

home. We are persuaded, that such an allegation would be glaringly inconsistent with fact. Without instituting any exact comparison between the population of the two countries, it may be safely affirmed that, in point of sharpness and shrewdness of intellect, taking the masses on both sides, the advantage is rather with us. Forasmuch, too, as we are educating ministers for the succeeding generation, it must not be left out of view, that the progress in intellectual cultivation is here exceedingly rapid. The provision for the universal diffusion of an excellent common education is remarkably complete, and certainly has nothing to compare with it at home. If in a young, and comparatively speaking, newly settled country, there have not been, hitherto, in most parts of the Province, very abundant opportunities for studying the higher branches; and if not, much attention has been paid to them; what is wanting in these respects is, in the way of being supplied by the multiplication of Grammar Schools, in which, as the salaries are liberal, we trust care will be taken, that none but thoroughly educated and efficient teachers shall be found. No small facilities and inducements, too, for a superior education, are now presented in the very numerous scholarships connected with the Provincial University. Looking to the people then, to whom our students are expected to become ministers, we see no reason why an inferior education and lower attainments, should be demanded here than at home. Nor is it to be overlooked, that as our ministers here, often find it necessary, from the condition of the country, to spend not a little of their time in travelling; and are in various ways so occupied and situated, that study is exceedingly inconvenient and almost impracticable, it is in the highest degree desirable that, at the outset of their career, their minds should be amply stored and furnished; and that they should be specially disciplined and trained for a ministry, to the exercise of which, they may frequently be called, with less of direct and immediate preparation, than in other cases would have been commendable; and less than their brethren, otherwise situated, are accustomed advantageously to bestow. In fact, to keep up a given style of preaching here, implies a greater strain on the faculties, and a greater draught on the resources of the preacher, than at home, where innumerable appliances, here precluded, may be rendered available.

May we be allowed to add, that perhaps a sound Christian policy will require us henceforth to devote more of our attention and efforts to the population in the cities, and rapidly increasing towns, and large villages of the Province, than heretofore. Our Church, which was originally a missionary one, and still possesses, and we trust, will always possess, much of that character, has had the distinguished honour of supplying the ordinances of religion to many of what would otherwise have been, the destitute places of the land. In the opinion of many, this object, all-important as it is, has been aimed at with a degree of exclusiveness, which has been injurious to us, as a denomination; and has prevented us from taking the position, and acquiring the influence, we might. Never we trust, will a spirit of vain glory prompt any of us to repine at any consequences of a personal kind, which may have resulted. But it may be questioned, whether a due regard to public considerations, and a proper estimate of the importance of the distinctive peculiarities, and as we deem them, the excellencies of our ecclesiastical constitution, do not demand of us, that, while still, as heretofore, labouring to supply the waste places of the land, and striving with God's blessing—a blessing not hitherto withheld—to make the wilderness and the solitary place glad with the tidings of salvation, and cause the desert to rejoice abundantly with the fruits of righteousness, we should devote more attention to the great centres of population, and expend more of our energies in imbuing the advanced and influential portions of the community, with principles, which we conscientiously believe are good and profitable unto men, both for the life which now is, and that which is to come. In the first ages of the gospel, we know this was the method adopted. The cities and towns were first planted with churches, so much so, that the word