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THE PULPIT AND ENGLISH SCHOLARSHIP.

THE necessity of an educated ministry is generally, if not universally, admitted by Presbyterians, and in Canada they have gone to great expense as a denomination to provide educational institutions. The question with them is not whether the ministry shall be educated, but what the course of training shall be; and my object in this paper is to call attention to a side of education for the pulpit which is in my opinion far too much neglected.

Without devoting any considerable portion of the space at my disposal, at the most far too limited, to a discussion of the importance of a good English education as a preparation for the clerical profession, I may call attention to the fact that while one can become a fairly erudite and accurate theological scholar without knowing any language but English, he cannot possibly become a generally acceptable preacher of the Gospel if he is not strictly conventional in his language and rhetorically expert at composition. He may become a very useful minister without knowing either Greek or Hebrew; he cannot dispense with a good knowledge of the English language and some facility in its correct use as a means of expressing his thoughts. A good English