

last Sabbath (Dec. 10th) one of the students of this college preached where the only Bible he could see in the church was that on the pulpit. It's a burlesque on Protestantism. At how much, forsooth, do many value the *open* Bible?

We are at fault here, and we must remedy it. The remedy lies in the advice: "make the Bible a living book; make it interesting to the people." If this be done people will study it.

One means of accomplishing this is for the minister to make *appropriate* remarks upon the passages that are read as lessons. A large number do not. It certainly requires careful preparation, but who should be more ready to give that than he upon whom especially is laid the charge of souls? We would say: Show the connection with the context of the passage about to be read; compare scripture with scripture; explain difficulties; and give short, direct, pointed teaching which is often very effective. If there be difficulties beyond the speaker's ability let him honestly tell his people so; there is much disappointment at times because difficult passages are overlooked. We are convinced that too many of these

are neglected, some would say slurred over. Where is the thinking man that has not frequently longed, when difficult passages were read in church, that the minister would stop and explain?

These expository exercises are among the most enjoyable and profitable of the church services. If any reader does not know these things in his own experience we advise him to give them a trial. We will pay all costs if our prescription does not prove to be what we represent it. Last spring one of the leading professors of our church preached in a western town. Judgment, of course, was passed upon him. "His sermon was dry, but his exposition of the lesson was most helpful, could scarcely be excelled." This possibly is the judgment that is passed on more than that worthy professor. Is not the teaching of God's word itself too much neglected? Live, energetic expositions of it will help to remedy that, and then the grand old book will receive more of the attention which it deserves, and Protestants will live up to a privilege which they professedly value so highly, and yet practically use comparatively little. "Make the Bible a living book."