

is engaged on a new metrical version of the psalms. For the benefit of this large and important element in our church, we print, on another page, the first of our Monthly Gaelic Letters.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?—In another column we note facts as to the almost unprecedented progress of our college in the past, and this naturally leads us to ask, "What of the future?" We are unable to say what may be in hand at the present moment in this respect. Perhaps the graduates are unitedly moving in the direction of some great effort to endow a chair, or to have a fair share in the accumulation of real estate for church purposes. We understand that an appeal was made to them nearly a year ago, but our astute and reticent treasurer has communicated nothing to our editorial staff. He is doubtless waiting to make a satisfactory disclosure at the proper time. We never meddle with politics; we decline to express an opinion *pro* or *con* on the N. P., Home Rule, and the late elections in Quebec, but we venture to think that our graduates and readers thoroughly believe in Home Educational Institutions, and that, along with our energetic Board and learned Senate and Faculty, they are determined, in a practical way, to show their patriotic spirit. Let Canada do herself still higher honour in relation to theological training, as a most essential factor in the work of the Church. Our country is flourishing financially, even more than a year ago, and we have a right to expect to reap the benefits of this general prosperity.

WE learn that the French Mission Schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles are in a most prosperous condition. Certain marked improvements have been recently effected. The staff of teachers has been strengthened, and both schools have been properly graded. A feature of special interest and utility is the formation of a superior class, in which the elements of Latin, Greek and mathematics, etc., are taught to persons preparing to become teachers, missionaries, etc. The schools are examined monthly by a committee of the French Board, consisting of Principal Mavcicar, Prof. Coussirat, Rev. J. McCaul and R. H. Warden. As heretofore, great prominence is given to Bible instruction, and the spiritual enlightenment of the pupils. The attendance some weeks ago was up to seventy-four, and may now be over one hundred. We commend these institutions as a grand centre of light and evangelical power. They are closely related to our College in work and management. We shall be glad to see the new programme of study when issued.

WHILE it is quite true you can't kill a dog with a bone, yet, much evil may result from indiscriminate giving. Any eleemosynary system, or the mere bestowment of a largess, is undoubtedly prejudicial to the cultivation of true manliness. No sane man with healthy limbs would

think of using crutches, nevertheless he would readily take advantage of any proper facilities for developing and strengthening his powers. The bearing of this on education for the church is obvious. We think all indiscriminate aid is to be condemned out and out. But there is a legitimate means of aid, which, when judiciously bestowed in the form of prizes, scholarships and medals, is productive of the highest good. So think the authorities of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland, whose list of scholarships, open for competition each year, we give on another page.

WHO would have thought it—such an ill-natured article to come from our usually genial contemporary, the *Canada Presbyterian*, as that which appears under the heading of "Utilizing the lay element," on 2nd inst. We agree thoroughly with all that is said about the ability and devoutness of many of the members of our churches. Yes, we take off our hat in token of respect, and extend the hand of earnest Christian greeting to the noble band of Sabbath-school teachers and other church workers. May their numbers be multiplied a thousand fold. No one can hold them in higher esteem than we do, or be more willing on all fitting occasions to express it. But what need is there, pray, in giving these their due, for depreciating the work or sneering at the youthfulness of students, on whom the Church has to rely to so great an extent for the supply of her scattered home missions. Either this is the settled growl of a confirmed old fogysm, or the momentary irritation of a testy temper whose corns have been trodden upon, perchance by some youthful Boanerges. When Paul was home mission secretary of the church in Europe and Asia, he instructed the young man Timothy to let no one despise his youth. We feel like taking the advice. Albeit, our youth is not quite so extreme as to justify our being called downy-cheeked and inexperienced, if one may judge from the extent to which the beard and moustache movement has attained within our halls.

"OF making books there is no end and much study is a weariness of the flesh." If Solomon was convinced of that before there were any London and New York publishing firms, we are not in a position to dispute it now; but much of the study might be saved many a hard-working student if he had a few necessary yet somewhat expensive books during his college course. In the Free and Established Churches of Scotland, there is an arrangement by which every student is allowed to purchase a certain number of books each year of his theological course at half price, or even less. How much more necessary some such arrangement as that is in Canada than the Old Country, any one can easily understand who knows at what a ransom books are here. We would respectfully urge this scheme upon the attention of some of our wealthy members.