

ways had an average of one Divinity Hall to about 225 congregations. That has been the proportion in a small country with a homogeneous population. The proportion should not be less when the population is settled sparsely over wide spaces, and mixed up with other denominations. In consequence of these differences, and also because our population is sure to increase more rapidly than that of the old country, the whole of our land may be looked on as a great Home Mission field. Stations spring rapidly into existence. Catechists and home missionaries will be needed, and without these we shall scarce be able to hold our own. But in a new country, the church that is not advancing is doomed.

Not only is this the state of matters with ourselves, but there are two other facts that should not be forgotten. First, we are the frontage of a great Dominion. Behind us vast spaces of virgin soil stretch away to the Pacific. As easy access can be had, emigration will flow to these. The current of population is already flowing strongly to the West. But these new Provinces to the West will look to us—the older Provinces—to supply them with ministers for the next half century, just as we looked to Scotland in the first stages of our Provincial existence. We must be prepared to supply them as well as ourselves. Secondly, the Church of Christ is now awaking to a sense of its duty to the heathen world. No church that is not a missionary church can prosper. And the proportion of men and women that should be sent, is now recognized on a scale of ever-increasing liberality. For all these reasons, we should have in our Hall at least from 45 to 60 students. That implies a three years course, and 15 to 20 intrants each year. Such a number is equal to the average in attendance on the Halls in Scotland. The number is as great as three Professors can do justice to, large enough to ensure competition, and small enough to enable the Professors to care for each student individually.

For the Presbyterianism of these Provinces to propose to do without a school of the prophets, would be a blunder of the

gravest kind; so grave, indeed, that it is sure never to be seriously entertained. With a staff of three Professors, aided occasionally by special lectureships, our Hall would be equal to any other that our students would be likely to attend. Queen's has only two Professors, Quebec cannot be said to have as many, *Montreal or Toronto not more than three*, and even the Scotch Divinity Halls have only three or four. Thanks to the Colonial Committee's generosity, we shall be able to enter the Union with our representative in the Halifax institution. This is only what we ought to have. We have our representatives in Foreign Mission fields, in Dalhousie College; and in all other departments of Christian life and work, we can point to evidences that as a Church we have been alive to the signs of the times. It was necessary to our self-respect that we should also have our share in that work of theological education that the united Church must prosecute with vigour if it is to strike its roots deep in the soil.

In this department we had hoped to have seen the Rev. Allan Pollok as our representative. His past services entitled him to the position. But as he, from filial motives that we all respect, has felt it to be his duty to resign the Chair almost as soon as he had accepted it, the Colonial Committee asked the Home Mission Board what it would advise next; and the Board unanimously recommended to the notice of the Committee, the Rev. Dr. Bell, a name well known and highly esteemed in our Church all over Ontario, and not unknown in these Provinces. Dr. Bell is an authority in the Synod of Canada on many subjects, such as Church Service, Church law and order, Sunday Schools, &c., &c. But his strength lies in that which is now the most important department of Apologetics,—the relations of Science and Theology. Our Synod of Canada appointed him as special lecturer in Queen's College on that subject in 1873; and, as the Chair assigned to us is that of Church History and Apologetics, we may esteem ourselves fortunate if we can secure the services of Dr. Bell. He