

reply was just the proper effacement of self. The speaker's taking of blame to himself, perfectly sincere, indeed, has nevertheless, and quite justifiably, the aspect of self-exculpation; and yet it amply vindicates the asker of the question. It serves, moreover, to put now the strongest possible emphasis upon the point which had been apparently neglected before. To crown all, the sympathy between speaker and audience is beneficently and delightfully heightened.

To apply criticism like the foregoing, and find so much in so little, may seem to some overstrained. For myself, however, I cannot but think that what I discover in Dr. Broadus's reply is really all there to be discovered, and that in such a paper as this it is well worth bringing out into statement.

I have been more than willing to take thus a comparatively trivial instance to illustrate my point. The slighter, the more sudden, the more unlooked-for a given occasion, the better is shown the instinctive, the habitual character of the spirit which that occasion has but provided opportunity for a man to display. The introduction to the address on "Reading the Bible by Books" is an example of more prepared and considerate winningness on the part of this orator. A footnote informs us that the address was one delivered in Cleveland, Ohio, before the International Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations. The introduction is as follows. Could anything be conceived better calculated to captivate the good-will of an audience, better calculated to put every hearer into a disposition the most favorable for fruitful reception of the truth?

"The main support of all individual Christian life, the mainspring of all high Christian work, must be the truth of God. Truth is the life-blood of piety. Truth is always more potent and more precious when we draw it ourselves out of the Bible. I rode out yesterday with a kind friend among the glories of the famous avenue of Cleveland, and then away into the beautiful country region which they hope is to be Cleveland Park some day, until we passed presently a little fountain where the water, coming fresh and sweet and bright, was bursting from the hillside. The water we drink in the houses here from the lake is delightful, but there it was a fountain. There is nothing like drinking water out of a fountain. And I remembered what my Lord Bacon has said: 'Truth from any other source is like water from a cistern; but truth drawn out of the Bible is like drinking water from a fountain, immediately where it springeth.' Ah, this Christian work we have to-day in the world will be wise and strong and mighty just in proportion, other things being equal, as it is directed and controlled and inspired by what we draw ourselves out of the Word of God! I have come to speak to people who want to study the Bible, who do study the Bible, who love the Bible, and would fain love it more and know it better. I am not to speak to Biblical scholars, though such are present, no doubt; I am not to speak to persons of great leisure, who can spend hours every day over their Bible; but to busy workers, most of them busy with the ordinary pursuits of human life, in their homes or places of business, and all of them busy. I have no doubt, in the varied work of Christian people in the world, that they wish to know