

THE HOMILETIC REVIEW.

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REVIEW SECTION.

I.—THE PREACHER AND THE PREACHING FOR THE PRESENT CRISIS.*

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IV.—THE PREACHER AND HIS FURNISHING.

A Different and Better Training.—Having a commission to meet so great a crisis, the question naturally comes up: What manner of man should the preacher be, and what furnishing will best fit him for the special work of this present time? We answer:

He needs to be a man who has complete mastery of the situation, of himself, and of the Bible message.

There is not space in this connection for dwelling upon the present crisis of unbelief, that makes it so hard for the church to meet the demands of the great world-crisis in missions, and increases so vastly the difficulty of the minister's work for the world. Assuming some degree of familiarity, on the part of our readers, with the facts and causes of the materialistic and secular *zeitgeist* and of the trend of popular opinion toward anarchism along all lines, it is proposed to turn attention to two requirements made upon the ministry, in the present situation: (1) that of a different and better training; and (2) that of a better outfit of knowledge and skill. The first of these requirements will furnish the theme of the present paper.

The preacher who would succeed in the highest sense in these times requires a different and better training of his various powers for the work in which he is engaged.

1. It may seem quite obvious, yet it needs to be especially emphasized, that a better and different training of the logical faculty is indispensable in the present age.

The bane of the age is the indefinite, indistinct, incoherent thinking that is kept so constantly before the public through all the popu-

* The subject treated in this series of sketchy articles will be published later in book form, greatly extended so as to cover the vital current topics connected with it, in more systematic shape. The series copyrighted.