

vival of genuine religion, has had a revival of biblical learning ; as on the other hand, when the Church has declined in purity and zeal, biblical learning has languished even in Divinity Halls and Colleges. Gibbon sneers at the "fat slumbers" of the Church of England, had much to provoke it in the sloth which in his day oppressed alike multitudes of the well benefited clergy, and the pensioned members of the universities. Let us aim at promoting a vigorous tone of piety in those who are aspiring to the ministry, and we shall be in the direct way of inciting them to the culture of that learning which is necessary to the proper discharge of its offices.

The obtaining of a permanent foundation for the education of our ministers, is obviously a distinct object from the education of the youths who are now seeking for admission to the ministry among us ; yet we trust, that the Synod will see that the immediate prosecution of the latter object with such means as we now command, is a measure all but indispensable to the former.

If an enemy found a seat in our councils, he could not more effectually counteract our efforts to obtain a permanent foundation for the education of candidates for the ministry, than by counselling us to reject the applications now made to us for instruction, by the youths who are offering themselves for the ministry, and to do nothing towards obtaining a Theological Professor, until we obtain a chartered institution of our own, or a professorship in connection with the Synod in King's College.

It is a law in the divine government, of extensive application, "He that hath, to him shall be given." And if we show ourselves zealous and faithful in training up in sound learning, the aspirants to the ministry who are found in our churches, then may we the more confidently reckon on aid and patronage from without. It would, we believe, be a new thing for the government of the Church, to aid in an enterprise like that which we are contemplating, those who were doing nothing to help themselves. The Royal Institution of Belfast, a college of the Synod of Ulster, the London University, and the College of Pictou, are examples which occur to us, of institutions that struggled into existence and notice through private exertions before they obtained royal and legislative charters and endowments.

It is well that the Colonial Secretary has spoken favorably of the scheme of a professorship of Theology, in connection with our Church, in King's College. But now that that institution has been modified in its constitution by the Provincial Le-

gisature, it is obvious, that in order to obtain the desired professorship in it, we must become suitors not in Downing street, but with the Council of the College, and eventually also, with the Provincial Legislature. The appointment of professors, and the regulation of the course of education, belong to the Council, and by the modified charter, no other religious test is required of a Professor, than the declaration of "a belief in the authenticity and divine inspiration of the Old and New Testaments, and in the doctrine of the Trinity." And thus the Council might appoint to a Theological Professorship, a minister of the Church of Scotland, or any other minister who would subscribe the test. But it is by no means likely, that the present Council would appoint a professor of our Church, with the express design of his taking a special charge of our Theological students. And as it does not seem that they could, without a farther modification of the charter, permit our Synod to exercise any control over one of their Professors—even though he were taken from our Church, and appointed to teach Theology, it is still less likely, that we could obtain from the Provincial Legislature, an enactment to give the Synod such a superintendence of their Professor as they unquestionably ought to possess. So that although the Colonial Minister was undoubtedly sincere in his professions of a desire to further our views for the education of our candidates for the ministry in the University of King's College ; we cannot but look upon that seminary as a very doubtful, and at best, a remote resort for them. At any rate, the most strenuous exertions that can be made on our part for a foundation in the college, in connection with the Synod will be supported, and not counteracted by our being able to show that we have students ready to introduce to the class room, when the Professor shall take his Chair.

In every view of the matter then, the Synod appears to be imperiously called on, to make vigorous efforts for the immediate training of the youths who are seeking admission to the holy ministry amongst us. The peculiar difficulties and hardships which attend that office in these provinces afford a presumption that those who are now desiring it for their sons or for themselves see it in its proper glory as subordinate to the advancement of the kingdom of God, and the salvation of immortal souls ; and hence, we are the rather bound to sympathize with them and encourage them. And if the Synod shall adopt some more decisive measures towards this end, they will speedily find that there are throughout our churches several Hannahs and Elkanahs who are ready to