

by an awful sense of duty, and by an irrepressible love for Christ and the salvation of souls so that he must exclaim with the great apostle "necessity is laid upon me, yea woe is me if I preach not the gospel." But I hold that young men who are not at all inclined to enter the ministry may in consequence of pressure, wisely and lovingly brought to bear upon them, be brought into this state in which they have an inward compulsion necessitating their entering the ministry. It is well known that the celebrated Dr. Chalmers was in early years dedicated to the ministry, and that it was not until several years after he entered the ministry that he became a converted man. In his early years therefore he could have had no real love for the work of the ministry. And I venture the statement that the vast majority of those now in the ministry were in their early years quite undecided as to whether they should enter the ministry, but in consequence of considerations brought to bear upon their minds and hearts, now have such love for their work, and are impelled by such a sense of duty that they would not leave the ministry for "all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them." Young men, therefore, who if left wholly to their own inclinations and their own unassisted judgment would in all probability walk in the path of selfishness and worldliness, and perhaps even go down to eternal ruin might with wise, loving and urgent advice become burning and shining lights in the ministry of the Lord Jesus, very stars in the firmament of Heaven.

In order to secure more men for the work of the ministry we should also as Christian ministers commend the ministry by our manifesting less of the worldly spirit. Much harm I am convinced has been done by the everlasting complaints which

many ministers make in regard to the smallness of the salaries which are usually given to ministers of the gospel. Far be it from me to affirm that such complaints are groundless. But what I would insist on is that the worldly and whining spirit of many ministers not only discourages young men but actually robs the ministry of the beauty and glory which ought to characterize it—the spirit of Him "who though He was rich for our sakes became poor, that we through His poverty might be made rich," and who never complained.

I would add still further that in order to secure more men for the work of the ministry, we must maintain our Theological Halls in thorough efficiency; we must provide money for them, we must pray for them, and we must glory in them as a means of carrying on the cause of our Saviour in a manner worthy of it.

FAITH CURES.

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THE real question under discussion is not whether we ought to pray for the sick, or ought to expect an answer to our prayers, according to the ordinary experience, of means being blessed to an end; but whether, after human agencies have failed, we may look for Divine interpositions of an extraordinary character, such, for example, as the sudden recovery of a patient in the last stages of consumption. As to the former there is no difference of opinion; the latter finds but few advocates. There are so many deceptions practised, particularly in connection with the healing of diseases, that we very naturally hesitate until the evidence is unquestionable. Luther's words are pertin-