

withstanding, reference to facts will show that creditable progress has been made. In 1855, the churches raised for missions, \$2,138; in 1872, the amount contributed was nearly doubled, being \$4,156, a sum which, however, scarcely bears an adequate proportion to the total income of the churches, which, as already stated, amounted to \$68,700. The time has arrived when more must be done to increase our missionary income. The resources of the Canadian churches, and their established character for liberality, fully warrant the expectation that should the subject be fairly presented money will be forthcoming to place our operations on a satisfactory footing, without resort to the humiliating extremity of renewed appeal to the Colonial Society.

We now turn from our missions to our college. After full trial, affiliation with McGill University has proven to be a success. A thorough arts education is now within the reach of all our students; and we sincerely hope, that injudicious haste to take the field will not induce any of them to neglect an opportunity so open and so desirable. Never, in the history of our churches, has the necessity of efficient training and sound culture been more imperative than at the present day. The need of additional labour in the theological department was the subject of earnest discussion at our last annual meeting. The efficient services of our esteemed principal, and of Dr. Cornish, deserve, and have secured, our cordial and confiding recognition. Not in depreciation of their able and successful teaching, but in view of the more imposing attractions of American seminaries, and to bring more minds to act on the culture of the students, it was thought desirable to increase the staff of instructors. Additional professors, however advantageous, could not at present be thought of. Indeed, the prospective ability of the churches to maintain the college as it is, in view of the possible withdrawal of the help received from England, was regarded as a grave question. To provide against this emergency, was admitted to be a duty of prime moment. In an address delivered at the annual meeting, we ventured to suggest the propriety of soon making an attempt to endow the Theological Chair. This done, not only would the college itself be placed beyond the risk of serious embarrassment, but a step would be taken to secure ultimately a professorship in the department of Church History, on the Lillie Memorial foundation. Sooner than was anticipated, this important effort has been commenced. A friend in Montreal has nobly set an example by the pledge of \$5,000, to be paid on condition, and as soon as the additional sum of \$15,000 is subscribed. Dr. Wilkes has already obtained the sum of \$2,000, which leaves only \$13,000 to be collected. This movement will doubtless commend itself to all the churches, but especially to those to whom the Lord has entrusted ample means, and who are anxious to make such investments of "the Lord's portion" as will be permanently promotive of His cause and kingdom. Not only does this scheme furnish an agency through which a vital and reproductive influence will be exerted on the cause of Christ, by the training of those who will proclaim the Gospel; but, as the money given will be safely invested, and the interest only used, the benefits secured will be transmitted through coming generations. Whoever will take part in this commendable enterprise will, therefore, be permanent benefactors to the denomination and to the Church of Christ. We are growingly convinced that on the efficiency of our Theological College the prosperity of the body will be greatly dependent. But men are wanted—young men of talent, of vigorous character, and of ardent piety. That such may be found amongst us, may surely be presumed, and although no worldly inducements can be offered to excite their consecration to the work, other motives of a nobler order may be legitimately urged. Whilst gladly accepting all who give evidence of fair parts, and sterling piety, and of a call to the ministry, the flower of the churches is at present specially demanded. Happily, there is in process of removal much which in the past seriously discouraged those who occupied situations of secular promise and responsibility from devoting themselves to this high calling. Our churches were, with one or two exceptions, small and feeble, were forced to receive mission-