

I hope and pray that their labours, as catechists now, as probationers and ministers, or missionaries, hereafter, may be largely blessed in showing forth the glory and extending the Kingdom of the great Master.

Respectfully submitted,

A. McKNIGHT.

Dartmouth, 23rd April, 1873.

P. S.—I preached 93 times during the twelve months.

REPORT OF REV. PROFESSOR CURRIE.

To the Board of Superintendence of the Theological Hall, of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces:

During the Session which has just closed, I conducted three classes—a Junior Hebrew, a Senior Hebrew, and an Exegetical. The Junior Hebrew class, which was attended by five first year students, met for an hour every day; and, during the term, went through Green's unabridged Grammar, committing to memory the paradigms of nouns and verbs, and the rules of syntax. Ten chapters of Genesis were read, every word of which was subjected to a careful analysis. Although the quantity read has thus been comparatively small, yet, as a good foundation has been laid in a familiarity with the minutiae of the grammar of the language, subsequent progress will be more marked. This class prepared, once a week, an exercise in Hebrew composition.

The students of the second year read in Hebrew, selections from the Pentateuch, the Psalms and the Prophets; and in Chaldee, a portion of the book of Daniel.

The Exegetical class, which was attended by all the students, also met for an hour every day. Its special work was the critical study of the Greek Testament—the portion examined being the doctrinal part of the Epistle to the Romans. This exercise was conducted partly by question and partly by oral exposition. The aim of this exercise was not so much to teach the student a certain amount of truth, as to train him to apply for himself the rules of interpretation in the study of the word. To this work were devoted three hours every week. Once a week, I delivered a written lecture, giving in the course a full outline of the Textual Criticism of the New Testament, discussing such subjects as the peculiarities of New Testament Greek, the history of the manuscript and printed texts, the sources of critical emendation, the principles by which the critic should be guided, &c. The students prepared two essays on subjects treated in these lectures,—one on the Original Language of the New Testament, and the other on the History of the New Testament Text. Once a week, also, the subject of the Canon of Scripture was considered. The text-book used was Alexander on the Canon, while supplementary

information was furnished by the treatises of Gausson and Westcott.

The students of the second year prepared, besides essays above mentioned, a Greek and a Hebrew critical exercise on subjects assigned at the end of the preceding session.

In closing, I have much pleasure in testifying to the commendable labours and exemplary conduct of the students.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN CURRIE,

Prof. of Hebrew and Exegetics.

Halifax, 11th April, 1873.

DEFICIENCY OF NUMBERS.

In common with all the earnest friends of our Zion, the Board deeply regrets that the attendance of students is so small, and so disproportioned to the numbers and resources of this church. The Professors could, without much additional labour, teach five times as many, and such a number would not be too many to meet all the requirements of this growing body. Such an increase, instead of being burthensome to the Professors, would inspire them with new life, and furnish a strong stimulus to increased effort. Instead, however, of yielding to feelings of despondency, let us rather take notice that five new students entered the Hall for the last session, and that there are some indications that the attendance has reached its minimum, and will in future increase.

STUDENTS ABROAD.

Our deficiency of numbers at home has been made up in part by attendance abroad; and the Committee have to report that ten young men from the Lower Provinces, during the past winter, have been studying theology at other Institutions in Britain and the United States—three at Edinburgh, four at Princeton and three at New York.

But even if all these were to return, which we have no reason to anticipate, and if all who attended our own Divinity School should certainly live and succeed and be licensed in due time, the average number entering the Home field annually would be only five, a force altogether inadequate to supply the wants of these four or five Provinces.

MORE MEN WANTED.

What we have to lament, therefore, is not so much that too many go from home to study, but that too few are willing to engage in the work of preparation, here or elsewhere, to become preachers of the Gospel. Other portions of the Presbyterian family on this continent are becoming alarmed at the increasing dearth of faithful, qualified, labourers; and, beyond the Presbyterian bodies, we hear of complaints on all sides of insufficient supplies of spiritual