

the call been addressed to us for help to the souls of those who belong to us or that might be christianized by our efforts, and, alas! we have responded to it but feebly and inadequately. Other ecclesiastical bodies are exerting themselves to the utmost. Besides cherishing a native ministry, they have been invigorated by the arrival of many ministers within the last two years from the other side of the broad Atlantic, who looked to Canada, as if it were their very land of promise. I am aware that the hopes of realising the incumbency of the Parish Church detain many young ministers at Home who would be much more honourably engaged in serving that Divine Master in the Colonial or Foreign field. But have we done enough, have we done what we could, to obtain a sufficient amount of ministerial labourers of the right stamp from the Mother Church? I regret that my honest conviction is, *we have not*. We should be up and doing now.

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The commissioning of a proper delegate ought not to be, and probably would not be unproductive. An effort of this kind was made on behalf of Nova Scotia last winter, with very considerable success, and the idea was most likely derived from the Columns of "The Presbyterian." I do not despair of the Synod at its next meeting adopting such an Overture. What we ought to ask the Colonial Committee to do is, that they shall guarantee each of their appointed Missionaries £150 sterling annually for three years. The Committee are able to do this, and we have no reason to doubt their willingness.

I am aware that one great reason why nothing has been done is, the unsettled state of our temporalities.

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If another year must be lost in consequence of adverse influences ere we can prosecute our work as it undoubtedly requires we should, we may meanwhile be preparing the way that Christian wisdom will suggest to the devout, humble and earnest follower of Jesus.

While advocating the necessity of seeking new labourers from the Mother Church, I would not the less zealously advocate the paramount importance of obtaining a native ministry, educated within our own bounds. Queen's College should be an Institution of holiest interest to all who would effectively promote the good of Zion among us. Those youthful Christians, whose spiritual mildness, talents and aptness to learn point them out as calculated to honour the Lord by serving Him in the ministry of the Gospel, should be urged to consecrate themselves to the Master in this way; and Christian parents, guardians and friends, especially those whom God has prospered, giving them abundance of earthly good things, ought to make it a matter of honour and conscience to animate promising youths to this most honourable and important of all callings. If they or

their young charge are actuated by the right motives, they need not fear that such dedication will lead to beggary. They cannot find an instance where a faithful servant of the gracious King of Zion has been so forsaken. Surely it may well be a serious enquiry for the head of a family, who loves the Lord Jesus Christ, and has sons entrusted to his stewardship, whether there is not a call upon him to join one at least, say the first-born, to the Head of the mystical body for the advancement of His kingdom by preaching the Gospel. Might he not hope that the blessing from on high would descend upon him and all his, so that even in this life he would realize the reward in a hundred-fold measure of the loving disciple of Jesus! Where there is high-toned and genuine devotedness to this adorable Redeemer, with suitable qualifications otherwise, we may address the words of the Psalmist to the future minister, "Trust in the Lord and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed."

Nothing is more desirable than that we should see the Church reproducing herself in every colony and country where, in providence, she has been or may be placed. In the last Report of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts it is stated that the Church of England has congregations under the pastoral care of 2965 clergymen, of whom 461, stationed generally in the most destitute places, are assisted by the Society. There have been established in the British Colonies 17 Colleges, in which clergymen are educated. Why should not the Church of Scotland imitate this noble example? And why should not we, as a branch of that Church, arouse ourselves to energy, self-denial, and adequate endeavours. Why is it that we cannot obtain young men more desirous to be "workmen, not needing to be ashamed"? Why should we not be able to send our native ministry alike to the Red Men of the forest, to the mariner in our ports, to the Jew in his holy land, and to the distant Gentile where an inviting door is opened for us? Have we not intense need of arousing from our lethargy and substituting for self-complacency the spirit of unfeigned and deep contrition?

Before bringing this communication to a close, permit me to add that the attention of ministers, office-bearers and congregations should be directed to the state of Church property, over which they may have some control, and to the business of efficient management. "The Model Constitution" ought to be adopted and acted on by every congregation. Let me only in conclusion entreat all our devout ministers and people to remember ISAIAH XLV. 19.

[For the Presbyterian.]

A WORD OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

Were a Parish Minister from Scotland, one who had spent his days among the

favoured scenes of his own happy land, where the sound of one church-bell scarcely dies away in the distance ere it is echoed by another, where from mansion and cot-house daily rises the incense of the morning and evening psalm, where every house is a Sabbath School, and every parent a teacher;—were such a minister to visit Canada, and extend his tour from the Gulf of the St. Lawrence to the upper regions of Lake Superior, he would make some discoveries that would astonish him. He would see a wide expanse of fertile fields and richly cultivated valleys, a country as well watered and scenery as fine as in almost any country on the face of the Globe. He would see the rich, luxuriant farms dotted with substantial abodes, overflowing barns and all the appearances of wealth and comfort. But he would see, too, churches few and far between, wide circuits of country where no Sabbath bell ever marks the day of rest, and where the inhabitants scarcely note its arrival;—parishes some thirty miles in extent, where ministers, weary and single-handed, are striving and struggling against the ever increasing tide of ignorance and crime with almost unavailing efforts. He would see children growing up with as little religious or moral culture as the Hindoo orphans whom some of our Sabbath Schools are supporting; for the parents, who should have instructed them, have long ago lost, in their eager chase after this world's riches, even the small portion of Christian light which they once possessed. In a word he would see the most flourishing colony of the Christian Empire of Great Britain, a colony whose rapidly increasing prosperity is the current boast of the day, rapidly verging upon a state of ignorance, carelessness and crime, which comes little short of absolute heathenism.

That this is an exaggerated picture, few, we think, will venture to assert. The appalling glimpses of horrid villany, of barbarous, nay fiendish atrocity, which every newspaper opens to our view, bear but too full witness to its truth. Robberies, forgeries, murders, crimes of all kinds are rapidly on the increase. Every criminal docket contains its list of melancholy histories over which, were our Christian sympathies not so blunted, we might weep tears of blood. Respect for the Sabbath is fast going too. Indeed, when we see those who bear the name, and profess the character of Christians, openly setting the example of disregard for God's holy day, what can we expect from those who can scarcely be said to live within the reach of Gospel light? It is a gloomy prospect. Who can regard it without feeling that nothing short of Omnipotence, can avert the whirlwind of moral ruin and devastation, which is threatening to sweep over our country?

But, while we feel in such a case the utter powerlessness of human efforts, we may not, we must not draw down upon