

News of the Church.

Opening of the Theological Hall.

The formal opening of our Divinity School this year was connected with the inauguration of Professors McKnight and Currie into their respective chairs of Theology and Biblical Literature.

The Halifax Presbytery at the request of the Board of Superintendence, appointed the induction to take place in Chalmers' Church on the 1st day of Nov. at 7½ P. M. In the afternoon a rain storm began which in the evening became a tempest (second only to the hurricane of a previous week, by which, if we are to credit the *Edinburgh Daily Review*, Dartmouth was totally destroyed), and prevented hundreds who would have attended. Still hundreds came out. Rev. J. B. Logan preached, Rev. A. Falconer, Moderator, offered the induction prayer, Rev. R. Sedgwick addressed the Professors, and the Secretary of the Board the people. Intimation being given of the time of meeting the classes the doxology was sung, and a deeply interested audience again faced the storm.

The number of students, as was anticipated, is small. Only one entered for the first year, but with him are four Dalhousie students taking lessons in the junior Hebrew. The 2nd year students are in Edinburgh, having made up their minds to go, before the Professorial appointments were made. The 3rd year numbers four. Nine receive instruction—five are regular students.

Of students of Theology we have in Halifax 5, in Edinburgh 4, at Princeton 4, in all 13. Seven or eight will be ready for license in the spring, and if all our absent Lower Province men are drawn back to carry on the Lord's work on their native soil, where there are work, welcome and support awaiting them, we may yet see full half of our vacancies filled up next summer. Meanwhile we will expect them, and this we will say to them that never in these Provinces were there at one time so many inviting openings.

The Board of Superintendence

Met in Chalmers' Church Halifax, on Nov. 1st, at 2 o'clock, P. M. Present Rev. Messrs. McKnight, Currie, Cameron, Falconer, Forrest, Simpson and McGregor. A letter was read from Dr. McCulloch stating that he was absent, not to save expense to himself but in defence of his brethren at a distance from the place of meeting, and to assert the principle that the church has no right to amerce her members in the sum of their expenses for doing its own work.

Letters of inquiry from students intending to study for the ministry were referred to the Secretary with suitable instructions.

The Board directed that as Dr. King had declined taking salary after July 1st although his year terminated Oct. 1st, his annuity should commence from July 1st, and Professor Currie's salary be paid from same date.

The subject of enlarging and completing the funds invested for educational purposes so that the interest meet or nearly meet the salaries of our Professors both in Theological Hall and Dalhousie College, as submitted to the Board by Synod was taken up and carefully considered, when the following resolution was agreed to unanimously:

"The Board having looked carefully at all the circumstances of the case as it now presents itself, viz: the fact of the Synod having previously appointed a special appeal to our people during the year for the Aged and Infirm Ministers Fund, the present reduced situation of the Hall itself as respects attendance, the obligations known to rest at present on our city congregations in the Lower Provinces, the position of the church as a whole, negotiating for a Union, which if consummated must greatly affect the management if not the locality of our school of Theology, considers the time inauspicious for making the proposed appeal for capital funds."

The Secretary then shewed from the present state of the funds that he could not immediately meet the payments ordered, and that in addition to interest accruing from invested funds that the sum of \$2500 would be required from the congregations annually.

By request the following details were submitted:

I. NECESSARY EXPENDITURE.

For four Professors, two in Dalhousie College and two in the Theological Hall \$1200 each per ann	\$4800 00
Dr. King's retiring salary settled by Synod	600 00
Agents per centage, Janitor at Hall, fuel, repairs and insurance on two buildings and library.....	460 00
	\$5860 00

II. INCOME.

Interest on \$56,000, being the amount of the Professorial and general Ministerial Education Funds invested	3360 00
Sum required from the people.....	2500 00
	\$5860 00

It was then agreed that the wants of the fund should be fully and clearly stated by the Secretary in the *Record* for December, and that a Circular should be addressed to each minister asking immediate attention to