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Allow me to make one more preliminary remark. I wish to say a word or two regarding the object of the Society. The primary and immediate object is, to cultivate good reading, correct composition, and fluent *extempore* speaking upon literary, philosophical, and scientific questions; and the ultimate object—the grand final end we have in view—is to fit ourselves, as far as it lies in our power, for the great work before us in after life. You all know how very important it is that the word of God should be read in such a way, that those to whom it is read should catch its meaning, just as they would when spoken to. To the furtherance of this object, the exercises of the Society undoubtedly tend. They serve also to promote another object, of perhaps still more importance, viz. :—to develop the power of communicating to our fellow-men, in a clear and forcible manner, at any time, the all-important truths of the Christian Religion, and of defending, without hesitation, those truths against the assaults of all opponents. That it is the duty and privilege of every Student of our College to take an active interest in the proceedings of the Society will, therefore, be very evident to all. Those, in the first place, who are but beginning their College course, who have had no experience in public speaking and reading, and who, therefore, have not yet been able to control those emotional feelings which invariably attend one's first appearance in public, should be glad of the opportunity afforded by a Society such as ours, to overcome, or restrain those feelings. It is decidedly wrong for any person, if he can possibly avoid it, to make his first attempt at public speaking *in the pulpit*, because, in such a case, he is sure to be far more concerned