

as one of keen questioning and doubt; Christianity is assailed in many ways, but the Christian should be the last to fear an examination of faith. Those who go out as ministers of the gospel must be sure of the message which they have to give to the world. The valedictorian also expressed the sincere good wishes of his class to one of its members who had offered his services as a missionary to the heathen.

The Rev. Dr. Crombie addressed the graduating class, urging them to entirely give themselves up to the work and to be willing to go wherever they were sent.

Dr. MacVicar mentioned great progress the college had made and said:—Two hundred and sixty-three volumes were this session added to the library, chiefly through the kindness of Messrs. David Morrice and A. C. Clark, to whom we tendered cordial thanks. I am glad to say that the library has been more fully used than in any previous year, about a thousand volumes having been taken out by professors and students.

Eighty-four students were enrolled with us during the past winter, and their general health, diligence and success were highly gratifying. Eleven have completed the curriculum and received their diplomas.

We now close the twenty-eighth session of this college, and the record of this period has been one of marked progress. We began in 1867 with little or nothing, our only property being a few plain desks and book cases, containing the nucleus of what has already become a valuable library of over twelve thousand volumes. Our buildings, library, scholarships and endowments testify to the large-hearted liberality of the founders and benefactors of the institution and the outcome of the work of the classrooms has kept pace with this generosity. With the additions made to-night we have upon the roll of our alumni over two hundred and thirty names, and of these more than a hundred and fifty are serving the Master within the bounds of the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa.

At the time of the inception of the college it was found well-nigh impossible to provide missionaries and ministers for eastern Ontario and the valley of the Ottawa and the Province of Quebec. This was a very serious state of things, and if allowed to continue would have weakened the Church, checked her growth and led to many disastrous consequences. It was urged by our founders, on the floor of Synod and Assembly, that the difficulty could be removed and these evils could be averted by training men for the field within the bounds in this metropolitan city and in alliance with our great Protestant University. It was contended that loyal Presbyterians would not fail to respond to the call of duty in this matter, and the soundness of the argument thus advanced, more than a quarter of a century ago, is shown to-night by the facts which I have just stated.

We have, by the grace of God, more than met the destitution then so clamant, and we have done so, and mean to continue to do so, in a way which secures general approbation. In a true patriotic and cosmopolitan spirit we unite various races in our classrooms, men speaking five or six different languages, and thus seek to bind together in Christian harmony the diverse elements of our youthful nation. It is well known that the population of the Dominion is heterogeneous; and no one will deny the right of all to hear in their own tongues the wonderful works of God. To secure this we have lectures in English, French and Gaelic. There are in Ontario alone, I am creditably informed, at least twenty congregations in which a knowledge of Gaelic is indispensable to the minister, and it is unnecessary to say how extensive the demand is for French.

In view of these facts we aim at being thoroughly practical, keeping in all respects abreast of the needs of our country and age, and fitting ourselves into our environment by preparing men to minister effectively to the people in the languages which are dear to their hearts. But while this is the case, I do not wish to convey the impression that the college is in any sense provincial or local. The very opposite is the fact. Its faculty, senate and board of management breathe a healthy spirit

of true catholicity. It is as broad as the Word of God in its aims, views and aspirations. While beginning at home, and giving special attention to parts adjacent, it seeks to extend its Christian influence and usefulness to the ends of the earth, and thus to act upon the Saviour's declaration that 'the field is the world.' To us home and foreign missions are one—only two departments of the one great enterprise. We therefore rejoice in being faithfully represented by our alumni in England, the United States and all the provinces of the Dominion, as well as in foreign countries. Our students are drawn from this wide area, and our graduates are pastors in chief cities and towns, such as Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Pembroke, Perth, Peterboro, Brockville, Bowmanville, Toronto, Brampton, Hamilton, London, Chatham and Victoria, on the Pacific coast, as well as vigorous missionaries in some of the roughest and hardest fields in the Dominion, east and west. A large number of our most energetic men are settled in the North-West, and no fewer than fourteen of our students were last week appointed to Manitoba and British Columbia to act as missionaries during the summer, while two of our professorial staff are to lecture in Manitoba College at the same time without drawing their salary from that institution. Thus it seems to me that we make a considerable contribution to the enlightenment and spiritual good of that great and growing country. And we must never forget those of our number who have borne the Gospel to foreign lands, to Asia, India and China. Their faith and self-sacrifice deserve commendation upon all occasions. But while thus pre-eminently missionary in our activity, we have steadily raised the standard of theological learning by our honour courses and exacting examinations. To this fact many can bear witness. These examinations are in part conducted by distinguished gentlemen who are not members of the teaching staff.

We have taken advantage of every modern improvement in pedagogics or the science and art of teaching, and have not disregarded hints and suggestions from friend or foe, from the pulpit, the pew or the press. I only qualify this statement by the remark that, while we teach very much that cannot be reported, and a great deal that was not taught in theological seminaries twenty or thirty years ago, it is obviously impossible to compass the whole field of theology, of church law, practical godliness, pastoral oversight, care of the young, etc., in three brief sessions of six months each, but in order to success we count upon good men continuing to be hard students as long as they live.

One other word in this connection. respectfully remind you that it belongs to the teachers of public schools, high schools, and the professors in faculties of arts, to train young men in English, Latin, Greek, logic, philosophy, and so forth. If there are defects in these departments let the responsibility rest where it belongs. Our work begins with students after they have passed through these branches and they enter upon higher studies, and it goes without saying that the more thorough the culture in all that is elementary and preparatory the greater will be our pleasure and success.

Finally, the results of the past session and of our past history are such as should inspire us with thankfulness and courage. But we cannot stand still. We must go forward. With such a record as we have already made why should not the college rise to far greater eminence? It may be said that this moment is not opportune to project new undertakings, and yet those who are sustaining the work in its present position, and who are possibly contemplating greater things in future might justly blame me did I not, from time to time, intimate that much remains to be done in order to place the college in the position which it deserves to occupy. Many of our scholarships are not endowed, and they are not as large and as numerous as they should be. Our general endowment is quite inadequate for purposes of annual revenue. We should have endowed foundations for special lectureships enabling us to take advantage of the talent and learning of the Church and of the gifts of

specialists beyond Canada. We should have travelling fellowships by which distinguished students might visit other seats of learning for post-prandial studies.

We should have all the appliances by which to meet the universal demand for thoroughly equipped men in the university. May the Lord constrain and enable his people to provide these things in due course. Amen.

The proceedings were closed by the pronouncing of the benediction by the Rev. Dr. Lyle.

Church News

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after the occurrences to which they refer have taken place.]

In Canada.

REV. W. BURNS reports a donation amounting to \$50, from "A Friend," for the Jewish Mission.

REV. DR. JACKSON, of Knox church, Galt, Ont., will conduct the anniversary services of East Presbyterian church, this city, on Sabbath, May 5th.

A CORRESPONDENT writes that one of the most successful entertainments ever enjoyed at Ballyduff was that held recently in the church there, on behalf of the Sabbath school. There was a large attendance and the talent was exceptionally good. The Methodists and Presbyterians combined on the occasion.

A SERIES of evangelistic services have been successfully conducted at North Pelham, Ont., in which the pastor, Rev. Mr. Roger, was ably assisted by Messrs. Bryant and Greenfield and, also, during part of the series, by Rev. J. W. Mitchell, who in addition to the general work, gave an interesting lecture on Dr. Paton's work in the New Hebrides, illustrated by colored stereopticon slides.

ON the eve of the departure of the Rev. A. and Mrs. MacTavish for their new home in Tyrone, the members and adherents of the church at Chater assembled to say good-bye to their late pastor and his wife. A very pleasant evening was spent. A special feature of the evening was the presentation to Mrs. MacTavish, who had been organist for the congregation for the past five years, of an address and well filled purse.

THE following interesting items have been culled from the annual report of the First Church, at Seaford, Ont. The total envelope collections for 1894 were \$2,471; for 1893, \$2,460 and for 1892, \$2,523. There is a slight decrease in open collections, the amount for last year being \$460, as against \$502 for 1893, and \$453 for 1892. The anniversary contributions, including those at the tea-meeting are considerably larger this year, being \$72.55, as compared with \$25 in 1893 and \$63.70 in 1892. Total income \$3,507.14. After paying all accounts out of this sum, a balance of \$141 remains on hand. The various reports were very interesting.

THE following further reference to the destruction of St. Andrew's church, Windsor, has been published:—In a few minutes the flames burst from all parts of the building, and it was seen that the church was doomed. Adjoining the building on the west was the Sabbath school room, and on the south the manse occupied by Rev. Mr. Tolmie. The firemen directed their attention to saving these buildings, and for a time it seemed as if they would go, as the water furnished in two of the branches was not strong enough to raise the stream to their roofs. The crowd soon cleaned the manse out of all household goods, and one of the heavy streams was turned on the house. The firemen by means of ladders managed to get the water on top of the school room, and both buildings were saved. The fire, though lasting only about an hour, was a very hot one, as the interior of the building was finished throughout with pine, and only the heavy brick walls kept the flames from spreading. The church was erected in 1884, but since the arrival of the present pastor it has been unable to accommodate the attend-