

THE CANADIAN
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN MAGAZINE.

VOL. I. TORONTO, NOVEMBER 1, 1854. No. 11.

Miscellaneous Articles.

SUBSTANCE OF THE LECTURE DELIVERED AT THE OPENING OF THE DIVINITY HALL OF THE
U. P. CHURCH, IN THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, TORONTO, AUGUST 1ST, 1854.

(Continued from page 242, and concluded.)

We have hitherto been looking chiefly at the removal of obstacles to entering on the ministry; let us now—turning from the negative to the positive—directly direct our attention to some inducements.

A variety of minor considerations are barely worth mentioning. For example, we need scarcely say that, though the office never can be lucrative—never can hold out the slightest prospect of aggrandizement for ourselves or our families—the position it gives a man in society, provided his character correspond to his calling, is, at least, respectable, and he will generally be deemed not unworthy to associate with persons whose worldly means are vastly beyond his own. If, again, he is desirous of influence in the neighbourhood in which he resides, he will find that, with dignified behaviour on his own part, that will not be wanting. The fact, too, of his being a man of learning, and of regular, domestic, studious habits, (all of which must be presumed,) will afford him facilities for superintending, and promoting, the education of his family, and of introducing them into respectable and advantageous connections, beyond what he might have enjoyed had he been following some much more profitable vocation of a secular nature.

At these things, however, we merely glance by-the-by, and fix on much loftier considerations. We make our appeal almost exclusively to the piety of our Youth. We urge on them the demands of duty, without regard to personal advantage—at least of a worldly sort—though we have the highest authority for bringing it to view a rich, and glorious, and eternal, reward, of a kind corresponding to the service. Faithful are the words of our Divine Master—"Verily I say unto you, there is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake and the Gospel's, but he shall receive an hundred-fold now in this time—houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions—and in the world to come, eternal life." Let it not, however, be understood to insinuate that all even of our sincerely religious young men ought to think of becoming ministers. That requires talents and aptitude, in various respects, which many do not possess, and, assuredly, there are other ways of glorifying God, and serving one's generation, than by preaching the Gospel. In determining whether we possess such qualifications, and have a call to undertake ourselves to the ministry, we must carefully guard against the suggestions of vanity and self-conceit. It is well when the concurrence of persons distinguished for