

preaching be the minister's great work, whatever aids him most in sermon-making ought to be our highest desideratum. Now, what we want in a sermon, to render it really good, is God's message and meaning to man. It is only truth that ever can add much to the growth, strength and zeal of life. We may get without this a religion that has been called "a mere mush of sentiment," but that is a type of Christianity, that will not greatly benefit man. Without this we may also get what may be called a popular preacher, but never a *great* preacher. It requires insight and grasp of the truth to equip the latter. And these are the men of real power in the church. The strong and warm spiritual life of the early church is to be associated with the profound study and insight of the Church Fathers, and the Reformation with the revival of learning. Now, if true preaching consists in the exposition and inculcation of the truth that saves and edifies, it must be of the very first importance that the preacher should know what is in the Old and New Testaments; know intelligently as well as with the moral understanding what Christ taught through the inspired penmen. This is far and away the most practical thing that a minister can learn. The value of correct exegesis and sound Biblical interpretation can scarcely be over-estimated in their bearing upon pulpit preparation. And when we consider the vast amount of absolute recklessness that prevails in the interpretation and application of the Word; the frequent use of passages clearly without any study of the context from which they are taken; throwing into them a meaning never dreamed of by the original writer, and thus casting irreverence upon the Word, we see how desirable it is that our students should become enamoured of the spirit of sound exegesis. Hence our desire to see the contemplated Chair one of Greek Exegesis and New Testament Introduction, rather than of Practical Training.

No one of course will deny the importance of special instruction in regard to Homiletics and pastoral duties. We all desire to see wise, practical men in our ministry,—men of administrative power, capable of managing everything connected with their work "decently" and efficiently. And our College has not overlooked such matters, and doubtless will not do so. It is on the other hand to be freely admitted that the advocates for a Chair