

from the ministry by fear of real poverty; for it he resolutely devotes himself to the work of the gospel, come what may, after having spent several years—all the flower of his youth—and perhaps loaded himself with debt for his education, he comes at length to his office, an office as high and noble as a man can fill, with a salary barely adequate to the support of a small family. Young men receive a salary that generously supports them while they are educated for our army and navy! why should not ministers be generously sustained while preparing for a profession which is a laborious service for human welfare, and which at the best promises no more than a comfortable livelihood.

In the common light of worldly wisdom, it is a strange thing that so many, rather than so few young men are found willing to enter the ministry. But not so do we regard this subject. We know that there are young men whose hearts are impressed with the supreme importance of spiritual things; they are ready to turn from the great promises of secular pursuits, and devote themselves to the welfare of man and to the will of God in the work of the ministry; they are willing to live and die poor men, if they can do good service in the vineyard of the Master. These are the young men wanted to fill our pulpits; and we appeal to churches, and to the superintendents of Sunday-schools, to look for such young men, and give them the encouragement they need, and put them in the way of preparing to be useful ministers. And we appeal to parents to lead their sons to thoughts of the Christian ministry; and if they see that their hearts are readily touched by serious things, let them wisely turn their inclinations and wishes more and more to these deeper interests. "Bring up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." How many a pious mother, by influences upon her little boy's heart, has sent her son to be a fellow-laborer with Christ for the salvation of the world! Let parents beware of a worldly spirit in moulding the desires of their sons; let them consider what is best for them, not what will make them richest or most popular, but what will make them most truly serviceable, noblest, holiest. Parents, if God has blest you with a son who has ability to make a good minister of the gospel, what better can you do for him than to turn his heart toward that high and solemn vocation, and by your prayers and hopes devote him to that work? Let it be that others may have more of this world's goods—no man has cause to be so happy and contented with his lot, indeed to rejoice in his work, as the faithful minister.

[We here omit a few sentences setting forth the facilities and advantages afforded at Meadville and another school.]

Here are offered the opportunity and means of sacred learning; and we say, to capable, religious young men who would devote themselves to the work of the ministry, Come! the churches want you. Come and prepare to preach Christ. Though you have no money to bring, if you bring strong, earnest, consecrated souls, it is enough for you. The friends of the school will consider it their privilege as well as duty to furnish the means of education to all such devoted young men as give promise of usefulness in the ministry.

ISAAC N. WALTER.
GEO. W. HOSMER.
E. HUDEKOPER.

MEADVILLE, August 24, 1854.

UGHT I TO STUDY THEOLOGY?

Some ten years ago I left my home, a kind father's, my mother's grave, brothers and sisters, and all the scenes of a happy childhood, to prepare for college. I had no very definite plans for the future, but determined to read and study all I could, and had no doubt all other things would be added without much trouble on my part. But college days were soon over, I must choose a profession, and awaken from my dreams and studies to the realities of life. But what profession shall I choose? The study of theology is urged upon me by a pious step-mother and a lawyer brother, who had not felt entirely at rest in his conscience since he disappointed the family, and all his friends, by choosing the legal instead of the sacred profession, and he was now