

The constant, heavy drill of the College is apt to dry up the fountains of soul happiness, to throw a chill upon the heart that should be warm, to weaken our sympathy with our life-work, to divest us of that zeal which should clothe us as a cloak. But the summer's work rekindles the apparently dying flame, revives our interest in the work of saving souls, while it tends to deepen our sympathy with our blessed calling, our soul-ennobling labour. On these fields many learn valuable lessons which could never be found in Broadus or any system of Homiletics. We there discover our own weaknesses, and become acquainted with our own selves; while the seven months intervening before next year's work give us ample time for considering the various moves we have made, for criticising our past efforts, for investigating the causes of our failures, and for repenting of any injudiciousness, want of forethought, or folly. We can thus, in some degree at least, check any evil habit that we may find growing upon us, ere it be too late, guard against our errors and when, in the future, we may be placed in similarly difficult positions, we may be enabled to enter with confidence upon a course of action.

It is a lamentable fact that sometimes the conceit of ministerial students considerably exceeds their ability, until taught by painful experience that, even after the greatest care and most faithful labour their grandest efforts once in a while result in little more than complete failures. On the other hand, some enter the lists with the greatest timidity, and are utterly wanting in self confidence, almost shrinking from a work which brings with it such awful responsibility and which requires of him who undertakes it no indifferent order of intellectual power. Such require severe tests and trying duties which cannot be shirked, to draw out the good that may be in them, and to cause them to respect their own powers of mind. On most of these fields the student missionary is alone, where he can take counsel with none but his Master and lean upon nothing but the arm of Omnipotence.

So far the record of the students' work has been encouraging and satisfactory. Many new interests have been started and weak churches built up; many souls have learned to trust the Saviour, and glorious revivals have attended these efforts. It is, moreover, a pleasing fact that the people, almost without exception, hold the names of those who have served them in grateful remembrance.

Our efforts we confess to be weak and our experience limited. But, if we are what we profess to be, we work for something higher than the world's empty honours, and the favours of the crowd. A life of earnest, faithful labour for Jesus, though obscure, is to be preferred to the most glorious name. The Master's final "Well done, good and faithful servant," is more to be coveted than the plaudits of admiring multitudes.

We are pleased to learn that upon many fields our fellow-students