

novel and the stage had behind it all the authority of the Word of God. Now Montreal is not a wildly radical community. McGill University is not earmarked by Rationalism and Materialism. The Presbyterian College is not to be classed with a Harvard Divinity School or the lecture-room of a German theological faculty. The churches of Montreal are not characterized by either iconoclasm in theology or sensationalism in worship. And yet the change from the quiet country parish to the varied life of the city was bound to have a disturbing effect upon a mind that had lived in unbroken serenity, and in the atmosphere of established order and settled convictions. New points of view were certain to be gained, and new habits of thought to be formed. One side of the change was the effect upon McCheyne's attitude towards other churches. Till he came to Montreal he had never been in any church but his father's. He had been trained to look askance upon other religious bodies. Methodism was a syllabub of hysterical enthusiasm and theological blunders. Congregationalism was the expression of an audacious and perilous freedom. Episcopacy was but a masquerading robe of ritual thrown over an unspiritual and worldly life. But in the city his eyes were opened to certain facts, and among these not the least significant was this, that these people, whom he had known only at a distance and through the mists of prejudice, were after all not such appalling monsters. By an intercollegiate arrangement he found himself taking lectures from a Congregational professor who seemed to be quite a sane and well-balanced individual. In his McGill