

study is to learn of Christ and to be increased in the ability and desire to serve Him. The chief danger seems to lie in the fact that the intellectual element might predominate over the devotional, and it is a serious question as to how far the devotional element should be made prominent. Yet it is certainly true that one of the greatest drawbacks to individual or class Bible study for devotional purposes, is the great deficiency of the ordinary college student or graduate on the intellectual side. The devotional study of the Bible is thus marred. This is the experience of those who have during the past year studied in the Y. M. C. A. classes. So much time must be given to acquiring a working knowledge of the facts, that the devotional side of the study is weakened. It is our conviction that the intellectual element should not be so disregarded or its undue supremacy feared. The truths and principles of Scripture are able to stand. The same truth which withstood the tempter of the Saviour, will stand the test at the present time. The American Institute of Sacred Literature of which President Harper is Principal, offers prizes for the best examinations in New Testament Greek, Hebrew Scriptures and the English Bible. The first examinations are to be held this year and the examination in the latter subject is open to all under-graduates. The avowed purpose of these examinations is to advance the study of the Bible, (a) as a unique literature, (b) as a record of unique history, (c) as a text-book of religious principles and (d) in relation to the influence it has exerted in the history of the world. Certainly the Book which is so intimately connected with the progress of civilization should be one of the text-books of the educational world and no educated man can afford to be ignorant of its contents. The men of whom the Bible relates were law-makers, kings, teachers, philosophers, commanders, and we should not be in ignorance concerning them while we store our minds with the philosophies of Plato, Spinoza and Kant, of Spencer, Hamilton and Stewart. But yet other difficulties exist. It will not do to overlook difficulties even in making a plea. There must be unity in Bible teaching. It will not profit to put it under the divided attention of a professor already taxed with a large share of work. Experience in other colleges has shown this. A special chair ought to be endowed, before Bible study should be placed on the curriculum. A man fitted by natural endowments and special training should undertake this work—and this work alone. No task is more difficult, more responsible. It cannot be made a pastime. These considerations no doubt are amongst those presenting themselves to the Governors at the present time. So, while we must regret that we go forth as graduates without that knowledge of the Bible which will