

ministry. It needs men whose whole lives are devoted to the work of saving souls. To obtain for the Church a consecrated ministry, we need consecrated students. We wish all our young men to realize in their own hearts the commission that Christ has laid upon them to preach the everlasting gospel. And if our students all realize truly the importance of their work and their own inability to carry on that work, they will be led to trust more to God and ask Him daily to bless them in their preparation for the great work to which they are called. The history of the Church in the past show that truly consecrated ministers were consecrated students, and careless, indifferent and indolent students make but indifferent ministers. Let then our college days be days of heart-burning love for Christ, and days of diligent and prayerful preparation for the battle-fields in which, if we are spared, we must yet wage the conflict. Let not the busy hours of literary study dampen our ardor or consecration to Christ. Let us seek to feel more and more in our hearts, that the work of winning souls is the greatest and most glorious in which we can engage. And may the prayer of every student be expressed in these beautiful words:

"Take my heart and let it be,
Consecrated Lord to Thee."

Induction of Prof. Scrimger.

AN adjourned meeting of the Montreal Presbytery was held in Erskine Church, on the evening of Wednesday, October 4th, for the purpose of inducting Rev. John Scrimger to the lately endowed chair of Greek and Hebrew Exegesis, in connection with the Presbyterian College, Montreal. The induction questions were given by the Moderator, Rev. Robert Campbell, M.A., who also delivered an able and suitable address to the newly-installed professor. The address of the Moderator was as follows:—

MY DEAR FRIEND AND BROTHER,—As I happen to be at present Moderator, the Presbytery have assigned me the duty of addressing to you a few words, on the occasion of your entering upon the duties of your new office of Professor. I could have wished that the task had fallen to abler hands, and that some member of the court, of maturer years and larger experience, especially in academic matters, had been appointed to discharge the office. At the same time, it is a special gratification to me to be the mouthpiece of the Presbytery to-night, in welcoming you to the dignified position of which you have been called by the unanimous vote of the General Assembly. I have known you longer, probably, than any of my co-presbyters. My ministry having begun in your native town, I had an opportunity of noting the high place which you took in the classes of the Collegiate Institute, within the walls of which you had competitors from all parts of the continent. The eyes of your fellow-townsmen followed you to the University, and it was to them matter of pride that in this bright arena you achieved equal distinction; your attainments in the department of the languages ancient and modern, especially, even then giving promise of what we have this evening seen come to fulfillment of your fitness to be a guide to others into the mysteries of grammar. It was next my pleasure to join with others in welcoming you to the ranks of the clergymen of this city, among whom you have from the first taken a high position, both on account of your scholarly attainments and your worth as a Christian man. I need not say in this presence what full proof you have given of your ministry in St. Joseph Street Church; it is enough to remark that your success has met the very highest expectations of your friends. And when the position of Lecturer on Greek and Hebrew

Exegesis in the Presbyterian College became vacant through the lamented removal of our excellent and learned, and now distinguished friend, Dr. J. M. Gibson, what was more natural than that the eyes of the authorities of the Institution should at once have turned to you as his most fitting available successor? The best proof of the wisdom of their choice that could be given, we find in the fact that, after you have filled the position of lecturer for several years, carrying on at the same time the work of a laborious pastorate, so satisfactorily were the duties performed, in the judgment of your brethren throughout the Church, this evening you have been released from your pastoral office, and called to give the whole of your time and thought and energy to College work.

It is a matter of much gratification to your brethren, that though the pastoral tie between you and your congregation has been severed, you remain within the bounds of the Presbytery, and continue to occupy a seat at their table; so that in their deliberations they will still enjoy the benefit of your counsel and co-operation; while I feel that I may in their name assure you that you carry with you, into your new sphere, their fullest confidence and affection. I know I can pledge my brethren of the Presbytery to accord you all support, encouragement and sympathy.

You bring to the duties of your office the weight of years, of a matured judgment, and of a large experience. Your scholarly tastes and studious habits have met with due acknowledgement; and I do not doubt that the very congenial work to which you are now to devote your whole strength, will be crowned with abundant success. Not that the position of a professor is higher than that of a pastor. No office on earth is so honorable and glorious as that of a minister of the Gospel, when he has faith in the power of divine truth to regenerate, bless and elevate his fellow sinners. With the Apostle Paul, "I magnify mine office." The large opportunities offered to a pastor who may have a thousand souls under his care, of influencing their destinies for time and eternity, give an importance and dignity to his position, with which no other office can stand comparison; and some minds and hearts are so constituted, that they cannot be content unless they have a multitude for an audience. The right place for all such is the pulpit. Others again are students by nature, and prefer an audience "fit though few." The products of their minds are so concentrated, that only the thoughtful and well-trained fully appreciate or profit by their discourses. Such men are born to be professors, leaders of thought, instructors of those who are to be instructors of the multitude. Dr. Chalmers put the case aptly as between professorship and a pastorate, when justifying himself for leaving the immense congregation which gathered around him in St. John's Church, Glasgow, to go to teach moral philosophy to a score or so of young men in St. Andrews, he wrote for the satisfying of friends who seemed to doubt the righteousness or wisdom of the step: "You know that a machine, in the hand of a single individual, can often do a hundredfold more work than an individual can do by the direct application of his hands. He who makes the machine, then, is more productively employed than he who, without it, engages immediately in the work. To produce a steam-engine, which sets one hundred looms agoing, is a far larger contribution to the good of the country than to work at a single loom. * * He who does the work is not so productively employed as he who multiplies the doers. The elevated office of a Christian minister is to catch men. There is, however, another still more elevated, and that, too, in regard of Christian productiveness—which is to be employed in teaching and training the fishers of men. * * * And should there be a fountain out of which there emanated a thousand rills, it would be to the source that I should carry the salt of purification, and not to any of the streams which flow from it." He who manufactures the salt performs a more important office than he who merely applies it. Dr. Chalmers summed up the discussion of the question by saying: "A professorship is a higher condition of usefulness than an ordinary parish."

Here, then, is a great authority justifying you in the step you have taken in relinquishing the duty of instructing hundreds, to engage in moulding the tastes and habits of thought of a smaller number, since the influence you exert over their minds and characters, is in its turn to be employed in extending their influence over the spiritual destinies of the thousands to whom God may call them to minister. But you have a higher authority still than that of Dr. Chalmers. The Apostle Paul said to one of the Christian teachers of his day, "Meditate on *thine own peculiar work*, give thyself to it *wholly*." The gifts and graces with which Christ endows His servants are to be employed *where they will be of most service*. Jesus called Peter and James and John and Andrew from a very useful employment, to follow Him—and with what view? The details of the ordinary routine pertaining to the fishers' craft there were hundreds besides who could attend to, but He needed them to become fishers of men.

As the College is to be congratulated upon the important addition to its equipment in the establishment of the new Chair of Exegesis, so you are to be congratulated upon being selected as its first occupant. Not the least of the qualifications which you bring to this office into which you have been inducted, is the fact that you have had several years' experience in an active ministry. From actual trial and observation you have learned what kind of a mental outfit is required for the