

gregations; in view of all this, it is necessary that the student should have a well grounded knowledge of his Bible before entering on his pastoral career. Such a knowledge would facilitate sermonizing, which consumes so much time, especially in the early years of the Christian ministry. The man who has a practical knowledge of the whole Book shall never be at sea by sudden calls to public duty. He has only to collect his thoughts and arrange his material.

Such a training in the Bible, before leaving the theological school or seminary, would make preaching more apostolic in character from the beginning, there would be less danger of students falling into the habit of writing philosophical essays, ethical discourses, etc. Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost was principally an exposition of Old Testament prophesy and Messianic psalms. Stephen's address was a sketch of Old Testament history. "Paul reasoned with them out of the Scriptures," and "Apollos was an eloquent man, mighty in the Scriptures." It is not new truths, but the old preached in the power of the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven, that is going to bring the world to the feet of Christ.

Such a course of study in all our theological colleges would be one of the best means of promoting a spirit of union between the different denominations, as it would bring into prominence the fundamental truths of Christianity,

and leave the material for hair-splitting in the back-ground. All these and other considerations might be urged to provide for a thorough and comprehensive course of Bible study in all our colleges. The present course is efficient but not sufficient.

It will now be in place to notice some objections which might be urged against the establishment of such a chair. It might be urged that our present system makes ample provision for Bible knowledge, that in all departments of study, whether Biblical, Philosophical or Scientific, the most that can be aimed at in a college course, is to give the student such an acquaintance with the subject, and suggest such methods of study as will enable him to pursue it by private application. But in the departments of Law, Science and Medicine, certain text-books have to be mastered, and that for which we now plead is that the Theological student should become master of his text-book during his college course!

It might also be pressed that the curriculum is already full, and all the time at the student's disposal is wholly occupied. This looks somewhat serious. But it must be looked at on the merits of the question. If we decide that such a course of study deserves a place in our college curriculum, and is an essential part of the student's course as a preparation for future responsibility, then the rest of his course would be regulated accordingly.      ANDREW RUSSELL.