

of the great historic Latin Church rests upon our theology at many points. This, it is said, is true both as to methods of investigation followed and conclusions adopted. The laws of induction are not faithfully observed, and hence, as with physicists, so in many instances with theologians, sweeping generalizations are formulated before all relevant facts are in hand, as shown by subsequent research and discovery. In many quarters the spirit of unreasoning dogmatism and complacent reliance upon ecclesiastical authority is far too common.

Now, there may be a measure of truth in several of these allegations. And, at any rate, we should make sure that students by the daily drill of the class room acquire the power of independent thought, and form the habit of following the true scientific method in all their researches. This is of supreme importance, because the benefits derived from college and seminary are not to be estimated so much by the mass of information imparted as by the quickening of mental faculties, the infusion of a truth-loving spirit, the formation of a strong godly character, and the kindling of undying enthusiasm in the Master's service.

As to the order in which subjects should be taken up an early and prominent place should be given to the mastery of the fundamental principles of hermeneutics and dogmatics. The rules which govern our study of scripture, and what may be called the axioms of systematic theology, should be clearly understood and honestly believed. With these truly incorporated in the student's consciousness he is prepared to go afield with freedom and safety in regions of original and speculative research. He should next be grounded in the elements of Introduction and Apologetics—historical and polemical, including questions of the Canon, and of the authenticity of the books of the Old and the New Testament, the integrity of the Text, and the cumulative evidence furnished by Assyriology, Egyptology, and Palestinian explorations. Thus fortified in his belief of the truth and divine origin of the Bible, he should be led through a general analysis of the contents of its books in the order of their historical