parents and guardians take in the Academy, and the degree of satisfaction which the mode of instruction, there adopted, affords. A gentleman, who is well able, from

his high literary acquirements, to form a correct estimation of the quality of the education and of the mode of instruction adopted in the Institution, thus writes—

"I was present at several of the examinations which extended over three days, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Only to what I witnessed can I bear personal testimony, but creditable information enables me to speak of the other parts of the public proceedings with the utmost confidence and certainty. My purpose in thus drawing your attention, and that of your readers, to this institution, is the avowed one of claiming a deeper interest for the institution, and a more extensive patronage, than it has hitherto enjoyed.—Every institution which seeks the improvement of the rising, or the risen generation, should be hailed and countenanced as an auxiliary in the great work of advancing our world to its climacteric in knowledge and happiness. This should be the aim of all educational institutions, and others of kindred aim and nature. Those who love their species will be active in projecting, or promoting every means for intellectual and moral improvement. Still to urge onwards the wheels of the political and moral, and above all, religious advancement of our race, will be the desire and aim of every one who has any good cause or interest whatever at heart. To improve our systems of education, and extensively enough to pervade the land with schools and seminaries of instruction, must be of primary importance in all the designs of philanthropic and religious men.—The land has not yet been possessed either in this or any other country. It was with such an object in view that the Toronto Academy was set on foot, and has been persevered with through many difficulties and discouragements. That it was necessary, its projectors thought, and the measure of encouragement accorded to it, disproportionate as that has been, amply shows. It has now existed for four years, and this last has not been the least—of its nearly expiring lustrum;—many lustrums may it see and may it continue to grow, as it has undoubtedly hitherto grown, in efficiency and success!

The head-masters of the Institution are obviously men fit for their work, whether of superintending, or conducting the instructions of the classes. The principal—the Rev. Mr. Gale—manifestly feels the deepest interest in the moral and religious well-being of the pupils; while he is a gentleman able to adopt and apply the most approved and enlightened principles of instruction. His more regular coadjutor, Mr. Henning, is gifted with the best qualifications of the teacher, and has evidently set his heart on the great business of teaching. We are bold to say, that as a teacher of English, Mr. Henning has few superiors; and his classes, in this department, acquitted themselves, at the recent examination, in the most admirable manner. Mr. Henning, we know, is an excellent classical scholar, and to improve himself in science and all branches of knowledge, which enlist the interest of every reading man as well as more immediately him whose part it is to communicate knowledge to others—is his great delight as well as business. With one whose heart is in his work, and who has a head as well as a heart for the labours of the instructor, pupils cannot fail to make great and creditable improvement.

The Institution enjoys the benefit of the instructions of Professor Esson, charging himself with almost the whole range of knowledge—going through the minds of the youth with a wholesome and pervading influence—exciting enthusiasm, and making at once lawyers, divines, jurists, proficient in classics and mythology, logicians, &c. It is Professor Esson's favourite idea, that almost everything can be imparted in degree, so that at least, the landmarks and boundaries of every subject of knowledge may be indicated or traced to the student. Certainly, it is a Herculean feat to