

The diminution in the number of Students thus reported, cannot fail to engage the attention of the Subscribers, as it has often engaged that of the Board. Although the duty of the Directors properly commences when young men are presented by the Churches for their acceptance, and the responsibility for filling up vacancies in our ranks belongs to those whom God, "counting them faithful, puts into the Ministry," and to the churches of which such persons are members, the Board have carefully enquired, as it was their duty to do, whether any features in their arrangements could be so modified as to leave no needless difficulty in the way of those desiring the good work. This object has been kept in view in all our discussions of changes in the course of study.

It may be admitted, moreover, as falling unquestionably within the province of the Directors, to call the attention of Churches to the fact, that the law of "demand and supply" holds good with respect to this matter, as to so many others. If there be any uncertainty as to fields of labour, and as to "those who preach the gospel" being able to "live by the gospel," as "the Lord hath ordained," there will inevitably follow a diversion into other channels of the energies which otherwise might have been consecrated to the service of the sanctuary. At the same time, the position of the Directors enables and requires them to state, for the guidance of those who are contemplating the devotion of their lives to such a service, that there is always a superabundance of demand for "Men of God," who are "perfect (ripe, mature,) and thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Under a resolution of the last Annual Meeting, it became the duty of the Board, on assuming office, to "make temporary provision for the vacancy caused by the resignation of Rev. Dr. Wickson." This was effected by engaging the services, in the Classical and Mathematical Department, of Mr. Edward Robinson, formerly of Trinity College, Dublin. Unexpectedly to him and to us, an advantageous opening in his own profession—that of the Law—induced him to seek a release from the engagement, after he had spent one month in performing its duties. The Board, while feeling it a duty to comply with Mr. Robinson's desire, regretted to be deprived of the services of so efficient a teacher. His place was at once filled by the appointment of Mr. John T. Huggard, B. A., of the University of Toronto, who took charge of the classes, in a very satisfactory manner, until the close of the session.