

tion of our ministerial force by death and other causes on the other;—an annual supply amounting to at least ten or twelve ministers more. Nor is this the only aspect of the case which demands our attention in this estimate of our present and prospective needs. There is another aspect which should not by any means be overlooked. It is this: while for want of men we are failing to improve the splendid opportunities which offer for doing good, these opportunities are passing away, and the souls of our fellowmen are perishing; or, while for want of men we are failing to occupy the promising fields that invite our labors, these fields are passing into other hands and being permanently lost to us. This is true of many fields in these provinces that were once essentially Baptist, but are no longer so, for the reason just stated. The truth is, to stand still now a days in any department of work, secular or religious, is relatively to go behind. Opportunity is the bird in the bush, but seizing the opportunity is catching the bird. And brethren, we must not content ourselves with waiting for opportunities, we must make them. We must not be like the vane that simply turns with the wind, but we must be like the great mountains by which the wind itself is turned. In other words, we must take the wind itself into our hands and so fill our sails with it that, under God, we may voyage most magnificently and by-and-by enter the eternal haven, not with our keel scraping on the sands, but right gallantly to hear the "well done" of our heavenly Commander.

Now the question arises whence or how are we to obtain the 25 ministers and missionaries that are needed at the present time, and the ten or twelve that will be needed year by year in the future. In my opinion this may be done, or attempted to be done, in three ways which I will briefly specify, and as I do so, it will be seen which of the three I prefer.

1. The first method of obtaining ministers which I will name, is that of the direct importation of them from abroad—from old England or New England or some other place. And I am free to say at the outset that I do not favor this plan, and when I say so, I believe I speak the mind of the great majority of the members of this Convention. Not that I have one word to say against the quality of the ministerial talent that has already come among us from other lands. On the contrary I have pleasure in acknowledging its worth which has been apparent to so many of us, and I can thank God for the good that has been accomplished through its agency. At the same time, while I would not underrate the talent among us that is foreign, neither should I underrate that which is native. It deserves to be said of the native talent of these Provinces that it is not inferior to that of any other country under the sun. There are plenty of boys among us that guide the plough, who might guide the state or shine in any of the higher professions, if they could only avail themselves of the advantages of a thorough intellectual and moral training, but who, for the want of such training, must die unknown, and "waste their fragrance on the desert air." If we fail to obtain suitable men for ministers and missionaries, and for all our places of public trust and responsibility, it can never be from lack of proper material among ourselves out of which to fashion such men, but rather—I was about to say—from the want of a proper national policy to turn this material to the best account for this purpose. But I am speaking rather of methods than of men, and I maintain that it would be impracticable, to say the least, to attempt to supply our lack of ministers by importing them from abroad. The number and kind of men we require could not be spared from Old England or New England today, while the number and kind that could be spared we do not want.

2. The second method of supplying our lack of ministers and missionaries to which I have referred, is that in existence among us at the present time, which method is visibly stamped with its own condemnation, for it has hitherto failed and is lamentably failing at the present hour to meet the want in question.

Under present existing arrangements our ministers are drawn principally from two classes of persons, namely, from those who have studied a longer or shorter period at our Institutions of learning, and from those who have not studied at any Institution. The former class may be divided into two sections, namely, graduates of the College and partial course men. The ministerial graduates, having perhaps received some Theological instruction at Wolfville, go—the majority of them to Newton or Crozer or some other Theological school; and the result is that many of them accept positions in the United States, and are thus lost to our churches and to our country. And it will be seen that the tendency of this system is to deprive us of the best ministerial talent that is produced among us. I do not say that first class ministerial students who have gone to Newton have not returned to us again. There are too many first class men who have been at Newton before me this evening to warrant such assertion. But I am speaking of the system—of the tendency of the system which now prevails, and

it cannot be denied that it exposes us to the danger of losing our best men, or certainly many of our best men.

I do not wish to underrate the loyalty of our young men who go abroad for Theological instruction. They are just as loyal as the majority of other people. That is to say, they will do the best thing for themselves, whether that best thing be to remain in the U. S. or return home. It will be seen thus that the system of sending our young men abroad for Theological training is a very unreliable one, as a means of supplying our churches with pastors. It is something like attempting to bale out a pond with a riddle—the water runs through the riddle: so our young men slip through our fingers and are lost to us.

Whether the Theological instruction that is received in foreign institutions is in every instance the best for these provinces, and whether young men who receive such instruction are not exposed to the danger of being educated out of sympathy with their surroundings at home, I will not now undertake to decide, though much might be said on this point.

A commendable zeal and devotion often characterize our partial course ministerial students. Many of them are young men of superior ability and promise. Some of the number now connected with our classes at Wolfville will, I believe, develop into able and useful pastors of our churches. Still it would not be wise to look to this class only or principally for our ministers and missionaries. We could hardly expect, as a general thing, the more difficult and responsible positions in the church to be filled from it. Many of these young men begin study comparatively late in life, and have not had sufficient intellectual discipline to prepare them to grapple successfully, either in the class room, or in the pulpit, with many of the topics embraced in a complete course of Theological instruction. Yet some of my brethren have given it as their opinion that we should not aim beyond preparing simply to deal with this material in our Theological school.

They would let the graduates go to Newton or elsewhere, and make provision simply for the training of the partial course men. They would let the best qualified material go abroad for their Theology, perhaps never to return, and would keep the least qualified and the least promising at home. But they seem to have overlooked the fact that a provision that aims at retaining partial course students only, must fail of accomplishing even this. They, as well as others not infrequently go to Newton, and will continue to do so until adequate provision is made at home for all.

The other class of men referred to, that is, those who have attended no Theological Institution and received no regular Theological training, are much less to be relied on as a source of supply to our churches and mission fields. I do not mean to say that persons may not or can not preach the gospel who have not gone through College or attended some Theological school. Let every one preach who can, from whatever source he gets his Theology. But those who would preach the gospel should certainly know what the gospel is. An indispensable qualification for preaching is piety, but piety alone is not enough. A fundamental element in preaching is teaching, but those who would teach others must themselves be taught: we cannot teach others what we do not know ourselves. The reason why some preachers early reach their limit of usefulness, and are laid upon the shelf, is,—they fail to instruct those to whom they minister. Their hearers get beyond them. Yet this class of ministers constitutes one source of supply to the churches at the present time. Young men are ordained to the pastoral office who are incompetent to discharge its duties, and they in turn ordain others of like unfitness, and so the evil is perpetuated.

From these considerations, then, it is plain that our present method of supplying our churches and mission fields with ministers must result in comparative failure.

3. The third and, as I believe, the only proper method of meeting the destitution in question is, first of all, to make adequate provision for the training of our ministerial students—all our ministerial students at home. Until such provision is made, we cannot expect them to refrain from going abroad. I should not be willing to be held responsible for a large attendance of Theological students at Wolfville so long as it will be impossible for them to remain without disadvantage to themselves. To say as some have said, "let the young men first present themselves for Theological instruction and we will provide for their wants," is to indicate an unnatural and absurd way of proceeding. The more natural and successful method would be, first to make the provision, and then invite the young men to partake, and I feel quite sure they would gladly comply with the invitation.

Adequate provision means principally two things: first, a sufficiently large staff of instructors. In order to give due attention to the branches properly embraced in a complete Theological course, no fewer than three men given up wholly to the work of teaching should be thought of. Then, secondly, some financial aid to be judiciously rendered, should be given to worthy young men

while prosecuting their Theological studies. Many of them are poor in the things of this world, and while striving to fit themselves for their future work, are obliged to worry over the question "what they shall eat and drink, and wherewithal they shall be clothed." With ever so efficient a staff of teachers but without the means of rendering some pecuniary aid, we can hardly expect to keep our young men from going where they can obtain both.

But more even than able teachers and beneficiary grants to students are necessary to create a flourishing and attractive Theological school for the rising Baptist ministry of these Provinces. Joined with these provisions there should be the seeking out from among the churches of young men of suitable gifts, and the encouraging of them to attend such school, together with sympathy and co-operation with those who labor in immediate connection with it, and earnest prayer to God for that blessing without which no human enterprise can succeed and with which none can fail. This method would create a bracing Theological atmosphere among ourselves, and prove far more effectual as a means of supplying our churches with ministers, than that of making no proper provision for their instruction at home and encouraging them perhaps to turn their back upon the provision that has already been made.

We are not yet certainly prepared to do for our young men at Wolfville all that we should like, but for those who come to us we will do the best we can, and hope for better things for the future.

It should be borne in mind that it is not always in the largest Theological schools, as it is not always in the largest Colleges, that the best work is done.

Much praise is due our brethren in Ontario for founding an efficient Theological School in Toronto; but, if they who are nearer Rochester than we are to Newton see the necessity of doing this, should not our duty be plain in these Maritime Provinces?

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

NOEL, HANTS Co.—Dear Editor,—It was my privilege to baptize three persons at Noel at last Lord's Day—a man and his wife, the heads of a large and promising family, and an interesting young woman.

An aged gentleman informed me that he saw a Baptist minister immerse a woman in this place 60 years ago, and that the ordinance had not thus been administered here since, until last Sabbath.

The impression on the minds of the large numbers who witnessed the ceremony seemed most favorable. Quite a number are now seeking salvation, and it is hoped that others may profess their faith in the Saviour soon. Will your readers pray that the good work may deepen and extend.

Yours truly,
ISA. WALLACE.

Nov. 9th, 1880.

HANTS Co.—Work goes steadily forward. All the Churches in the County are supplied except Rawdon. The Auxiliary Board meets regularly. Dr. Welton delivered a lecture on Pastoral Visitation, and preached an appropriate sermon at the meeting in Hantsport, in October. It is unnecessary to say that both efforts were timely and effective. The Pastors are holding meetings in the several churches in interest of the Convention Fund. The first meeting was held at Windsor, when Rev. E. Whitman preached a powerful sermon on Benevolence. Short addresses were also given by Revs. G. Weathers, J. Murray and I. Wallace. Subscriptions were given to the amount of \$180 although few were present owing to the weather. A meeting was held at Hantsport, on 10th inst., and other churches will be visited for a similar purpose. In this way the Pastors strengthen each other. The next meeting of the Board is to be held at Rawdon, on Thursday, 25th inst. Rev. E. Whitman will preach at the evening service.

November 12. S.

We are glad to learn from Rev. E. N. Archibald, that the revival at Tignish, is promising good results. Many are seeking the Saviour, and some are asking for baptism.

BURGLARY AT MR. SPURGEON'S.—On Sunday night burglars entered Mr. Spurgeon's residence, Westwood, Beulah-hill, Upper Norwood. They plundered the study, and removed one or two valuables; but the chief mischief done consisted in breaking boxes and cutting bags containing documents referring to the Orphanage and other

public business. The broken despatch-box and papers were found in the garden, the burglars being evidently much disappointed when they found their booty to be so useless to them. Mr. John Gough had presented Mr. Spurgeon with an ebony cane, having an elaborately worked gold head. This was stolen, and the gold, after being hammered and battered, was offered at a pawnbroker's in the Borough, on Monday morning, and by eleven o'clock on that morning a detective called at Westwood with the relics. The correspondent who forwards these facts adds: "It is a wretched sign of the times that there seems to be no protection at night. Burglaries are now ordinary incidents."

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—A frightful accident occurred at Waterford, Kings Co., on Monday of last week whereby a young man named David Houstonfort was killed. He was rolling a brow of logs, when part of the brow passed over him, crushing his head in a frightful manner.

The jury whose verdict was refused by Coroner Earle, at the inquest on Macfarlane's body, have brought a suit against the coroner.

The school house opposite the Presbyterian Church, Sackville, was burned on Wednesday morning last. The building, with appurtenances was valued at \$1100; insured in the Royal Canadian for \$800.

In St. John on Wednesday night, the Encampment of St. John, K. T., presented a silver tea service to Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Wisdom, as a wedding present, and a recognition of Mr. Wisdom's services to the Encampment. Mr. Wisdom belongs to a Halifax family, and his bride is a Nova Scotian—Miss McQueen, lately a teacher in one of the Halifax schools.

UNITED STATES.—It is stated that on Thursday last, a Russian agent at New York purchased half a million bushels of wheat.

The Kansas Evening Star publishes a story of an attempt to assassinate President Hayes at Howell Station on the Santa Fe road. A man named Hooker who lives near Howell Station, shot at Hayes twice. Both shots narrowly escaped him. Hayes sprang into the car and Hooker ran away. He has since been arrested.

The brewers of New York protest against the passage of the bill, now before Congress, to increase the duty on barley malt, imported from Canada, to a specific duty of 25 cents per bushels.

By the collision of a locomotive at Minonk, Ill. with a wagon, John Aden, his wife and peice were killed on Wednesday while crossing the track.

A fire in the Goodshaw hoisting works at Bodie, California on Thursday, destroyed the building. Four men at work on the 660 feet lead—McCabe, Jackson, Smith, and another. Were all found dead at the bottom.

There will be four negroes in the newly elected Georgia Legislature.

Warrants have been issued for the execution on January sixth next, of Daniel F. Sullivan who murdered Josie Irwin in Philadelphia; Patrick Harper who murdered his wife in Philadelphia; George Smith and Catharine Miller, who murdered Andrew Miller, husband of the latter, in Lycoming County.

Says the New York Herald:—More than a mile of new steamships are being built in England, but none of them will fly the American colours. Americans are not allowed to purchase such property, either at home or abroad.

Mr. William B. Astor recently paid one hundred and ninety thousand dollars for the beautiful Parish estate in Newport.

At Elmira, N. Y., a lad named Palmer, son of the manager of the Western Union Office, has lost an eye from epizootic poisoning. The other eye is endangered. He wiped his face with a handkerchief he had used to clean the spittle his horse had coughed on his coat sleeves.

ENGLAND.—At the Lord Mayor's banquet on Tuesday last nearly one thousand guests were present. Mr. Gladstone said the Government would look to the welfare of the people of Ireland, but they must enforce the law. The magistrates of several counties in Ireland have advised the Irish Government to suspend the Habeas Corpus Act, but Mr. Foster deems it unnecessary.

A London despatch says all arrangements are completed for the arrest of Michael Davitt on his arrival from New York, as a political convict who has violated his ticket-of-leave. If blood is not shed by the time the Bothnia touches the Irish coast, this arrest will go very far towards precipitating open revolt.

The Aurora, the organ of the Pope, publishes an article favorable to the Land League, in which it says, in consequence of the insupportable state of the Irish peasantry, the people must shake off their oppression. The crimes committed in Ireland are not attributed to the Land League. Radical Reform is indispensable, otherwise Ireland will be compelled to choose between anarchy and starvation.

FRANCE.—On Wednesday last President Grevy accepted the resignation of the ministers, and sent for Gambetta and Leon Say.

The Cabinet may reconsider their determination to resign, and it is possible that something like a compromise or vote of retrospective confidence will be proposed.

Gambetta does not wish to take office. Bank notes to the value of 60,000 francs were stolen from a postman on Friday on the Rue de St. Vinne.

A rumor being current on the 8th inst., at Tourcoing that the religious decrees were to be enforced against Marists, five thousand persons assembled before the doors of the convent. Shortly afterwards many members of Catholic clubs arrived and a serious disturbance between the two factions ensued. Numbers took part in the grave affray which occurred, and sticks and stones were freely used. Several windows in the convent were broken. The Gendarmes repeatedly charged the crowd and sixty persons were injured.

RUSSIA.—The political trials at Khar-kof, lasting six days, were concluded on Thursday last. Three of the accused have been exiled, and four sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

SPAIN.—The police seized the presses and arrested the printers of a revolutionary paper. General Repall, a revolutionary officer, is also arrested.

GERMANY.—26 Socialists have sailed from Hamburg for New York.

In the Prussian Parliament, on Friday, M. Richlor violently attacked the budget on account of the increase of taxation it proposes.

PERSIA.—The Persians bombarded Soujbolah. The Kurds lost 100 killed and 150 wounded. The Persians are plundering the Kurdish villages in the vicinity of Naumiah.

American missionaries are sheltering and feeding 500 Musselmans and Christian fugitives in the mission building outside of Urmumiah.

On Sunday last there were two thousand bodies lying in the environs of Soig Balak unburied. The death of the Persian commander in chief is confirmed.

News.

An effort is being made in Halifax to get up a Cooking School. Much may doubtless be learned by professional lectures on cooking, but, like other learning, we should think there is no royal road to it, and there must be experience as well. Practical lessons are needed, and, we believe, are given in these establishments. Success to the enterprise.

A sad and fatal accident occurred at Spring Hill Junction on Wednesday last. As the Halifax express train was leaving the station, a little boy, son of A. Fowle, car-inspector, was, on his way to school, crossing the track; by some means he became confused and was caught by the pilot and dragged beneath the wheels which went over both legs and one arm mangleing them in a fearful manner. He is not expected to recover.

APPOINTMENTS.—To be a Commissioner in Montreal, Province of Quebec, for the Province of Nova Scotia, under Section 54, Chapter 96 of Revised Statutes, 4th Series—J. G. Aylwin Creighton, Esq., Advocate, Montreal.

Victoria Co.—To be Judge of Probate—Laughlan G. Campbell, Esq., Baddeck.

Halifax Co.—To be members of the Board of School Commissioners for the City of Halifax—Archibald Lawson, Esq., M. D., and James Shand, Esq., both of Halifax City.

Pictou Co.—To be a Commissioner of Schools in the Northern District of Pictou—The Rev. John Edgewoibe, of Pictou.

The vote of Digby for the Scott Act was 955, against 42.

A man named George Shadbold, a discharged soldier, was found picking a woman's pocket on Thursday last at Duggan's Auction, and stealing therefrom a purse containing \$15. He was taken straight to the Police Court and fined \$10 or 90 days.

A man named Hyson, employed in the Sugar Refinery building, while at work there on Thursday last, fell through an open hatch to the floor two stories below, sustaining severe internal injuries.

The codfishing on the West shore of Cape Breton is excellent this season.

A woman named Helen Fraser, sixty years of age, committed suicide by drowning, at Upper Falmouth, on Saturday week.

Balcom Lowther had one of the fingers on his right hand very severely cut, by coming in contact with a circular saw in R. & H. Wood's mill, Oxford.

We learn from the Wolfville Star of last week, that on Thursday-night of Friday morning, the house of Sydney Fireman, in the Pine Woods, so-called, was broken into, and then set on fire inside. The wife, going out the door for water, was shot by a man whom she saw with a gun, a large charge of slugs being the load. One of the slugs entered her breast. She described the man as one John Landsey, who has been arrested and now awaits examination.