

polished in expression. The interest which he manifestly feels in his work wins the respect of his students, while his ability as a teacher evokes their gratitude and esteem.

During the session just closed, Mr. Scrimger has also occupied the Lectureship of Sacred Rhetoric, hitherto filled by Rev. A. B. Mackay of Crescent Street Church. This office has brought him before the students as a critical commentator on certain modern productions, and he has abundantly convinced all open to conviction that he is equally at home in analysing inspired and uninspired literature. It is safe to say that his criticisms in this department will not soon be forgotten, while many of his students will remember them every time they sit down to compose a sermon.

Montreal has not been permitted to retain the Rev. Mr. Scrimger "in peace." Many approaches were made to him by leading congregations elsewhere during his Ministry ; but in no case did he encourage the prosecution of a call. An earnest call from Knox Church, Ottawa, has no better success in tempting him away. He was also nominated for the Principalship of Manitoba College by one of the Ontario Presbyteries. It is neither affection nor flattery to say that Professor Scrimger's departure from among us would have proved a serious loss to the College.

In the councils and work of the Church he takes a prominent and active part. Since 1874 he has been a member (and sometime chairman) of the College Board, the Senate and the Board of French Evangelization. At present he is convener of two important Assembly Committees—that on Protestant Education in the Province of Quebec, and the Committee on Co-operative Mission work in sparsely settled fields. This latter movement of proposed united work with other evangelical bodies (especially the Wesleyans) in such fields, meets with the fullest sympathy of his broad and liberal views.

In 1874 he married Miss Gairdner, daughter of Dr. Jas. Gairdner of Bayfield, Ont.

I cannot close this sketch more fittingly than by reiterating a wish expressed in the columns of this Journal in 1881, namely, that of every student in this institution who has come under the kindly influence of Mr. Scrimger, that he may be long spared by the Great Head of the Church to exercise in His service the eminent talents which have already won for him the respect of all his students, and the personal influence which has gained for him their sincere affection.

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The Bible has a wonderful firmament, out of which the light comes, and the rain, and from which the key of heaven may at any moment drop. Its earth is very legible ; its firmament is an eternal mystery.

—*Joseph Parker.*