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THE YOUNG MINISTER'S LIBRARY.

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MY subject has been given to me by one of the editors of *THE THEOLOGUE*, and, as a Scotch critic said, with doubtful reference to the sermon, "There's naething wrang wi' the text."

One of the most interesting lectures I have heard in Halifax was by Prof. Howard Murray, of Dalhousie University (at that time principal of the Academy), on the subject, "A wife or a library,—which?" That is an alternative that sometimes presents itself to the young minister, although the decision is probably not long delayed by the claims of a library. Booksellers often say that when a minister gets married he buys fewer books than when a bachelor,—a strong argument, at least from the standpoint of the publishers, in favor of the celibacy of the clergy. and yet I fancy that there is no other class of citizens that, man for man, buy as many books as do the clergy. If so many are determined, even when married, to provide themselves with libraries, it may be that marriage is for some of them a blessed preventive of bankruptcy, into which they might otherwise be drawn by their irrepressible tendency to book-buying