

the principles which God has established for the regulation of our conduct. An important illustration of this is afforded by the case of Carey and Ward, as well as by a hundred missionaries who have followed them. Feeling themselves called to preach the gospel to the heathen, they found it necessary to qualify themselves by previous study. So the preacher at home, should in most cases, where the way is open, feel the like necessity.

If these positions are admitted to be just, then the Committee feel themselves prepared strongly to urge on the churches *the duty of providing their pious youth with the means of education*. If it is the duty of the minister to preach, it is equally the duty of the people to sustain him. If it is his duty to improve his ministerial gift by mental culture, it is the duty of the people to provide him with the means. It would be a happy circumstance for this and the surrounding Provinces—a happy circumstance, possibly, to many a distant land, and many a heathen fire side whither our churches, like the little band of warm hearted Moravians in Silesia, might send forth their cultivated sons as heralds and missionaries of the cross, if they were aroused individually to feel their duty to furnish all the means of improving to the utmost all the ministerial gifts which God graciously raises up amongst them; not only by providing a place of education, but by defraying the expenses of those who are qualified and willing to repair thither: but at present our attention must be turned to the history and present condition of the Seminary of this society at Horton.

PAST HISTORY.

If we may judge of the call of a minister by the hand that has guided him to labor and success, notwithstanding innumerable obstacles, surely the like evidence exists that God called our churches to the establishment of this Institution. In the midst of much discouragement it has fought its way—it has by the mercy of God triumphed over many difficulties—has obtained a large measure of respectability and usefulness; and how clearly has the hand of God directed the labours of its friends, who often could scarcely anticipate what would be the final issue of their undertaking.

This Seminary you know originated in 1828, at the meeting of our churches just seven years ago on this same spot where we are now assembled. It met the warm approbation of our aged fathers in the ministry, and influenced by their hearty recommendations, there has been collected for its support from time to time in the Provinces, and abroad, about the sum of £1000.

Its operations commenced in a small house, still on the ground purchased as the site of the present commodious edifices, under the care of Mr. Chapin, of Amherst College, Mass. In 1830, Mr. C. returned to his native country, and the Rev. Mr. Pryor, A. M. the present Principal, consented to take the charge he now holds, at the earnest request of the Committee; and the present Academy building, commenced in that year, was completed and occupied by the autumn of 1831.

In the commencement of the last mentioned year, the Society received