

us with hope and courage for the future. In about twelve years we have become possessed of a quarter of a million in the form of endowments, buildings, library and other equipments. Our students are drawn from all parts of the Dominion, from Prince Edward Island to Manitoba, and our graduates preaching in French, English, and Gaelic, are as widely scattered. They have gone to the north, the east and the west, everywhere declaring the glorious gospel of the grace of God. No fewer than six of our graduates and students will be in Manitoba this summer, and ere long we hope to be represented on the Foreign field.

Are there not large hearted, far seeing christian men and women here to-night who will at once aid us in enlarging our library and our whole work after the manner of others whose names are now honoured in Canada and Britain and the United States for their munificence towards this institution?

We need two more chairs endowed without delay, and now that business is rushing, and enormous fortunes are being accumulated on every side, and that the labours of the session are over, you need not be surprised if some of us should find our way to your offices, and I trust to your hearts, in connection with this matter.

The Treasurer has received from Mr. Edward MacKay \$50,000 to endow the "Joseph MacKay Chair"—ten thousand dollars of which being a bequest by the late Mr. Joseph MacKay. Mrs. Redpath has also paid \$20,000 to found the "John Redpath Chair." Warmest thanks are tendered to both these generous benefactors. By their noble deed they have attached to our College permanently the honoured names of two Elders of our Church whose memories we delight to cherish.

The Valedictorian, Mr. J. B. Stewart, on his own behalf and that of the other members of the graduating class, said:—

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—Parting words, when the separation is the most painful, are expressively few. But since precedent has established the custom it may not be considered out of place, ere the final separation occurs, that we, as a graduating class, should dwell for a little on the past, and take a brief prospective glance into the future. We have reached to-night the goal we set before us, and which, at one time, seemed to lie in the far distant future. There is always more or less of satisfaction when an end has been attained, and the satisfaction is increased in proportion to the difficulties and obstacles overcome in attaining it.

Once we imagined, in our verdant innocence, that our mere presence within college walls would make us learned and great. We have penetrated some, at least, of the mysteries of college life and experience, and we find we are not the sages we expected to be. We have discovered that both knowledge and wisdom still linger within the shelves of the College Library, and within the minds of our learned professors. We find that instead of having reached the summit of knowledge we are still painfully climbing near its base, while the heights tower far overhead among the mists and clouds. We are not so deceived as to suppose that we have learned all that the college could have taught. We are painfully conscious that we are not "what we might have been." The high ideal we once set before us we find to be still an ideal unrealized. We have learned, at least by our college experience,

how little we do know, and with this as a foundation we can go on with greater satisfaction and success in making positive acquisitions.

The period of time covered by our college course has been an eventful one, if not in our individual lives, at least in the history of our Alma Mater. During that period we have witnessed the beginning and partial completion of the David Morrice hall, which shall long remain as a monument of munificence well applied, and for which students in years to come will be grateful to the generous donor. During that period large additions have been made to the permanent endowment of the chairs of the college, testifying to the zeal and liberality in the cause of education on the part of citizens of Montreal. During that same period the staff has been strengthened by the appointment of a permanent professor in the French department, a gentleman who fills his position with honour and success. The power to grant degrees which the college has recently acquired, and the establishing of the post graduate course, have given the college a status and dignity among the first institutions in the land.

But our course has not been all sunshine. Our band is smaller than it might have been. We miss one from our number to-night who looked forward to being with us at this graduating ceremony. Mr. Alfred Blouin, who commenced his studies, has been removed from us by death. His character and attainments promised a life of active and useful service in the Master's vineyard, and his gentle and affectionate manner won for him a high place in the esteem of his fellow-students. Another of our number has been compelled to leave us on account of failing health, and is now engaged in the ministry in the milder climate of the far south-west.

We deem it no small privilege to have received an education in the Commercial Metropolis of Canada. We were here permitted to listen to some of the highest specimens of pulpit eloquence. We have received not a little help and stimulus from the men of talent who have visited us from the neighbouring republic and from the Mother Country. Apart from the instructions of our own Professors, which we most highly value, we have been benefited by many who have gained a high name for ministerial efficiency in other lands. The larger experience and the deeper knowledge of human nature to be acquired in a great city are among the benefits we have received from our residence in Montreal. The interest which the citizens have ever shown in the students demand at this time, the expression of our warmest gratitude. Our secluded life has occasionally been broken in upon by social and friendly intercourse in the hospitable homes of Montreal citizens. But to this city, with all its advantages and attractions, we must bid adieu and seek in different parts our spheres of labour. We congratulate ourselves on the times in which we are called upon to engage in the active duties of the ministry. We are not among those who consider that their lot has been cast upon pre-eminently evil times. No doubt there are rumours of atheism, agnosticism and evolution, which make the timid and inexperienced shrink and tremble, but the analysis of the different theories and speculations which are opposed to Christianity discovers to us but new phases of old principles which have ever had their seat in the deeprooted enmity of the heart against the truth of God. But christianity has nothing to fear from all her foes. Her Citadel still stands and will continue to stand secure. The foolishness of God is still wiser than men, and the