

supply, and we have need, in connection with it, not only to invoke the divine blessing on those who have been already received as Theological Students, but very specially to pray that God may put in into the hearts of many more, gifted and pious youths, to offer themselves as candidates for the office of the christian ministry among us. No one at all acquainted with the state of the church, with its extensive and only partially occupied mission fields, can be ignorant of the fact that our present supply of preachers is quite inadequate. We have been hitherto able to overtake in a way, and for a portion of the year, the wide field of labour which demands our attention, only by employing the services of students, to an extent which the Supreme Court of the Church has pronounced unwise, and for the future forbids. During the present winter, many a promising field must be left unoccupied. It is no exaggeration to affirm that hundreds of families, which look to us to supply them with the ordinances of religion, must be left destitute of these for some months at least. This is certainly a sad enough fact, one which repeats the Saviour's injunction, "Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that he will send labourers into His harvest." Let it not be forgotten on the approaching Sabbath, when the College is remembered in the devotions of the sanctuary, and likewise in those of a more private character. More than prayer, however, is requisite in view of such a state of matters. Christian parents and the ministers of the church should bring the claims of the ministry from time to time before those in early life, who unite to piety a fair measure of intellectual power. Young men, making a profession of faith in the Saviour, should conscientiously weigh these claims. It is not to the honour of our christianity, that almost every profession should be crowded, while so few, comparatively, seek to enter the ministry. The smallness of the salaries offered, may, in part account for the fact—it is far from justifying it—far from depriving it of the pain which it must produce on all right minds. The religion of the cross is the religion of sacrifice, and though there is no reason why the sacrifice should fall exclusively on the ministers of the gospel, it will not make matters better, for those whom God might honour to shame professing christians out of their grasping worldliness and selfishness, to shun the ministry altogether. This, at least, may be regarded as settled,—we need more preachers. The church is now suffering from the want of them, to mitigate or remove the evil. Let young men of promise be encouraged to enter on a course of study for the ministry. Persons possessing wealth could do much towards securing a more adequate supply of labourers by instituting scholarships for those deserving assistance and encouragement in their preparatory studies. In addition, however, let us as with one heart, pray to Him who controls the hearts of men "that he would send forth labourers into His harvest."

### THE BOARD OF EXAMINATION.

As we mentioned in our last number, we have received more than one communication on the above subject. Some of these were sent with the request that they might be published in the *Record*. While declining to insert these communications in full, we wish our correspondents to understand that it is simply because our space is too limited to permit of full discussion by both sides, that we do so. The importance of the subject we feel, and the plan adopted by last Synod has, doubtless, its defects, and may be modified and improved by experience. We regret that some of our correspondents were not present in Montreal. The explanations then given were felt to be satisfactory; so much so, that even those who had been opposed to such a Board formerly, allowed the report of the Committee to pass, slightly amended. For the benefit of our readers, however, and the satisfaction of those brethren who are not satisfied, we will briefly refer to some points raised in the communications we have received.