

accounts for their being liberals, and they could not be anything else even if they had wished it. But politics among them have got a lull, and they have turned their attention to ploughs and harrows, and are breaking up the bogs and swamps where frogs and mosquitoes hold their town meetings.

The cultivation of the soil is the best of all arts, an employment taught man by his Maker in the morning of the world, and while he follows it, he may, by sober reflection, still gather flowers which shall flourish in the paradise above.

The Musquodoboit people are a branch of John Knox's family, and the soil is unfavourable to new religious adventurers. They have a strong religious spirit, and give good attendance to divine service, sabbath schools, bible classes, and prayer-meetings. Most of them read the *Register*. I hope the *Missionary Record* may have a wide circulation. A weekly religious newspaper and a good magazine are of immense value to a young family. Without information of this kind, they must lag behind the age, and are in danger of falling in among the dregs of society. Your publication is very cheap, within the reach of the very poorest. I would go to bed supperless, or dig clams by the moonlight for a living, before I would be shut out from the periodical literature and missionary news of the day. I am glad to see you in the editorial chair, and I trust that you will task all your powers to make the *Record* worthy of the Presbyterian Church, and equal to the capacities and wants of the people.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We regret that we are not able this month to lay before our readers a sketch of the Educational efforts of the late Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia. It is of importance that the whole Church should know what was done in each branch previous to the Union. It is also of vital importance that the present position and necessities of our Institutions should be kept before the Church in order that the means may be provided for attaining to a higher state of efficiency than we have yet reached. Christian liberality cannot be exerted to better purpose than in making due provision for the thorough training of young men who devote themselves to the work of the ministry.

In place of the expected article referred to, we give the following, from a contemporary, explaining some of the objects of a College education:—

“Where except within the walls of a good college, can young men, imbued with a taste, some for one branch of a liberal culture, some for another—be so brought together, that their several views and tastes shall be enlarged, and a comprehensive, catholic spirit of scholarship be engendered?—a spirit that pursues enthusiastically its own chosen path, yet respects and appreciates those who may travel by other roads?

Where else can we keep alive a reverence for the learning of the past, combined with a taste for the science and literature of the present—so that the old and new learning, as they have been sometimes called, shall not be at war—so that the speculative and elegant culture of early days shall not come into violent and fatal collision with the positive and practical science of our own time?

Where else can we fuse, and as it were, crystalize into one great and beautiful whole, a love for letters, a reverence for theology, a wise interest in philosophy, a devoted zeal for advancing and beneficent physical science? And then again, through what other agency can we train and educate men with whom, as they