

they knew little, diagnosed diseases of which they knew less, and killed men scientifically."

The same decadence in architecture is glaringly conspicuous in our Western provinces. One need only visit Vancouver in order to read the tragic story of the architectural necropolis. Shall we ignore such warning voices? Shall we ruthlessly hew down the tree which gives promise of such a noble trunk, for the sake of a number of wattles which may spring from its roots? Shall we not rather remember that the glorious prospect of this young Dominion is imploring the guidance of a skilled and trusty hand during the coming generation? The opportunity is ours. Let us prove ourselves worthy of it. Let our foundation not be of perforated brick, but solid concrete. Now to make Greek and Hebrew elective subjects in our theological work, is rendering that foundation very precarious indeed, and in after days when the master looks for ripe grapes, behold wild grapes.

The demand for greater efficiency has not come alone. Its twin brother, Mr. Practical, makes himself heard at every turn. In this practical age when merit depends on a practical basis, it is very opportune that we should ask, what constitutes a practical ministry? Some have drawn a bow at a venture and assumed that some such subjects as capital and labour, social reform or socialism would be more practical than Greek and Hebrew. Such logicians (?) have either forgotten or failed to observe that the greatest inspiration to the service of society springs not from a study of Instances, but from a study of Principles. When these are grasped emergencies lose their fatal sting. Who shall deny that Gladstone was a most practical man, yet see him reading Homer between debates on living problems like the Education Bill, or Factory Laws? Who shall say that Premier Asquith is not practical, yet when a student he was a specialist in classics? Or shall we affirm that Hudson Taylor was not first and last a most practical missionary? Yet in spite of his incessant labours in China, he found time for the study of Hebrew. And to him, as to all who use it rightly, it proved an inexhaustible storehouse of illumination and inspiration. So is it with the church—her reservoir of power must not rely on modern effervescences, but on her apprehension of the principles and laws which have been co-existent with the race.