

partment may be stated as about thirty, and the number in the preparatory department as about forty. Besides these, there are in various stages at University College from fifteen to twenty young men, studying avowedly with a view to the ministry. Several of these have enjoyed scholarships, provided by the Church. For some years past, scholarships have been awarded after competitive trial, and no doubt the effect has been highly encouraging. Those who have been put in possession of the means, could in few ways do so much good to the Church, as by encouraging the scheme of scholarships. We trust we shall have to record from time to time many contributors to this object.

With Principal Willis and Professor Caven in the Theological department, the Rev. J. J. A. Proudfoot is associated for the first half of the session in the carrying on of the classes, including those in Church History, formerly under the charge of Dr. Burns. The work has been auspiciously begun, and we feel that we can heartily congratulate the Church on the number of students, and the encouraging opening of the session.

MONTREAL COLLEGE.

INDUCTION OF REV. D. H. McVICAR, AND OPENING OF SESSION.

The Presbytery met at 7 o'clock in Erskine Church, for the purpose of inducting the Rev. D. H. McVicar into the Professorship of Divinity in connection with the Presbyterian College, Montreal. There was a large attendance, the space in front of the pulpit being occupied by ministers belonging to the Presbytery of Montreal.

The service was commenced by the Rev. Mr. Clark, who gave out the 46th Psalm—"God is our refuge and our strength"—and afterwards read the second chapter of the second Epistle to Timothy; and the Rev. Mr. Wardrope engaged in prayer.

REV. W. B. CLARK'S SERMON.

Rev. Mr. CLARK announced as his text Hosea IV., 6v., "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." He said that if it be true that knowledge is power, it is equally true that ignorance is imbecility. Both are eminently true of religious knowledge, which exercises the most commanding influence on man intellectually and morally. And as man's spiritual nature is the spring and guide of all his actions, they would at once see the importance of correct religious knowledge being imparted. The communication of such knowledge was like turning a strong full current into a narrow sluggish channel, the waters of which were not only disturbed in consequence, and received increased momentum, but were purified by the agitation which was thereby occasioned. The consequences of withholding religious instruction were most deplorable. They had only to look around in order to see how true was this statement. From the earliest times, provision was made for the impartation of religious knowledge. Noah was a preacher of righteousness; the patriarchs imparted religious knowledge to those around them; and doubtless, as men multiplied after the flood, some provision was made for the instruction of men in Divine things. It was in the time of Abraham that the first allusion was made to a regular ministry, that patriarch giving tithes to "a priest of the Most High God." That