

him to choose the work of the ministry. Some of the best ministers that the church has ever seen have had their attention first directed to their life's work by such instrumentalities as just mentioned.

The harvest is great but the laborers are few. Young men, to whom the Head of the Church has given a fair share of talent and in whose heart is found some good thing toward the Lord God of Israel, you are invited to enter the field! Vacant congregations, unoccupied mission stations, uncultivated moral wastes in many parts of these Lower Provinces invite you. Will you comply? The Master says, Son, go work in my vineyard. Will you obey? Speak not of difficulties if the Lord is calling you. If only you heartily devote yourself to the work, difficulties whether present or prospective will vanish as you go forward. The work is noble, the office honorable. What work so noble as the conversion of sinners and the edification of believers. What office so honorable as that of the ambassador of Christ. Angels would deem themselves honored were they commissioned to say to men, "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." Then the reward is sure, "They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever."

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

"What are you doing for Christ? The world is full of opportunities for doing good. Every circle in which we live and move is a field in which, if one has a heart for the work, he may labor for God, and vast fields lie all around us uncultivated, waiting for some one to occupy them. And none can make the excuse for being idle that is recorded in the parable, "Because no man has hired us." God hath hired us, purchased us all, and we are bound to work in His vineyard. Are you living thus for the good of your fellow-men and the building up of the Kingdom of your Lord and Saviour?"

The best service is the service of the Lord Jesus. Have you commenced to work for Him? If not now, when will you begin? Now is the time. The church

needs your help. Our Foreign Missions, our Home Missions, our Education Fund, our Supplementing Fund, all need your help. God has given you something for all these causes, as well as for sustaining the means of grace in your own congregation. Do not withhold from the Lord what he has entrusted to you as steward.

PROSPECTS OF PRESBYTERIANISM.

The annual Synods and Assemblies of the Presbyterian Churches throughout the world are now over. Ten thousand ministers and elders have met in council for the promotion of the Redeemer's Kingdom. The field has been surveyed. The past year's labours—its advances and retrogressions, its losses and gains, have been marked and counted and balanced. So far as we can see there has been progress everywhere. The "good will of Him that dwelt in the bush" has been with our armies, and the consequence is that the prospect for the future is unusually cheering. Dark clouds that gloomed over some sections of the Presbyterian family have vanished. Division and strife, error and self-will, are giving place to union of heart and spirit in earnest work for the Lord.

A contemporary, pointing out the features in our system that warrant hope of future success, begins with the prominence given to biblical instruction in our arrangements for worship. It is this means that is most likely to be effectual for barring out heresies and heretical tendencies of every kind. Were our sermons but little essays of fifteen minutes, coming in after an exhausting service of more than an hour, the case would be very different. Were our mode of preaching such that exposition of Scripture could be easily dispensed with, the minds of our people would not be so likely to have that full acquaintance with the scheme of divine truth which makes false systems appear to them very strange and repulsive. The conspicuous place which scriptural teaching has in our meetings for public worship is a great security (as far as any such arrangement can be a security) for a wholesome and scriptural