

godly sincerity, who can doubt that God will accept it? Ministers can do great and good service to the Church by selecting the "brightest" and most promising lads, or young men, in their congregations, and directing their attention to the ministry.—Poverty should not be a barrier. Congregations and individuals, and the Church at large, must see to it that poverty shall not bar the gate against those whom God in his providence seems to call to the work.

The thinning of the ranks of Ministers and Theological Students is a melancholy symptom of worldliness and secularity in the Church—showing too clearly that the great verities of the unseen world do not exert their due influence. The cure for the evil is a genuine revival of religion in our families, in our congregations, and in the Church at large. We believe that strong faith in God, love to Christ and to immortal souls, would enable our young men to press through all difficulties, and despise poverty and hardship in the service of their good Master. If then we wish to see a large accession to the number of our devoted, zealous, and self-denying students, and if we hope to be blessed with a godly and zealous ministry, we must begin by devoting ourselves to God. As a *rule*, God gives a people a ministry after their own heart and according to their prayers.

The prosperity of our Home Missions and Foreign Missions, the well-being and the very existence of our Church, depend under God on the number and character of our students. How necessary, then, that prayer should be continually made for them, that their numbers may be increased—their piety and devotion deepened—their talents more thoroughly sanctified! How willingly should we aid them with our sympathies, our prayers and our purses! How careful should we be to treat with due and generous consideration our young ministers—and especially our *old* ministers, the veterans who have spent many laborious years in the thickest of the battle! We know of nothing more heartless, more dishonouring to God, or more disgusting to all true-hearted men than to desert and cast off old minis-

ters. No wonder that God should cut off our supplies at the very fountain if we treat with coldness, disrespect or thoughtless cruelty His venerable servants!

Our Church is able to support a first class Theological Hall, and if we expect to keep abreast of the age we must do so. Three or four Professors would find work enough, and more than enough, all the year round in connection with such a Hall.—This must not, and will not, be lost sight of. But the other considerations to which we have adverted are of primary and most practical importance. We must pray for our students; we must look out for students; we must assist students; we must impress on ourselves and others the unspeakable worth and nobleness of the work of the ministry; we must treat with due care, and kindness, and liberality, our ministers, whether young or old.

THE ATONEMENT.

We wish to call the attention of our readers, especially ministers and theological students, to an admirable work on the Atonement, recently published by the Presbyterian Board at Philadelphia. The author is the Rev. A. A. HODGE, D.D., son of Dr. Hodge of Princeton. It states and vindicates the Reformation doctrine of the Atonement with a fulness, candour, clearness and ability nowhere excelled. We know of no other work on the subject that is at all likely to prove so useful to the cause of truth. It is a satisfactory answer to such works as have been recently given to the world by Dr. Bushnell, Young of Edinburgh, Maurice, Albert Barnes and others more or less Neological. It is a volume of 440 pages, 12 mo., and sells for \$1.50 American currency. We have no doubt that Rev. J. I. BAXTER, Onslow, will be happy to supply this work, as well as any other of the excellent publications of the Philadelphia Presbyterian Board. The great satisfaction with which we have read Dr. Hodge's work, and our sense of its importance at this crisis, must justify our calling attention to it so prominently in the pages of the *Record*.