

we have to confess, a great wrong to rectify. Our love for the cause of God is no more than is indicated by what we are willing to do for it.

3. A more general and deep interest in our denominational institutions of learning.

We are not about to advocate the cause of education nor to plead for our local institutions. We do not intend to say anything respecting vacant professorships or financial deficiencies, but to allude to a fact upon which we will all agree, whatever may be the merits or demerits of our educational institutions, the saddest circumstance in connection with them is the indifference with which they are regarded by many among us, for that indifference every excuse is pleaded. The errors and mistakes of the past and existing defects and deficiencies and the discouraging prospects of the future, are urged as reasons for caring nothing about these institutions and doing nothing for them. Now admitting all that is said to be true, does it justify indifference? Ought it not rather to render it impossible? To whom do these institutions belong, who has the power to remedy any existing evil or deficiency in connection with them? Our churches! Upon them the responsibility rests and in no way can they rid themselves of it. An enlightened zeal for the cause of God must include educational interests. Who can doubt that our future as a denomination must be largely influenced by the efficiency of our schools and colleges. If these are permitted to linger in their present state or to gradually diminish and die we must cease to occupy even our present position. But if new life be infused into them and enlarged opportunity for usefulness afforded them immeasurable good must result. This never will be the case till our churches take a more general and wise interests in the subject.

4. Greater care in selecting young men for the ministry.

Not a pulpit now filled but will soon be vacant, not a ministerial head now raised in our ranks but will soon be laid