

that some congregations will not take the trouble of doing anything, and that some men who are quite able to give fifteen shillings a year for the Hall will not give fifteen pence. If our professors were pastors of congregations; as well as professors, we could easily support them by collections, because two or three hundred dollars a year would be all we would have to pay them for their work as professors. For several years before we resolved to raise the \$100,000, we found the yearly collections utterly inadequate for the support of the Hall. And what did we do? We began to use our capital. When the collections were not sufficient, we took a part of what we had invested. Had we continued that work, we would, in a very short time, have no capital. Then we would be wholly dependent upon annual collections for the \$5000 needed for Dalhousie, and the proportion of the agents salary, and for the \$6000 required for the Hall. But would we raise by collections \$11,000 a year? I do not say that we could not, but I do say that we would not. Our congregational collections for the Foreign Mission last year amounted only to \$6,581. The churches in the United States and the Old Country have found it necessary to endow their Halls. The United Presbyterian Church of Scotland has now an endowment fund of \$200,000.

5. It is desirable that those who signed for the Hall should pay, and pay what they signed. When we signed we entered into an agreement with the College Board, and through the college board with the church. We said to the Church: Get a suitable building, put professors in it, and educate such young men as may offer themselves for the gospel ministry, and we will provide the money needed. The Church has performed its part of the contract; it has procured a suitable building, it has placed professors in it, and it is educating all who desire an education from it. What now shall we do? Shall we turn round to the Church and say, we won't pay what we promised? No man of honor will act in this way; much less will a man who fears

God and looks to Him to fulfil his promises to us, act in this way. Should the Church say to us, I do not want you to fulfil your promises to me, then we would be free; but the Church does not say this; it asks us to enable it to support the college by paying what we promised. To sign either for a congregation, or for a college, and not to pay is injurious to the object for which we sign; but especially to the person signing. The tendency of such action is to blunt the conscience, weaken the sense of duty, and destroy the soul. The good man "changeth not, though to his hurt he swear." Should the \$47,000 now signed, and due, but not paid, remain unpaid, the result would be most disastrous to the morality and well-being of our Church. Promises to pay money would come to be looked upon as things involving no moral obligation.

I am not afraid that what has been signed will not be paid, if proper efforts are put forth to collect it. Those who signed, but have not yet paid are, as a general rule, men of honor and of honesty, as well as those who have paid,—men who see and feel that they ought to pay, and who intend to pay. Some have not paid because they have never been asked for their subscriptions, and some, because, owing to the hard times, they have not been able to pay. I know of course that a portion of what has been signed will never be paid. Some of those who signed have failed in business, and are not able to pay. Some of them too, I have no doubt, are careless persons who will not try to pay. And possibly there may be some who would like to get some flimsy excuse for not paying.

6 All that has been signed is now due, and is needed at once. To expect one man to visit all our congregations for the purpose of taking up the subscriptions is unreasonable. Ministers, elders, managers, and leading men in congregations should see to it that the sums signed are collected. Every minister should let his people know that what they signed is due, that it is needed, and that it ought to be