

approved or permitted. In explanation and defence of our principles we appeal to the testimony of scripture and the records of history. It is manifest, that in order to conduct that appeal successfully we must be skilled in the interpretation of the inspired volume, and thoroughly acquainted with the affairs of the church in general, and of our own denomination in particular. This preparation should be obtained, to a considerable extent, during the collegiate course.

I ask with confidence, on behalf of theological students, for the encouragement and support which they should naturally expect from the churches. During the extended term of study which in most instances will be allotted to them, they may need the practical sympathy of the brethren. Having devoted themselves to the work of the Lord, they should receive substantial tokens of approval, and be enabled by the practical solicitude of christian friendship, to prosecute their inquiries without being subjected to the perplexity and annoyance resulting from scanty resources. May I not indulge the persuasion, that consciousness of the advantages to be derived from an educated ministry will induce the churches, and especially the wealthy members of them, to render liberal assistance in such cases?

Having placed before you, in this brief manner, the principal suggestions which appeared to be called for on the present occasion, I might here conclude. But the vacant seat of one who from the beginning felt deep interest in your enterprise, and who, as President of your Education Society, ever manifested lively zeal for the welfare of this Institution, reminds me of the duty of paying tribute to his memory. In the death of the revered Edward Manning the Baptist Denomination in these Provinces has sustained a heavy loss. That primitive christian man was justly dear to the churches.