

was felt throughout the civilized world and the forces then set in operation have never entirely ceased to act, and by their action bless the world.

But it is with the theological school of to-day that we are specially concerned. What place ought it to hold? What are its duties? What its destiny? If in the days of Augustine theological training was demanded, how now when our foes are increased four-fold? If when Bacon taught at Oxford and Scotus at Paris and Cologne, the herald of the cross needed to be thoroughly furnished, how now, when skepticism and infidelity seem intrenching themselves anew and men, on whom we have been wont to rely with firmest faith are yielding to doubt and error? Certain it seems to me, no man can afford to go down into this battle at the present day without tried sword and burnished armor. The man who presumes to instruct his fellow-men in that which pertains to their eternal interests, to grapple with problems which have drooped the spirit and bothered the understanding of twenty centuries, to become a leader to guide men out of darkness into the light, and help to establish them there, may well pause this side the Rubicon a few short years and sit at the feet of men who have mingled in life's conflicts and bear the marks of age and battle scars. The man who presumes to throw down the gauntlet to the hosts of infidelity, to meet on the right hand and on the left men who make some specialty a life work, to answer logic with logic and be ready for all opponents, may well pause this side the Rubicon a few short years and sit at the feet of men who have learned the arts of the objector, and all their lives have parried the scoffer's thrusts. True, there are men that have been long in the work, who tell us it is waste of time, and, listening to them, many young men are, every year, persuaded to enter the active work without the seminary course, but I believe it is a mistake, and that such advisers are men who, either never had the advantages of such a course or neglected to improve them. Exceptions may prove the rule, yet such cannot be argued from. There always will be successful ignorance in the ministry as well as elsewhere, and the unsuccessful cultured man can be found almost any day. But this does not discount culture. There never has been a period in the Church's history when there opened before the thoroughly furnished preacher greater opportunities for usefulness and power. Men of wealth stand at her doors, willing to consecrate the fruits of their toil to the service of God.