

and of ability. With greater spirituality, to which we should earnestly seek to rise, with more system, and with a growing habit of giving, we trust to find that from year to year the ministers of the church are more liberally supported, and that our College, and Home and Foreign Missions, are sustained on a scale of growing magnitude. All this is in our power, by God's blessing. At present every communicant gives on an average 12½ cents for the support of our Theological Institution. A few cents more, say from eighteen to twenty cents from each member, would give us all that we require. Let the effort be made this very year, and the difficulties with which we have been struggling will soon cease to trouble us.

On the whole, let us thank God for what he is doing for us; and let us unite in more earnest pleading for the outpouring of His spirit, that our congregations may grow not only in numbers and outward strength, but in spirituality and in holy consecration to God.

EXPOSITORY PREACHING.

In the "Chronicles of Carlingford," lately published, there is contained the History of Salem Chapel. One of the rather officious deacons of that society is represented as giving his young minister the following advice: "I am very partial to your style, Mr. Vincent said the deacon; there's just one thing I'd like to observe sir, if you'll excuse me. I'd give 'em a coorse; there's nothing takes like a coorse in our connection. Whether its on a chapter or a book of Scripture, or on a particular doctrine, I'd make a pint of giving 'em a coorse, if it was me. There was Mr. Bailey of Parson's Green, he had a historical coorse in the evenings, and a coorse upon the eighth of Romans in the morning; and it was astonishing to see how they took. I walked over many and many's the summer evening myself, he kep up the interest so." Without professing such a passion for Expository Preaching, as the worthy deacon, we confess having a decided partialty for the practice when wisely carried out. The few thoughts on the subject that follow, may be of some value to our young ministers and Theological students, in reviving a good able practice, too much neglected in modern days.

Expository Preaching or Lecturing, or as French Theologians style it, *Homiletic Preaching*, may be defined, as the systematic unfolding and interpretation of the meaning of Scripture in passages of greater length, than is suitable for the ordinary sermon. No definite rule can be laid down for its practice. Every thing depends upon the fertility of the portion of Scripture under consideration—the character of the congregation, and the plan proposed by the preacher himself. By many, Lecturing has been considered by far the easiest kind of preaching. A simple paraphrasing of the word of God, or a running commentary upon a whole chapter, or the simple recital of the more prominent truths and moral lessons that lie upon the very surface of the passage patent to every eye;—such a stylo of Expository Preaching is indeed much easier than sermonizing. But that a good sermon is much easier to construct than a good lecture, is proved by the fact that very many of the most noted and eloquent preachers have entirely failed in Expository Preaching.