

there is a time for strenuous action as well as for the exercise of faith, and that time we humbly conceive has arrived in the history of our church in these provinces. It is now needful to be up and doing in the organization of that seminary, which we fervently hope and pray, may become the centre of a reformation in the literature and religion of this province.

The resolution to commence the Seminary, with the appointment of two professors and two assistants, previous to the erection of an edifice, is, we think, in all respects a judicious one. The end and true dignity of a Seminary consists in their efficiency to communicate divine and human learning to the youth who attend it. It is well, therefore, that the Synod have put that first in the order of time which is first in importance, and manifest at the outset a paternal care, that the funds with which they may be entrusted shall not be squandered on vanity, but devoted at once to the service of literature and religion. We might observe, moreover, that this accords with the history of some of our most famous Seminaries. St. Andrew's, the most ancient Seminary in Scotland, did not commence with the erection of a spacious edifice, it commenced with the delivery of lectures on ancient literature, by several learned individuals, at the beginning of the fifteenth century, and these were continued for some time before it was raised to the rank of a College.*—George Heriot's venerable and excellent Seminary, in the city of Edinburgh, in which a goodly number of youth are educated, with a view both to business and the learned professions, was first assembled in private apartments. And the General Assembly's Seminary, in Calcutta, in which upwards of six hundred Hindoo youths receive a sound literary and christian education, with the view of preparing such as incline to the holy ministry, assembled for some years in a hired house. Indeed the urgency of the work of

education requires such an arrangement; the erection of commodious buildings for professors and pupils is, and ought to be, an after consideration.

Having said this much as to the importance of the proposed seminary, and of the excellency of the arrangements made regarding it, we would only add a few words by way of stirring up our people to contribute of their substance to carry the resolution of the Synod into effect. In the address of the commission published in our last number, they state the sum of eighty or one hundred thousand dollars as requisite to the undertaking. We humbly think that this sum may be easily doubled by means of an active, local agency in diverse parts of the Province. What is required is, that the grounds on which the demand is made be fully laid before our Presbyterian population, that they may be sensibly convinced that a case is made out for the exercise of their liberality, that it is a case of such manifest weight and importance that all who love our Zion, will feel themselves called upon to give as the Lord hath blessed them. We would remind our brethern on whom the Lord in his providence hath conferred riches, of the excellent spirit manifested by their brethern at home, how that for church extension alone they have contributed the sum of £250,398 7s 3d sterling, and erected two hundred new Churches within the last five years. And though this sum is the aggregate liberality of the rich and poor, nevertheless the donations from diverse mercantile gentlemen in the west of Scotland have contributed largely to swell the amount. We have alluded to this "princely offering," to the cause of church extension as Dr. Chalmers well names it, with the view of inciting our brethern on this side of the Atlantic to a like liberality. And neither would we address ourselves only to our richer brethern, we would call upon all to contribute of their substance. By our baptismal vows—by our vows at the sacramental table over the memorials of Christ's broken body and shed blood, we would call upon every believer to aid his ministering servants in carrying into effect this most righteous and scriptural undertaking.

* We have no means of knowing in what apartments these lectures were delivered. It is enough for our argument, that the College edifice did not precede but followed the commencement of the professorial work.

POETRY.

FROM THE METROPOLITAN PULPIT.

Not in the church alone (though there 'tis sweet
To hear the swelling notes of praise ascend,)
But in all scenes, to our Almighty Friend,
Let us with constant love our hymns repeat;
When by our hearths our chosen friends we meet,
Round our domestic altars meekly bend,
Retire an hour in solemn prayer to spend,
Or walk, in tranquil thought the crowded street;

For He is worthy of unceasing praise,
To whom in all vicissitudes we cling;
Whether the hours flit by on joyous wing,
Or gathering sorrows darken all our days,
His love in heaven angelic myriads sing,
And we, not favored less, our humbler praise will bring.

NOEL.