

emphasize the necessity of students being thoroughly conversant with the principles of psychology, ethics, rhetoric, and logic pure and applied. But if such a course is to be insisted upon how are we, in the four brief sessions of an arts curriculum, to find time for chemistry, botany, mineralogy, geology, astronomy, and other sciences? My answer is, that with the rank and file of preachers these studies, at best, can only be elementary, and it is not necessary that it should be otherwise, because Christ does not send his messengers to preach science. Their commission does not run, Go ye into all the world and preach science to every creature, but rather, preach the gospel. Men are not regenerated, justified—christianized by science. It is not thus that they receive the peace of God that passeth understanding. And the chief concern of His servants should be to master, in all its length and breadth and height and depth, the message they are sent to deliver. It is enough for them to have such acquaintance with the vast field of science as will enable them to avoid foolish conflicts with the masters of it, and to make use of their facts, discoveries and conclusions for the instruction of the people. They should be sufficiently intelligent to be ready to receive truth without hesitation or alarm from all quarters, seeing it all comes ultimately from the one divine source, and is profitable for the specific purposes it is designed to serve.

It seems to me high time to abandon the delusion that in educating men for the ministry we should aim to make them all scientific specialists, having a sort of commission—a divine right—to solve the problems and settle the disputes and controversies of eminent physicists. Why should we think it a reproach or a drawback in their high vocation if they are not all, and only a small percentage of them, profoundly versed in the boundless realms of secular learning? Other professional men are in a similar condition. The fact is that the knowledge of the best of us is finite and our ignorance infinite. It has been well said by Principal Caird, that "the world's work would not be done, the demand would far exceed the supply, if it did not content itself often with second and third rate lawyers, physicians and preachers."