

Why not? Will the time ever be more opportune? Will the juncture of circumstances ever be more favorable for making so many new appointments to professorships? appointments that may rouse great enthusiasm and interest in the Church, and rally to its support both old and new friends? This ought to be done; this college cannot, because of its past history, because of its position in Toronto, because of what may reasonably be expected of it, afford to stand in a second position to any theological college in the land. Whatever course may be pursued at this Assembly, whether delay, to look round, to survey the whole situation and turn it to the best account that the wisdom of the Church can devise for its own interests and those of the college, or more immediate action, nothing less than this should be aimed at, for such another opportunity may not arise in a generation. The college has many and warm friends, and an appeal to them properly made on the ground of what it has done, on the ground of what lies before it to do, would surely be responded to, and justify Knox College Board and Senate in taking now some large, well-considered course of action, in the faith that its friends will stand by and carry it forward to larger usefulness, and a higher place even in the Church in the future than it has held in the past.

THE FORWARD CALL.

THE sermon of the retiring Moderator of the General Assembly, was founded upon a text which permitted him to take a wide outlook and range over a large variety of subjects, and he does so, without doubt intentionally and advisedly. While it takes in religion, physical science, schools of criticism, modern discovery, capital and labour, social and racial problems, amusements and societies, yet one idea runs through and dominates all; that advance, progress, leaving things which are behind and reaching forth unto those which are before, is the law and rule of all things and should be man's inspiring aim, the goal he should ever seek to reach. All this is brought to bear upon and culminate in the constant advance and final triumph of the religion of Jesus Christ, the kingdom of God in the earth. It is a clarion call to all Christians, young and old, in every walk of life, with every diversity of qualification, in everything they do to go forward, to press onward. This implies what we would naturally expect to find from Dr. Mackay's own history, that he is a believer in and a preacher of the gospel of work, incessant, arduous purposeful work. Advance in divine things, the conquest of the whole world for Christ, will never be achieved without it.

It is encouraging and a satisfaction to all who have been inclined to think in that way, in spite of much that has been said to the contrary, to find a man of the wide knowledge of the Moderator willing to see and acknowledge that there is something that is good, something of truth, of sound moral teaching in Confucianism, Buddhism, and those historic religions of other lands and peoples that have played such an important part in the history of our race. It is helpful to hear him say that "it is manly, noble and Christian, frankly to acknowledge the good that is in them." It is surely possible to do this without compromising and still less sacrificing anything distinctively scriptural and Christian.

The sermon gives a clear, strong, bold and unmistakable declaration upon the necessity not only of recognizing, but of magnifying constantly the Holy Spirit as the great source of all real power, dependence upon Him as the condition of all true progress. This is the divine factor, but along with this is the human, co-operating under the guidance of the Divine Spirit with strenuous, constant effort. Labor, toil, patient and unflagging, the condition of progress in all common, secular pursuits, are the conditions also of advance in the individual Christian life, and in the wider realm of the extension and establishment of Christ's kingdom in the world. For solid growth and progress a certain amount of quiet and repose are necessary, and the preacher, looking on to a certain extent, standing apart from our church life as it is seen in Canada to-day, gives this note of warning not unneeded: "We would again call attention to the danger of increasing machinery. Plants will not develop properly if continually transplanted, animals will not develop if incessantly on the move, nor can Christians grow without rest and meditation. Now meditation is the great lack in our Christianity this day." In this connection wise words are uttered for the young, and for the old as well: "There never was an age in which the young stood so prominently forward. This fact should be an incentive to the old to be up and doing, for what would be gained by simply having a change of leaders in the church. God bless the young of every congregation. Bless them in the ranks. But let them never forget that youth is not the age for calm, cool, sober reflection, and if there is to be progress in the whole Church they must submit their judgments and opinions to those of maturer years."

The sermon teaches a broad, statesman-like Christianity, one which, we believe, in its principles and scope, will prove a solvent for all social, racial, industrial and political problems. It is found, in fact, in supreme obedience to Christ as the great controlling law of life and duty.

A mighty incentive to go forward in the publication and spread of Christianity at the present time, the manifest call indeed in the Providence of God to do so, are the wonderful openings and magnificent possibilities which beckon on the hosts of God. It is encouraging to hear Dr. MacKay, who, on other visits, has had to speak discouragingly of the state of our Canadian Presbyterian Church, now speak hopefully of it: "There is cause for gratitude regarding our beloved Zion. Her ministers, as leaders of the people, are endowed with a broad Catholic spirit which I find refreshing as I go up and down the land." This forward movement which has been made, this advance achieved in every direction, is the call of God to arise and boldly press on. "Let the Church arise and gird herself to engage in the mighty contest, rise in the strength of Jehovah and advance with calm, majestic step, conscious of victory ere the first blow is struck." "In the name of our God we will set up our banners."

AN URGENT APPEAL.

THE Church has long been praying for open doors among the heathen. But too often when God has opened the doors the Church has failed to supply the men and the means to enter them, and sometimes the doors thus widely opened have swung to again, and the opportunity has been lost. This seems like a mockery of God, and the Church should either cease asking for open doors, or bestir itself to enter them when the prayer is answered.

The last word from India is in a letter from Mr. Russell, that a very wide door has been opened for work among the Bheels, the aboriginal people, numbering from half a million upwards within our field, among whom we have so long been vainly wishing to plant a missionary. The special urgency now is that, if we do not at once enter this widely opened door, it is likely very soon to close so that we may never again have the opportunity.

The Foreign Mission Committee have just sanctioned the planting of a new station at Dhar, and the question now is, whether they will feel warranted with the funds at present in their hands to undertake the planting of an additional station. Nor is the abandonment of Dhar to be thought of. There also the circumstances are such that if we do not now enter, we are likely long to regret it. The only other course is to put forth special effort to raise necessary funds for the planting of both stations.

Who, of the Lord's stewards will in this call recognize his voice? What is there in our personal expenditure that we can better do without than the Bheels can do without the knowledge of Christ? They are a simple, densely ignorant people; as yet only very partially Hinduised, and very much depends upon our beginning to work among them before they have more to unlearn. One gentleman has offered \$200 to help in meeting this emergency. Will others who are willing please communicate at once, either with the Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, or with the secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee while the General Assembly is in session in London?

A great poet is more powerful than Sesostrius, and a wicked one more formidable than Phalaris. —Landor.

Books and Magazines.

THE ATONEMENT. A lecture delivered by the Rev. Principal King, D.D., at the opening of the theological classes in Manitoba College, April 3rd, 1895. Published by Request.

The reasons which have led Dr. King to discuss this most weighty subject in the opening lecture of the Summer Session in theology are stated to be "the very important place which it holds in the system of divine truth, and its intimate connection with life, the tendency here to misapprehend and misstate its true scriptural character, and there to relegate it to a place of subordinate moment or to ignore it altogether." From this point of view we may expect to find in this lecture, and the reader will not be disappointed, a clear statement of the doctrine, an exposure of the false views of it referred to, and a vindication as far as that is possible in such short compass of that higher, deeper, scriptural view of the doctrine, which is taught in the Scriptures, in our standards, in our Church, and in her pulpits and theological schools.

There is much freshness in *The Century* for June. The frontispiece is a hitherto unengraved bust of Napoleon owned by Charles J. Bonaparte of Baltimore. Prof. Sloane's narrative covers the gap between the conclusion of the Italian campaign and the first victories in Egypt. A notable illustrated out-of-door article by John Muir relates the circumstances of his "Discovery of Glacier Bay" in Alaska. Thomas A. Janvier gives a personal narrative of the visit of the Comedie Francaise to Orange in the south of France. W. D. Howells contributes the first part of a paper of quiet humor entitled "Tribulations of a Cheerful Giver," relating to the question of street charity in New York. "The New Public Library in Boston" is the subject of two articles, one on "Its Artistic Aspects," by Mrs. Van Rensselaer, and the other on "Its Ideals and Working Conditions," by Lindsay Swift, and illustrations accompany the text. The fiction as usual has much variety, including continued stories, and three short ones—one by Mary Halleck Foote, entitled "On a Side Track;" one by F. Hopkinson Smith, "The Lady of Lucerne;" and "The Gentleman in the Barrel," by Chester Bailey Fernald, a new writer, a story of the Chinese quarter of San Francisco. Poems in various keys are contributed by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, John H. Bower, Elizabeth C. Cardozo, Louise Chandler Moulton, Clinton Scollard, R. W. Gilder, Robert Underwood Johnson and others. [The Century Co., New York.]

An intensely interesting illustrated article on the weird ways, strange stories, and customs of "The Indians of America," by Rev. Dr. Pierson, opens the *Missionary Review of the World* for June. Dr. Josiah Tyler, tells of the ignorance, degradation, and cruelty practised in connection with Fetichism in Africa. Two timely and able articles on "Madagascar" come from the pens of Rev. James Sibree and Rev. Geo. Cousins. "Arabia and Its Missions" furnishes the subject for another interesting paper accompanied by a map and illustrations. The work among "The Mountain Whites of America" is also graphically described by Mrs. S. M. Davis. The International department open with an extended and interesting account of our Honan Mission by our returned missionary Rev. Dr. Smith and is followed by "The Missionary Problem," from the standpoint of a Japanese Christian; and "The General Missionary Conference at Toluca, Mexico. The Field of Survey is filled to overflowing with interesting news and intelligent comments concerning the affairs of the kingdom at home and abroad. Funk & Wagnalls Co., 30 Lafayette Place, New York City. \$2.50 a year.

With the June number *The Homiletic Review* closes its twenty-ninth volume. It is a number characterized by extraordinary strength. Dr. D. S. Gregory, ex-President of Lake Forest University, begins a series of articles, which promise to be of great interest, on "The Preacher and the Preaching for the Present Crisis." Henry Ward Beecher; His Genius, Work, and Worth," is a fruitful subject and is treated by Rev. J. Wesley Earnshaw, in full sympathy and yet with the candor of honest criticism. Prof. T. W. Hunt, of Princeton, contributes an article on "The Evangelization of Early England. Of special note in the Sermonic Section are three sermons on "The Powers that Be;" "Religious Rebuke a Lost Art," and "The Influence of Individuality on Christian Character." The Social Problem is treated by Dr. J. H. W. Stuckenborg with great ability and helpfulness to those who study it. [Funk & Wagnalls Co., 30 Lafayette Place, New York City. \$2.50 a year.]

The number for June of the *Methodist Magazine* is a very excellent one. "Every Day Life in Bible Lands" is continued by the editor, and treats of dwellings, streets, bazars, the whole being very fully illustrated. Mackay of Uganda, of whom there is a good portrait given, forms the subject of an interesting sketch, by the Rev. W. H. Evans. The Rev. A. C. Crews deals in a sensible way with "Church Music." Other subjects dealt with besides continued stories are "John Ruskin, Preacher," "The Ring System of Saturn," "The Late Rev. Dr. Dale," and a short notice of the Countess Adeline Schimmelpenninck and her work. [Wm. Briggs, Toronto.]

The June *Harper* presents a very liberal and varied bill of fare, accompanied as usual in most cases with the best illustrative work. Among many we select the following articles: "House-Boating in China," "A Frontier Fight," "First Impression of Literary New York," "Rome in Africa" giving an account of the ruins of Roman cities in Africa, belonging comparatively to the present; "The new Czar, and what we may expect from him." The Editor's Study, "Monthly Record of Current Events," and Editor's Drawer, contain the usual up to date notes and comments, hints and brief suggestive paragraphs. [Harper Brothers, New York.]