

lowances for the proneness of young men to change their choice of profession during the university course for reasons which have nothing to do with philosophical views or spiritual changes, yet can it be doubted that the teaching, the results of which are briefly indicated herewith, are of a most injurious character. It matters little that these men, like some of the professors in the University of Toronto officially declare themselves to be Christians, so long as their teaching is what it is and so long as young men preparing for the study of theology must necessarily put themselves under the teaching of those who employ profound learning, great intellectual acuteness and often a superb charm of manner to undermine faith in the historic and unrevealed truths of Christianity. It is true, though this is but small compensation, that the man who has battled with these temptations and has overcome them is a stronger and a nobler man for the battle he has fought. Even for them the risk is too great. It is like that which French Canadian children incur when their mothers deliberately carry them to a house in which the small-pox is so that they may have the disease while they are young.

Queen's University.

The annual meetings in connection with the closing of Queen's University, extended reports of which will be found in this issue of the REVIEW, have been of a singularly satisfactory character and have shown that the University is in a flourishing condition. The rev. principal and the professors are to be congratulated upon the results of their arduous labors as seen in the standing of the students in the examinations; and upon the solid, yea, surprising increase in the number of students attending the University. The total last year was very high and might have been considered unstable, but instead of falling off or even maintaining the figure of last year the increase has shot ahead and is so distributed over the faculties as to prove that it is no mere mushroom growth. At the meeting of trustees the necessity for a new chair in Church History was admitted and no doubt an effort will be made to have the want supplied.

A Backward and Unworthy Step. The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States has been obliged to cut down its appropriation for the year beginning May 1st, from the \$1,015,000 of the preceding year to \$900,000. This will affect, it is said, the cases of thirteen young men and ten young women who are ready for the foreign field. This back-step is, no doubt, mainly due to the financial depression, though the theological controversy in the Presbyterian Church is thought to be a factor of some importance in the result.

Taxation of Church Property. With respect to the bill to tax church property recently defeated in the Minnesota Legislature the *Methodist Herald* says: "A strict application of the doctrine of the necessary separation of the church and state would call for such a law, and many thoughtful Christian people believe that nothing less is consistent with the proper attitude of the church and for the best. And yet there is a general feeling that the churches are so essential to the welfare of the state and being supported by voluntary contributions they ought to be released from the burden of

taxation. And we are inclined to think this feeling will continue to prevail, especially as the churches come to be regarded less and less as so many sects existing chiefly for self aggrandizement and the propagation of their peculiar tenets. With the growth in our churches of a more practical sympathy for the unfortunate and the distressed, when our church buildings at the larger centers of population are kept open every day in the week for the objects of practical philanthropy, demonstrating the purpose of Christianity to reach the whole man, whatever be his station, the public sense of indebtedness to organized Christianity will be such as to render unpopular any movement to tax church property, strictly so employed."

A Well Merited Tribute. "A retired minister, Toronto," writes to the PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW as follows:—The Aged Ministers have received from their Fund a large amount for this half year, being the annuities in full according to rule; with the amounts kept back last year, which is more than ever before. Rev. William Burns the agent deserves their gratitude for his great exertions on behalf of the fund; and it is hoped that we Christian people will so respond to his appeals, as soon to raise the \$200,000 endowment, and thus place it on a safe basis.

Monism Criticised. In a recent number of the Denison Quarterly Dr. A. J. F. Behrends of Brooklyn thus forcibly deals with the fad of Monism: "Monism, is the fashion. Scientists and philosophers are loud in its praises. Theologians are reconstructing their dogmatics along its lines. But for ourselves, so long as it has no support in sober science, and is squarely challenged by a sound psychology, and involves so many and serious revolutionary inferences, we are not prepared even provisionally to adopt it. It is only a new word for an old heresy, than which none has ever wrought more disastrously against morals and religion."

Well Put. Says the *West and North-West*: "Here is a cluster of gifted and consecrated young volunteers willing to give what is more precious than fortunes, that is themselves, to evangelize the world. Here is an unchristianized world, numbering a billion souls, unconscious of its need and unaware of any help that can be had for those who live a sodden life and die a hopeless death. Here is the church which ought to pay the expenses of introducing these missionaries to their work. But the tightened purse-strings have said to the volunteers, 'You must give up your mission and disobey our Lord. We will not pay your passage or living in preaching the gospel to every creature.'"

A Formidable List. "The voice of the Presbyteries is heard throughout the land."—Mid-Continent. To be followed by the more sonorous tones of the General Assemblies: May 16—General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the U. S. A., Pittsburg, Pa.; General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S., Dallas, Texas; General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Meridian, Miss.; General Assembly, Cumberland Presbyterian Church (colored), Nashville, Tenn.; General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of America, Coulterville, Ill.; May 23—General Assembly, United Presbyterian Church, North America, Pittsburgh, Pa.; June 6—Synod of the Reformed Church, U.S.A., Denver, Col.; Synod of Reformed Church in America, Grand Rapids, Mich.; June 12—General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, London, Ont.—*New York Observer*.