

point of view as students, has many attractive features, to a few of which we thought it not inappropriate to direct your attention and our own. All legitimate work is noble, but the work of the Christian minister is the noblest of all. The husbandman who prepares the soil, who scatters the seed, and reaps the harvest; the physician who studies the nature of disease and seeks the restoration of the sick, are engaged in honest and honorable work, but the man who breaks up the fallow ground of human hearts, who sows the incorruptible seed of the word, and reaps a harvest of saved individuals; the man who understands the deep maladies of the soul and knows how to apply the remedy which brings a permanent cure, is occupied in a work which transcends the former, as far as the spiritual and eternal transcend the merely physical and temporal.

The course of college training you have found attractive and beneficial, as the retrospect you have given us clearly shows, but your attendance on lectures in Exegetics, Systematic Theology, Apologetics and Systematic Homiletics was only a needful preparation for your chosen work. We anticipate for you in days to come, the pleasure of continuing these studies with the advantage of more leisure and exemption from the pressure of competitive examinations. You will thus have the joy of increasing your knowledge of more important subjects, in which you have made a beginning in college sufficient to beget a thirst and love for more.

A feature of your work still more attractive consists in this, that you will be imparting to others the knowledge which you yourselves have gained, and thus find the statement true, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Your themes will be the grandest with which any human mind can be engaged. The great doctrines of Christianity alone are able to solve the mysteries of life and satisfy the ever-recurring cravings of immortal spirits. They are all-powerful for revolutionizing wrong ideas in the individual, family, and social life, and of imparting those principles which purify, exalt and gladden.

You will be permitted not only to preach the glad tidings from Sabbath to Sabbath, but also have the great honor of moving among your people from day to day as their best friend, and most reliable counsellor, to whom they will confide their heart yearnings, their spiritual difficulties, their disappointments and sorrows. Golden opportunities will then be afforded of dropping a word of warning to the careless or wayward; a word of comfort and cheer to the sorrowful and downcast.

"In duty prompt at every call,
You'll watch, and weep, and pray and feel for all;
And, as a bird each fond endearment tries
To tempt its new-fledged offspring to the skies,
You'll try each art, reprove each dull delay,
Allure to brighter worlds, and lead the way."

The most attractive feature of your work seems to us to be the class of laborers with whom you are to be partners.

Others labored and you will enter into their labors.

The good, the pious, the truly great of all past ages, though dead, will live again and speak through you. Breathing their spirit, and containing their work, you will belong to the true apostolic succession, though you may not be able to trace a tactual relation either with Peter or Paul.

You will be associated also with the keenest intellects, and the most pious spirits of the present day. It is the glory of Christianity that it is adapted to