

of God, and are asking what are we to do to repel these deadly assaults? The proper answer is: live quiet and peaceable lives in all gentleness and honesty. Be pure, be gentle, be kind, be loving. Learn this grand sum in addition: "Add to your faith knowledge, and to knowledge temperance (self-control), and to temperance patience, and to patience godliness, and to godliness brotherly kindness and love." "For so is the will of God, that by well-doing ye should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men." Very much injury is done to the cause of truth by weak and ill informed men rushing into the arena of controversy. To begin with, they make a feeble and faulty presentation of the nature and the defences of Christianity; and this alone is to be deplored. And what is equally injurious is the fact that the enemy delights to bring such forward as the only champions of the truth, and to hold up their weakness to unlimited scorn, as constituting the sum and substance of the Christian religion. It may be asked, how are we to remedy this chronic obtrusiveness of weaklings? It cannot be fully done. Such creatures belong to all callings—the medical, the legal, the educational, the ministerial; and they will come to the surface just because they are light, and will push themselves to the front in spite of all we can do, and will bore the public through the press and on the platform, in season and out of season. It seems a hopeless task in the church and in the world to keep them in their proper places. Yet we must not give it up—we must persist in bringing forward men of mature thoughts and attainments, and in strengthening public sentiment against enterprising quacks in all departments. The church, too, should constantly seek to secure and train for special work men of profound piety and powerful intellects. They should have leisure and all the best facilities offered them, at home and abroad, for acquiring scientific knowledge and thorough culture; and, when fully equipped, they should be placed in colleges and other institutions of learning as instructors and directors, and in connection with the work of the press in all parts of the world. Too much importance cannot be attached to this department of Christian activity. If we could permeate college life—the life of institutions devoted to the cultivation of secular as well as theological science—and the multitudinous products of the press with the Spirit of Christ, then this power would flow into all professional channels, would eventually rise into the Halls of Legislation and express itself in the public statutes of the land; it would descend into our elementary schools and fill the houses of our people.

What is specially needed is a vast army of truly godly men and women of intellectual culture and professional skill in our public and Sunday schools—persons who exemplify by their daily bearing and conduct before their pupils the spirit and precepts of Jesus Christ—persons who are not afraid or ashamed to let it be known, unmistakably whose they are, and whom they serve, and, without in any degree diminishing their efficiency