

# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SUPERINTENDENCE OF THEOLOGICAL HALL, 1873-1874.

By the good hand of our God upon us, another Session of the Theological Hall has been held with comfort and success. It was opened on the evening of November fourth. The Devotional services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Ross, and Rev. J. K. Smith, and the Introductory Lecture delivered by Prof Currie, being an able, and in every respect an excellent Paper on German Rationalism, viewed historically, and in its bearing on Inspiration and the proper interpretation of the Word of God. Eight Students and a large and respectable audience were present. At the close of the meeting the usual arrangements respecting the classes and their hours of meeting were made. All the information required respecting the course of study, is furnished in the following reports by the Professors:

REPORT BY REV. PROFESSOR MACKNIGHT.

*April 9th., 1874.*

The close of another Session of the Theological Hall bids us to review the past, and recognize the goodness of the Lord in preserving our lives and enabling us to accomplish the tasks of the bye-gone season.

There were ten students—two of the third year, five of the second year, and three of the first year. One left us, however, about the end of January, so that our number is now reduced to nine.

I lectured, as a general rule, four days a week. The principal topics reviewed were, the nature and attributes of God, the Trinity, Creation, Providence, the Angels, the Original Condition of Man, and his fallen state. A brief outline of the history of doctrine was incorporated with the theological course. One day in the week was given to a sort of conversational exercise on Hodge's Systematic Theology. Over 700 pages of that admirable work were thus gone over in the course of the Session. On the other four days of the week we had a similar exercise on general church history—text-books, Schaff and Kurtz—period, later patristic and mediæval.

Besides the usual Hall Discourses, there were two Essay's required of the class—one on the doctrine of the Trinity, the other on the Fall and its consequences. The reading and criticising of these afforded some relief to the monotony of regular class-work, and furnished an exercise in itself alike interesting and instructive.

I have much pleasure in testifying to the diligence of the students, and the propriety of their department.

ALEX. MCKNIGHT.

# REPORT OF REV. PROFESSOR CURRIE

To the Board of Superintendence of the Theological Hall of the P. C. of the Lower Provinces.

During the session which has just closed I conducted three classes,—a Junior Hebrew, and Senior Hebrew, and an exegetical, each class meeting for three quarters of an hour, five days in the week.

The Junior Hebrew was attended by three first year students, and for part of the term by a Dalhousie College student who purposes entering the Hall next term. This class mastered a full outline of the grammar of the language, carefully committing to memory the paradigms of nouns, verbs, &c. Eight chapters of Genesis were read, every word of which was subjected to a searching analysis. An exercise in Hebrew composition was prepared on an average twice a week. Although the ground travelled over in translation has not been extensive, yet it is hoped that a more accurate knowledge of grammatical form has thus been obtained, than if a wider field had been more cursorily traversed.

The Senior Hebrew class was attended by the second and third year students, seven in all. The whole of Green's Hebrew Grammar was reviewed. Selections were read from Judges, Psalms, Proverbs, Job, the Song, Isaiah, Obadiah and Nahum. Four chapters of the Chaldee, in Daniel, were also read in connection with the study of Winer's Grammar of this language. About once a week this class prepared an exercise in Hebrew composition.

The class in Exegetics was attended by all the students. The doctrinal part of the Epistle to the Hebrews, ending with the 18th verse of the 10th chapter, was critically read—no difficulty being designedly left unnoticed. The method pursued in the conduct of this exercise was partly that of oral exposition, and partly that of question and answer, as it was thought that in this way more life could be infused into the work, and better opportunities afforded the student of noticing difficulties of stating his views, and of exercising his knowledge of the rules of Hermeneutics, than by the reading of Exegetical lectures from the chair. Once a week I delivered a written lecture. After four or five lecture on Inspiration, the subject of Hermeneutics was taken up and as full an outline given as time would permit. Such topics as the following were discussed:—the Hermeneutical canons, the various sources of Exegetical aid, the interpretation of prophecy, types, parables, &c. Once a week the students were examined on Part IV. of Barrow's Introduction, to the study of the Bible which treats of the Principles of Biblical Interpretation. This class pre-