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McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

ACC. NO. 90 9 A 112

REF. 19

Presbyterian College, Halifax, Sep. 7, 1895.

DEAR SIR,-

It is a matter for regret that our Canadian Church has not had a greater share in the general activity of the theological world, which has been so marked during the past few years. This can be, in measure, satisfactorily explained by the immense field of Home and Foreign Missionary work that has engaged her attention. But it would seem fitting for us now to join with others in dealing with the problems of thought, that are forcing themselves upon the Church at large.

A number of prominent members of our Church with whom I have had an opportunity of consulting upon the matter, are of opinion that such efforts would be greatly furthered by the publication of a quarterly Review, which might commend itself for the following reasons:—

- (1.) Many of the ministers and laymen of our Church who now contribute to British or American periodicals, would be induced to publish in a distinctively Canadian organ, and thus preserve for our Church the credit of their scholarship.
- (2.) Such a magazine would be a stimulus to our young men to direct their energies and culture to special lines of study, and would thus be of service in raising the standard of theological learning in the Dominion.

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- (3.) Circulating among the laymen of our Church, it would deepen their interest in questions of theology and philosophy, which they constantly meet in other magazines, discussed often from a point of view not friendly to Christianity.
- (4.) It would serve to bring our Colleges and those interested in them into closer fellowship, uniting them in a common search for truth, and broadening their views by an interchange of opinion.

As a preliminary step to such an undertaking, it is desirable to ascertain the views of representative men, who might be expected to lend their support to such an enterprise. Having been requested by some of those favourable to the proposal to communicate with others who might be supposed to be in sympathy with it, I take the liberty of asking you kindly to favour me with your views as to the feasibility of the project, and as to the size and style of the publication at which we ought to aim.

As a standard for size the *Critical Review*, of Edinburgh, has been suggested, while a prominent feature might be reviews of recent publications over the signatures of the reviewers.

Trusting that you will favour me with a reply at your earliest convenience,

I am, yours respectfully,

R. A. FALCONER.