

ment of power. One of the charms of Spurgeon's sermons, in his later days especially, to people of refinement was the literary form in which the truth was presented. In my judgment the style of Albert Barnes has never been matched in Sermonic literature and is still a model that students would do well to study. One is often led to wonder why it is that so little attention is paid to this matter ; why the great Universities of this country are not up and doing, for, surely, above all other accomplishments, a public speaker should be trained in the happy and forcible use of his mother tongue. Slang and vulgarity are not in question. They are beneath our attention here and it should go forth from our Theological Colleges that, in the pulpit, they are unpardonable. It is to the simple appropriate use of the English language that I am adverting, and one is amazed on meeting men who have taken University honors in this very subject to find that—to all appearance—the purpose of such a training has been missed. Almost similar remarks can be made regarding much of the reasoning of theologians and especially of preachers. My impression is that often the logic of the pulpit passes for little with large classes of men, and is frequently regarded with less respect than that which is employed in the profession of law or in the senate chamber. It is not forgotten that "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God ; neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned ;" nor is it overlooked that the prosy and indolent preacher may derive much comfort from this fact. It is recognized too that injustice is often done in the case ; that there is a kind of reasoning which is appropriate to every subject ; that exactly the same form of reasoning is not adapted to a discussion of the Atonement or the doctrine of the Trinity that we would expect to meet with in a work on Spherical Trigonometry ; but why logic should be employed in the pulpit that would be torn to shreds at the bar or in a debate on the floor of Parliament is what I cannot understand. Every man who stands before others to preach the Gospel stands there professing his ability to explain, defend