

WE notice with pleasure that a chair of Biblical Literature has lately been established in connection with Yale University. Our colleges have too long ignored the study of our English Bible, and even our Theological Seminaries have given it too little attention. There is a sense in which all the work of a Theological course subserves Bible study. A training in philosophical thought and a knowledge of the sacred tongues are important aids in the study of God's word. But while these have their place as auxiliaries, the end of Theological study must ever be kept prominent above them. This end is a preparation for proclaiming the gospel of Christ. As popular thought and feeling change, so this preparation must change to meet it. The Apostle of Christ is an aggressive soldier; he must be the first to note a change of position and to vary his tactics. A curriculum suited for the time of Calvin, Knox, and their immediate successors will not suit our time. Then there was a system of doctrine to be established. The church had not entered upon the great work of evangelizing the world. Narrower fields of study were open for the student and a thorough training in the Bible tongues and Church history was all important. Now things are different. Everything takes a practical shape, and that which is not tangible and capable of expression in human life is condemned as of a by-gone age. The hostility of the few and the indifference of the many must be met by showing them the practical bearing of Christianity on human life. The Theological student then should be getting such a knowledge of God and His relation to man as will enable him to present most clearly and forcibly the suitableness of this religion to human needs. The power possessed by Mr. Moody lies on its human side in his intimacy with our English Bible. The preachers who are the most popular and useful to-day, are not those who have delved the deepest among Hebrew roots, who can unravel the dreams and fantasies of mediæval superstition, and confute the sophistries no one thinks of believing; but those who know and feel God's will concerning human action. Such men must be familiar with our English Bible. We would not give up our Greek and Hebrew. These are indispensable to a correct knowledge of the scriptures. But the reading of a few fragments in these languages during the college course should not take the place of a systematic study of