

of learning, nor to lower her standard of ministerial training. She owes it to her intelligent, reading laymen, abreast of all the controversies of the age, and surrounded by a babbling strife of tongues upon subjects of most vital and fundamental importance; and to the quick-witted, inquisitive youth of her families and congregations, keen to detect discrepancies between the teaching of the pulpits and the teachings of the college and the school; to have men in the sacred desk who are thoroughly furnished with armour for the defence of truth and the attack of error; men whose intellectual endowments and attainments will command the respect of the honest doubter, and confute and confound the caviller and gainsayer.

Napoleon used to say that Providence is always on the side of the heaviest battalions. It is only partially true. The nation with most brain, and that most highly cultured, will be the foremost nation of the world. Austria and France were conquered in the Prussian Common Schools, rather than at Sadowa, Gravelotte, or Sedan. The power of the sword and the power of the purse are both yielding largely to the power of the pen. The great moral conflicts of the age are to be fought, not by the marshalling of armies on the bloody field of battle, but by the marshalling of convincing arguments, of soul-stirring thoughts, of close wrought reasonings in the daily paper, in printed books, in the pulpit, on the platform, in the legislative halls. Gladstone's pen has wounded the Papacy more sorely than all the battalions of Victor Immanuel. The ballot, not the bullet, is the true arbiter of nations to-day.

And so shall it be in our own land. The Church with the best educated ministry, will be the most influential Church; will most fully gain the ear and command the respect of the community; providing always that the great essentials of heart holiness be present. Without this all human learning is vain and profitless. And though her preachers spoke with the tongues of men and of angels, *u.* understood all mysteries and all knowledge—without this they are but as sounding brass or tinkling cymbal.

Our readers can have no conception of the benefits conferred on the Methodism of this country by its Educational Institutions