

work, and to accept of me as her agent, I would feel that I was following the leadings of Providence in going forth to that field, even though it should be in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. Should she feel confident that even after the lapse of a few years, she would be in a position to undertake it, I would cheerfully spend the interval in work at home, and hold myself in readiness to go, whenever she might choose to send me, and as there are special studies required for such a work, I might in the meantime be occupied in prosecuting them. If, however, she should feel it to be her duty not to take such a step, I shall still endeavour to watch the leadings of Providence, and if an opening presents itself in connection with any of the Churches here, with whom our Church holds correspondence, I may see it to be my duty to enter into their service. If not I shall think that I have mistaken the field in which Providence intends that I should labour, and I shall still endeavour to find out, if possible, what He wishes me to do and where He will have me to go.

But I must draw to a close. My letter I fear, is already far too long, and were it not that I feel that you are deeply interested in the cause of missions, as well as in my personal welfare, I should scarcely have taken the liberty of writing you at such length. Pardon my trespassing so far upon your time. Of course you are at liberty to make what use of the letter you think best. I have addressed it to you, rather than to the Board, feeling that I could express myself more freely by so doing. I do not know whether or not this is the usual practice in such cases. If not, you will please excuse my mistake.

In conclusion, I feel that I need scarcely request an interest in your prayers, for I am confident that you will be instant in asking that God would direct me in the right way, and enable me to discern His most holy will.

I remain,

Yours in best bonds,

EDWARD A. McCURDY.

Rev. James Bayne, Pictou.

PRAYER FOR COLLEGES:

The last Thursday of February is observed almost universally by the American churches as a day for Special Prayer for Colleges. We trust that the day has not been wholly overlooked in our own church; but whether it has been remembered or not, our duty is to pray without ceasing for our Colleges and institutions of learning. If there is one thing more than another for

which a church should pray it is the conversion of the educated youth of the country—the persons who are to fill our pulpits, and occupy all places of influence and power when we shall have gone after our fathers “the way of all the earth.” The destinies of our church and country are under God, in the hands of our educated men. How important that we should have god-fearing lawyers, politicians, merchants, and doctors! Who can tell the good which even one man may accomplish when he consecrates himself and his possessions to the cause of God.

Never had the church and the community greater need than now for men of profound piety united with a thorough education; men who through the press and the pulpit, the platform and the legislative halls, will exercise a wholesome Christian influence and lead public opinion in accordance with Bible truth. Pray then that God would pour out His Spirit abundantly on those who at present fill places of influence, and on those who must shortly succeed them.

And when you pray ask yourself, “What can I do to promote the interests of the institutions of my own Church? Does the College stand in need of pecuniary aid? Can I assist any deserving young man to fit himself for future usefulness? There is no way in which a man can more effectually influence the future than by aiding young men of talent and piety in securing their education.

Follow out then the true Scripture method of mingling good deeds with earnest prayers. The Head of the Church will hear the prayers and accept the deeds, and great shall be your reward in Heaven.

THE CHILDREN.

God in his providence is calling loudly to the Church and all her members to be mindful of the little children. In some of our congregations death has smitten the lambs of the flock with unusual frequency. Many families mourn over two, three, or more cut down in the sweet morning of life. Diseases of various kinds are ever busy fulfilling the