

CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

VOL. XII.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1865.

No. 3.

THE SECOND SABBATH IN OCTOBER.

The above Sabbath, (this year, the 8th day of the month,) has been set apart by many of the Churches, for several years past, as a day of special prayer on behalf of the College; and, most appropriately, the same season is suggested, where local convenience does not interfere, for taking up a contribution for the funds of the institution. We refer to the matter thus early, in order that any influence these words may have, may be exerted in ample time for the appointed day.

First, we are asked once more, by the annual meeting of subscribers, to *pray* for the College. A very wide range of intercessions is suggested by this request to a thoughtful Christian. We should ask that devoted, gifted men may be stirred up to consecrate themselves to the ministry, and that those whom the Lord has not called, may not be permitted to thrust themselves into the harvest. The question, shall I become a minister? is at this moment being pondered by many a young Christian. It is a question, the issues involved in which no inexperienced person can fully understand. The actual ministry is a very different thing from our enthusiastic ideal of it, both rising above and sinking below our early imaginings. His own adaptation to the work is another matter about which aspirant is quite as liable to be led astray. The friends to whom he may resort for counsel, the pastor and the Church by whom he would be recommended, all need likewise the wisdom that cometh from above. Let all have our prayers.

The Directors of the College would be remembered. Theirs is a very responsible duty. On them it devolves to accept or reject each candidate, and we know few personal questions more difficult to answer, than this, is this young man called to the ministry? They are also charged with the superintendence of the students during their whole course, and with the general management of all College affairs. They have a right to appeal to the subscribers who have appointed them to office, thus to sustain them in their work.

The Professors will not be forgotten at such a time. To preach the Gospel with a man's own lips is a very weighty charge; but to put that message into