

form was quiet, his voice soft and flexible, his delivery deliberate and earnest. He never preached David Marsh, but only Christ and Him crucified. In listening you lost sight of the messenger in the message. He was a diligent student, but sought rather to have his mind well stored and ready for the demands of the occasion, than to exhaust himself in a carefully prepared essay, lovely as Ezekiel's song, easy to listen to and just as easy to forget before the amen came.

In the month of August, 1860, on my way from New Brunswick to my home in Brantford, where I was then pastor of Zion Presbyterian church, I was detained over a Sunday in Quebec. In the evening I went to hear Mr. Marsh. It was a very thoughtful and instructive expository discourse, so logically and carefully arranged that I concluded he must have spent most of the week in its preparation. In an hour's conversation with him the next day, I made some reference to the sermon of Sunday evening. I was surprised to learn that he had only decided on his text for that evening at the close of the morning service. "But you must not suppose" he added, "that all my preparation was confined to a few hours of Sunday labour. You know how I am situated with the business cares of the Bible Depository on my hands, and other demands upon my thought and time, I have little time for the elaboration I would like to bestow upon my sermons; but I am all the time trying to store my mind with sermon material, and then to the best of of my ability, with divine help, before preaching I give what attention I can to the arrangement of my thoughts. I use no manuscript unless a few pencil outlines." This was possibly the best plan for a very busy man to adopt, and indeed the only plan our dear brother could adopt. The young preacher, who has his study hours at his disposal, should not from this example find an excuse for not writing out, certainly in the earlier years of his ministry, and writing out carefully at least one sermon a week. Writing is a good discipline of both thought and expression. Mr. Marsh's plan gave him a freedom of eye and gesture, which he could not have had if confined by a manuscript, whether read or memorized. What he said was original in the only sense in which we can properly use that word in its