

the Gospel, and a determination to use all available means within your reach, in dependence upon Divine aid, will assuredly prove successful.

We venture, moreover, to express our trust that you have passed the extreme point of your trials; and that, under the blessing of Divine Providence, in the development of the rich natural resources of your country, and in the creation of more favorable external conditions, you will find both greater materials of usefulness, and means to make them available.

In the meanwhile you cannot do better than maintain your existing educational and evangelical agencies, which the Great Head of the Church has already blessed so richly, and which have in them the promise of much greater blessing.

We regret that, in consequence of the urgent demand for laborers in the work of the Circuits, you are able to give so restricted an application to the means of theological training for your Ministers. It cannot be too strongly laid down as a principle for the government of the Christian Church, that a well-instructed ministry alone can be expected to be a permanently efficient ministry. The more extensively, by means of the circulation of Christian literature and the increase of general education, the people at large are elevated and improved, the more necessary it is that a corresponding improvement should take place in the intellectual and literary qualifications of the ministry.

We earnestly exhort you, under all difficulties, to abide in the old paths; to endeavor, by the use of our long-tried and approved means of grace, to keep alive spiritual religion in the hearts of the members; and to encourage them in all well-directed efforts of an ardent and aggressive Christian zeal. Such a zeal, seconded by a conspicuous and self-denying exercise of Christian virtues and graces, will tell mightily on the enlargement of the Christian church, and upon the conversion of the world. A church which, though it may be small in numbers, is compact in its unity, decided in its resolves, and energetic in its activities, cannot fail to answer the design of Christ, and to distinguish itself in his service. In particular, such a church will never lack a succession of faithful men, in whom the flame

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