

Latin and Greek he enters upon his four years collegiate course. Here again he alternates study and teaching. Sometimes he is compelled to combine the two, teaching private pupils during the collegiate term to add to his scanty funds, and during the summer months prosecuting his studies when not employed in the school room. Having entered the Theological Hall he again alternates study and work,—teaching or doing the work of a catechist during the summer vacation. When his Theological curriculum is completed and he enters the field as a regular probationer of the church, he may find himself, after all the self-denial relatives have exercised for his sake, indebted to a considerable extent for pecuniary aid, and obligated to refund the same from his first earnings as a gospel minister. Thus he commences the work of the ministry burdened at a time when he requires even more than his salary affords to stock his library and to obtain a travelling outfit. Still worse, he may enter upon his life's work with an enfeebled constitution which will impair his usefulness if not shorten his days. True, some young men by devoting a longer time to their studies and by virtue of a strong constitution, come through the ordeal unscathed, but many ministers can see in the above sketch the outline of their own student life.

The foregoing typical case is not cited to deter any young man from devoting himself to the work. On the contrary we would say to any who should be hesitating on the score of difficulties, Go forward, God will open up a way, be self-reliant, the greater sacrifices you make the more clearly will your earnestness be seen and the higher will be your reward. But it is cited to show the church's duty to aid such young men—to extend a helping hand that at least some of the difficulties which beset the student's path may be removed.

But it may be said, Is not a young man benefited by the exercise of a spirit of self-reliance? True, and when unaided the student can overtake the curriculum of study without needless delay and without injury to health, it is better he should be left to receive the full benefit of the exercise

of the spirit of self-reliance. What is asked is that help should be accorded in cases of necessity—that there should be funds which students may know will supply them with aid at any stage of their curriculum should their case require it. No doubt the athlete is benefited by a preparatory course of training, but should he overtax his energies, when the day of trial comes he will enter upon the contest weak. The student who finds that by pecuniary aid he can husband his energies or be better furnished with the appliances of study, will suffer no demoralizing influence in accepting help. Devoting himself to a work which assuredly will not enrich him with the good things of this life, he can, with no proper spirit but with good grace, allow the church to assist him in preparing for that work.

Funds for this purpose could be raised in various ways. Persons to whom God has given worldly substance might, in the disposal of their property, leave a sum the interest of which could be devoted to this object. In a few cases this has already been done. Though dead such persons yet speak. Still better, persons of means might during their life set apart a sum for this object. In this connection special mention should be made of a member of Poplar Grove Church, Halifax, who has invested a sum yielding an interest of \$120 per annum which is intended to aid students in whatever way the Board of Superintendence may think fit. If the monied men throughout the Church would go and do likewise they would have the satisfaction of knowing that they were lightening the burdens of students, and making the path of Theological study more inviting than it has hitherto been. Such persons may have no sons to give the Lord, or if they have sons they may wish them to engage in other work. Well, here is a way in which they can have sons in the ministry. Let them furnish means to young men who, while willing to serve God in the Gospel are through straightened circumstances unable to obtain the necessary training. Then, congregations might follow with their contributions, as well as with their prayers, young men whom they have been