

of such Congregations as have not yet subscribed to the imperative duty of making prompt and liberal contributions to this very important object."

(A True Extract,) J. B. MOWAT,
Clerk of Commission.

KINGSTON, 3d October, 1855.

DEAR BRETHREN,—In obedience to the appointment cited above, we, the undersigned, do hereby earnestly invite your immediate attention to the claims of Queen's College on your prompt and liberal contributions.

After the full information which has been laid before you, during the progress of the past two years, by means not only of the printed Acts of Synod, of the "Presbyterian," and of previous circulars, but also of the personal visits and the luminous and stirring addresses of the learned and zealous Professors themselves, as the Delegates of the Synod, there can be no necessity that we should now expatiate either on the demands of this Province for a thoroughly educated Christian Ministry, or on the success which has hitherto attended the efforts of our Church in rearing such an Institution as the University of Queen's College for the purpose of meeting those demands.

You know that Queen's College is the only Institution in British America which affords to Students for the Holy Ministry in our Church the benefit of a complete and finished ministerial education.

You are also fully aware that, in addition to the provision which already had been made in a Royal Charter of Incorporation with distinguished powers and privileges, and in a corps of accomplished Professors with a Library and Apparatus, the necessity was recently found to be imminent of securing commodious buildings, while at the same time a rare opportunity presented itself of acquiring such buildings on terms highly advantageous.

Animated by the rising prosperity and extending usefulness of the Institution, as well as fortified by the countenance of the Synod and assurances of support from many and reliable sources, the Board of College Trustees negotiated the purchase and took possession of the commodious and beautifully situated buildings, having become bound for the payment of the purchase-money in a series of periodical instalments.

The first of these instalments has been paid, and the term for the payment of the second is rapidly approaching.

The Commission of Synod has found that, in order to meet the second instalment, the Trustees are dependent entirely on the prompt liberality of the Churches in making, and forwarding their collections, and on the punctual observance by individual subscribers of their stipulated terms of payment.

The Commission has also learned with great concern and regret that various congregations, some of them esteemed prosperous and wealthy, have not as yet forwarded to the Treasurer a single collection, and that

not a few subscribers have hitherto failed to remit even their first instalment.

Suffer us then, dear brethren, to appeal at once to your Christian sympathy and honor, and to entreat of you, for the sake of this cherished Institution and ornament of our Church, for the encouragement of its talented and laborious Professors, and for the immediate relief of the Board of Trustees, whose enterprise and efforts are above all praise, that you will forthwith and without delay use all possible diligence in transmitting to the Treasurer of the Board your anxiously expected collections, or your promised instalments.

Where this is attributable to negligence or forgetfulness, either on the part of individual subscribers, or of ministers and sessions in withholding from their Congregations the proper counsels and opportunities, it is certainly without excuse, and in all cases the Commission desire earnestly to press upon the attention of such Congregations as have not yet subscribed the imperative duty of making prompt and liberal contributions to the very important object which forms the subject of the present communication.

Most faithfully yours,

In Christ's bonds,

JOHN SKINNER, D. D., } Committee.
JOHN B. MOWAT, }

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON, C. W.

October, 1855.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,—In anticipation of the time, now near at hand, when a second annual payment will be due on account of the property lately purchased for the use of QUEEN'S COLLEGE, the Board of Trustees beg to remind the Congregations and Members of our Church in Canada that, to pay this, they must depend entirely upon their liberality, as no funds at present exist for meeting the claim. Ministers and Kirk Sessions are therefore earnestly solicited to take immediate steps for the collection of the second instalment of subscriptions, which, it was intimated, would be called for early in December. The amount thus collected, it is hoped, will be remitted to the Treasurer before the close of the year, in order to save the Trustees from a position so embarrassing as that of having no funds to meet the payment when it becomes due.

The Board of Trustees would also take this opportunity of appealing to the Congregations in which nothing has been done in behalf of a scheme so necessary to the vital interests of our beloved Church. Due provision for the education of young men intended for the Ministry is so important, and the duty of contributing to this so plain, that it is believed lengthened arguments need not be adduced.

The position of this country, distinguished for the wonderful prosperity with which she has been blessed, may well be urged as a reason for enlarged liberality. So rapidly is Canada now increasing that, unless our contributions are now greatly augmented,

the Church cannot keep pace with the population. Nay—she has scarcely been able to provide Ministers for comparatively long established congregations. A vast field, already white unto the harvest, is thus presented for our Christian efforts, in which the labourers are but few; and no other agency under the Divine blessing, is more important in providing those who will enter the field, than that afforded by the Institution, whose behalf we now address you.

Needs more be said to those who love the Saviour, and who have at heart the interests of that Branch of His Church which has been planted among us? "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give, not grudgingly, or of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver."

I remain,

Rev and Dear Sir,

Respectfully yours

JOHN PATON

Secretary to the Board of Trustees

MISCELLANEOUS

Notes from my Journal—the Crimea, 1855

The following interesting sketches appeared in the *Edinburgh Christian Magazine* for the present month, December, and they are not less readable though they refer to events in which every one is more or less acquainted. This fine narrative is, we believe, from the pen of our young townsman, Dr George Macdonald, son of the venerable Pastor of St. Columba.

The 17th of June was a Sunday, and a glorious bright sunny day indeed! At noon the troops collected in the camping ground of the respective divisions to hear prayers read. It was a curious sight it was to see these men kneeling to "the words of peace," who were soon to be engaged in the deadly struggle, while the cannon shook the earth on which they stood, and filled the air with its loud sounding reports.

The view of the town in the evening of that day was very grand. High in the air a ball of smoke hung over it, while immediately beyond the city a long strip of sea was in a lurid light, which dimly revealed the fleet anchor beyond. Flash after flash waved across the lines of cannon, and the air was filled with oppression with a sulphurous smell. Through the black cloud the shining shells moved tumultuously along, sometimes singly, but frequently in brilliant masses, and the report with which they exploded sounded above the roar of the cannon. From the flank congrue rockets ascended with a flash which drowned for a time every other sound, and shot in long beams of light across the sky. Then the variety of sound produced by various species of projectile was so curious, the sharp whistle, like the twang of a bow, caused by some, and the singeing note of others. Some produce a noise like the rush of a locomotive, and a few fill the whole upper air, while others are heard till their quick sharp report is close to your ear. I shall never forget the night—that of the 17th of June! The sleeping excitement and anxiety was dreadful, one slept, though a few lay down for an hour or two. Men were grave, and though they were made to appear at ease, it was