

its welfare, the beginning has been made of a collection of the many valuable works recently issued. Yet in this department, which approaches so closely to that of theology, there are many standard works not to be found upon our shelves.

Again, in the department of mental science, while the old schools are fairly well represented, the works of many of the men of the new schools of thought are not in our library.

I have already, Mr. Editor, trespassed upon your space more largely than I intended, yet it would be possible to go round each of the departments, and find in each one or other of the deficiencies indicated—either a total absence of standard works, or an absence of the more modern works in each.

T.

Our 'College Letter.

KNOX COLLEGE, Toronto, Oct. 30, 1884.

MY DEAR GRADDE: When I promised you, as we were parting last spring, that I would write you regularly this year concerning the doings in and about the college, I had no idea that my letters would need to travel so far to find you as it seems they will have to do. But I know you well enough to feel sure, that though you are far away from us now, your thoughts often turn to the old college halls, and to the familiar forms and faces that you parted from there just seven months ago. I know that, like Goldsmith, you have "dragged at each remove a lengthening chain," and that you still feel bound to us as strongly as when you were a student here.

But these rather self-complacent remarks are not telling you anything of college news; and of course you want my letters to be newsy, first of all. So here goes for a faithful account of the happenings during the past month.

Wednesday, the first of October, was the day of the formal opening of the college. A large and fashionable audience, as the newspapers say, gathered in Convocation Hall, at 3 o'clock, to hear Principal Caven's opening lecture. The subject was, "The Requirements of our College." I do not need to tell you that there was no exaggeration in the Doctor's statement of what these requirements are. To our prejudiced eyes it almost seemed as though he erred rather on the side of over-modesty in his requests. With both Old and New Testament literature in the hands of one professor; with the two great departments of Apologetics and Church History piled on the shoulders of another; with merely a lectureship for three months in the year in Homiletics and Pastoral Theology; with a comparatively meagre library, with none of those special courses of lectures from celebrated men which the American seminaries enjoy, our position surely justifies us in raising a pretty loud and earnest cry. It is a poor satisfaction to say that we are as well equipped as any of the other colleges in our Church. If this is the case so much the worse for the Church. There is a genuine consolation, though, in this fact, that there are not wanting signs of the times which seem to point to a better order of things in the not very distant future. So we live in hope.

Almost immediately after the lecture was over and the gathering had dispersed, the Alumni Association met in the Convocation Hall, their president,