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## THE COLLEGE SABBATH.

Once a year, on the second Sabbath in October, the Congregational churches in British North America are requested to bear their school of the prophets in *special* remembrance before God. We say, in "special" remembrance, for it would be a woful thing, were we to pray for the rising ministry on but one Sabbath of the year. Pastors after God's own heart are His own gifts to the churches, and are among the blessings of which He says, "For all this will I be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them." "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth labourers into His harvest." But has not such prayer been withheld? How often is it presented, as the year goes round, in the closet, the family, the prayer-meeting, and the sanctuary?

It is our own deep conviction, that the great want of our college at this juncture is prayer; and by prayer, we do not mean only the utterance of verbal petitions, but all those thoughts, feelings, and desires, that "waiting upon God and expectation from Him," which go to make up the "effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man, which availeth much." Prayer is the voice or outgrowth of the whole spiritual condition of a man or a church. In the remarks made at the annual meeting, there was some probing of the depths of this matter—"Why have we so few candidates for the ministry? Because there are few young men in the churches; because they are not sufficiently 'brought out;' because there is a lack of the spirit of self-consecration; because the churches so often make the minister's life a hard one;" and so on. In other words, because we all come short of our standard. To put the hand that fights, and the tongue that speaks, in good condition, the whole body must be sound and strong. To produce a ministry of the right stamp, the churches must be right themselves. And it is an incidental counter-balancing of that paucity of students which we all deplore, that it forces upon us "great searchings of heart." As a good brother wrote here last month, "what we want" is a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit. There are young men in our congregations, whom He can