

THE PRESBYTERIAN RECORD

FOR THE
DOMINION OF CANADA.

VOL. VII

NOVEMBER, 1882.

NO. 11

CONTENTS.

<p>More Ministers..... 281</p> <p>The Prophets and their Work, by Prof. Scrimger..... 282</p> <p>International Sabbath-School Lessons..... 285</p> <p>Our Own Church..... 287</p> <p>Our Colleges..... 288</p> <p>Manitoba Items..... 289</p> <p>Obituary..... 293</p> <p>Ecclesiastical News..... 294</p>	<p>Home Missions, Meetings of Committee..... 296</p> <p>British Columbia, Dr. Cochran's Report..... 297</p> <p>New Hebrides Mission..... 300</p> <p>The Trinidad Mission..... 300</p> <p>Indore, Letter from Rev. J. Wilkie..... 302</p> <p>Formosa, letter from Dr. McKay..... 303</p> <p>Missionary Items..... 303</p> <p>A page for the Young..... 304</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

More Ministers.

NOTWITHSTANDING the oft-repeated statement that we have "too many Theological Colleges," the fact remains that the supply of ministers for our own church is not equal to the demand. We are not able to supply our vacant charges with ministers, not to speak of the new fields which invite our occupation. At this moment there are *eight* vacant congregations in the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island, and *ten* in the Presbytery of St. John. In the Maritime Provinces there are twenty-five vacant charges, and in Ontario and Quebec at least double that number, to say nothing of the ever increasing demands of the North West Territories. Our schools of the prophets are doing their utmost to train labourers for the field; but the students in attendance in most instances are far too few. Even supposing it could be shown that we had enough young men in training to keep up the apostolic succession within the geographical bounds of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, the appeal for more theological students would lose none of its force. The church of Christ recognizes no such limits. From every branch of it there is heard at the present time a loud call for "more ministers and more missionaries." Even the United States, with their eight thousand Presbyterian ministers, complain that while the demand for ministers is increasing, the supply is actually decreasing. But whatever may be the relative position as to supply and demand amongst ourselves, let us never forget

that "the field is the world," and that in the regions beyond, in the vast mission field, there is not only room, but an urgent call for an *unlimited* number of consecrated men; and it is just from such churches as our own, with the early dew of youth yet resting upon it, that we should expect to find men of the right stamp for missionaries, men fired with enthusiasm and love of enterprize, and who are not afraid to encounter "hardness" for Christ's sake. Even now, although it is but the day of small things with us, we can count such by the score—men who have gone forth from this Church, and are now labouring faithfully, and successfully in India, China, Persia, Turkey, the West Indies, Polynesia, Australia and New Zealand. Would that there were a hundred times as many more. We appeal to godly parents that they put no hindrance in the way of the brightest and most precious members of their families devoting themselves to the work of the ministry. The Lord has need of your children; he claims them as his own. Do not refuse Him. To thoughtful, devoted, godly young men we say, give yourselves to this work. None nobler nor more honourable can be found on earth. We say to ministers who know well the families of their congregations, and can speak to them from personal experience, seek out the most likely young men within your reach, and endeavour to turn their attention to the work of the ministry as an occupation worthy of their ambition. Tell them there is scope here for the loftiest patriotism, the most ardent zeal, the most exemplary self-devotion, the most daring spirit of hallowed enterprize, the most accomplished scholarship, the most entrancing eloquence. Let it be told from Bonavista to Victoria, and in tones that cannot be mistaken, that we have *not* too many colleges, but that we have too few students, and that we urgently require **MORE MINISTERS.**