

[Written for the Methodist.]
CHRIST IS COME.

BY REV. F. BOTTOME.
Christ is come, is come to earth,
Low the meek, meek man his birth;
"Son of David," royal seed,
None of David's children heed:
Only shepherds wondering gaze,
Only strangers seek his face.

Yet he comes of heaven adorned,
Hosts of angels chant him Lord!
Heaven's high arches swell the strain,
"Jesus comes on earth to reign;
Wake ye, mortals, wake and see
Love's divinest mystery!"

Lo! above, the wondrous star
Guiding earnest feet afar!
Shining clear, its cold, pale beams
O'er the humble stable gleams;
Only "wise men" see its light
Struggling through the murky night.

Gay and worldly see no sign
In the infant face divine;
Child of way-bound traveller there,
What should they and curiously care!
Yet the "wise men" bend the knee,
In the babe Messiah see.

Haughty soul and lofty brow
May not at the manger bow;
Innocent pleasure may not wait
Upon the stranger's mean estate;
Yet to waiting souls the morn
Joyful hails the Saviour born.

So He cometh, ever comes,
To our hearts and to our homes;
Unobserved of pomp and pride,
By the contrite sinner's side;
Smiles on those who eager seek,
Make his advent to the meek.

CHRISTMAS.

BY COR. R. DISNEY, ESQ.
"Brightest and best of the sons of the morning"
Down on our darkness and lead us to light,
Star in the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where the infant Redeemer is laid.

Soon will the ever moving finger of Time
Point to that place on the calendar wherein
Iblessed Saviour—Christmas, a day which
is celebrated through the whole civilized world,
and while at all times it should be the crown
of our rejoicing that Jesus Christ came into this
world to save for our sins, on Christmas-day
especially ought grateful acknowledgments to
arise for the gift of the Son of God, which in-
cluded all other gifts.

"And there were in the same country shepherds,
abiding in the fields, keeping watch over
their flocks by night, and lo! the angel of the
Lord came upon them, and the glory of the
Lord shone round about them, and they were
sore afraid; and the angel said unto them, Fear
not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great
joy which shall be to all people; for unto you
is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord."

This simple narrative tells of an occurrence
that transcends every matter of an earthly
character; for all other things, even of the
last importance, must come to an end—they
are but earthly, and must perish. But here is
an event of which the record can never be lost
—which time can never wear away.
Another glorious result of the Nativity, shall
be realized through the countless ages of eter-
nity, when all things material shall have passed
away.

As immortal concerns are of more conse-
quence than mortal—things that come to things
present—eternity than time; so the advent of
our Saviour rises superior to all other matters
or considerations; and yet thousands there
are who, admitting this practically, take but
little interest in the coming of the Redeemer
—live, in fact, as if to them the religion estab-
lished by the Son of God were of no concern.
Should any of my readers belong to this class,
I pray them to turn their thoughts to the things
that make for their peace—to the plan of sal-
vation: visit, in imagination, the lowly manger,
and in faith come to Jesus, whose birth we
this day celebrate.

Some of us are abounding in wealth—living
in splendid mansions crowded with the elegances
of life—our beautiful parlors, decked at this
Christmas-day with evergreens and vines,
the pine, the cedar, hemlock, mistletoe, laurel,
ivy, box, wintergreen, and the holly, with its
dark, glossy leaves, and brilliant clusters of
rich red berries. Let such think of that great
Being, who, possessing all these things—the
cattle upon a thousand hills—yet for man's re-
demption, laid them all aside—for our sake
became poor. Others have just enough for a
support—some of life's luxuries—let them
thank God happy they may be, from the coming
of the Redeemer. Others may be in pov-
erty's vale, almost feeling the pinches of want;
let them think of the Lord of life and glory,
who lived on charity—so poor that at
one time he said—"The foxes have holes, and
the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of
man has nowhere to lay his head." Let it be
a comfort to them that Jesus Christ has al-
most sanctified poverty by himself enduring his
ills, and let all the rich, moderately so, and
the poor, joyfully join in the chant which the
angels taught the Church, and then returned to
heaven: "Glory to God in the highest, on
earth peace, good will to men."

Let us all unite in the lively chorus—
"Come, dear I find, and gather round—
The earth tonight is holy ground—
For well we know it once was used
By the hallowed Son of God."
Hallelujah!
Bring in the holly bright,
Christ is born to-night,
Let the bells ring,
And all men sing,
Hallelujah!

Methodist.
More than a thousand Evangelical mission-
aries are in the heathen field; more than ten
thousand native preachers have been raised up
through their instrumentality; the Bible has
been translated into more than one hundred
languages, and the native church members are
counted by hundreds of thousands. Egypt,
Turkey, China, and Burma, are opened; they
were all closed within my remembrance. God
has opened their iron-dad doors as they were
never opened before, and is beckoning Chris-
tians to enter in.

Near by, where stood Judson's lion cage
in which he was confined and treated like a wild
beast, is now building a Christian church, at
the expense of the King of Burma, who has
already built a parsonage and a Christian
school house; and he sends some of his sons
and nephews to the school, notwithstanding
"all the boys receive Christian instruction daily,
and take home with them the New Testament
in Burmese." Compared with the days when
Jesus Christ men stole stealthily through the
streets of Ava, no greater outward change
has occurred during the century—than the
Story of a Working Man's Life (Oakley, Ma-
son & Co.)

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1870

THE APPROACHING CHRISTMAS.

Before we again greet our readers Christ-
mas will have come and gone. We trust
it will in the best sense of the word prove
a merrie Christmas, and in all respects a
profitable one. There are many reasons
why it should be so. Jesus the Christ
whose wonderful incarnation will be com-
memorated in the solemnities of the joyful
season drawing near, is to-day what He
was during the long-ago yesterday of the
experience of our fathers, and that which
He will be through the countless ages after
we shall have fallen asleep in the dust. No
wrinkles deepen on His majestic brow. No
locks grow thin and white around his state-
ly head. His vision never fails. His ears
are never heavy. His arm knows no wear-
iness. No burden bends His glorious frame.
No do His feet ever falter along the paths
which drop fitness on his heritage. The
fountains of His love, deep, dear and ten-
der never dry up. His well won laurels
never fade. The bright gold of His shining
crown never grows dim. The pillars and
foundations of His throne never trem-
ble and never crumble away.

His Gospel is still the power of God unto
salvation to every one that trusteth in the
efficacy of the precious blood once offered.
Divine Justice still acknowledges the power
of His fragrant name. The mercy seat is
still accessible to the wounded sinner, and
the broken heart through His intercession.
He is still mighty to save, and a very pre-
sident help in the time of trouble. O, Friend
of humanity! Lover of the race that was
lost and hopeless! the human heart that
forgets thee, ought to have no power of re-
membrance!

It is good to remember what we owe to
God manifest in the flesh. It is good to re-
call the countless blessings which have been
shed forth upon us from his horn of plenty.
Though we cannot number them, it is meet
we should gratefully dwell upon them. How
rich and varied and well timed they are, and
have been! Blessings for our cradled
childhood; blessings for our confined days,
Blessings when the sun of our life glows on
the meridian; blessings in the still eventide
when the stars come out; and blessings
through the night of tempest when the
darkness is felt. Blessings for the heart-
encircling family; blessings for the daily
table, and the daily toil. Blessings for the
land and the sea. Blessings for the Church
and the nation. Blessings always and
everywhere, and all from Jesus of Golo-
tha, Jesus of Bethany, of Nazareth and of
Bethlehem.

If it is good to remember the birth and
the blessings of our Glorified Lord, it is
also good that in our small measure we
should strive to imitate Him in His im-
itable works of love. It is good for us to
lift up our little mirrors toward the golden
splendours of His face to reflect some por-
tion of the benevolence that rays out upon
us in joy and gladness on the little circle
of which we are respectively the centres. It
will be grateful to Him whom we ought to
delight to please, if while we celebrate the
hour of His manifestation, we for love of
Him rid our hearts of every malignant
feeling, and do our best to lessen the misery
too life around us.

We trust the auspicious season so close
at hand will be profitably improved and
greatly enjoyed by all the readers of the
Provincial Wesleyan. Yet to the more
thoughtful and the better informed among
them sentiments of sadness will intrude
among the most joyful of their Christmas
festivities. It will be impossible to ignore
the facts that have recently transpired in
Europe. It will be impossible to forget
the terrible struggle carried on through-
out months of dreadful bloodshed by two
great nations whose territory is dotted all
over with Christian temples, and who in
their different ways stand at the head of
modern civilization. The ghastly picture
of tens of thousands of brave men rent
and mangled to death; or maimed for
life, since the Franco-German war began
will come up before the mental eye. The
thought of the French and German Ramah,
vocal with the lamentations of countless
Rachels who weep for the cruelly slain,
will come unbidden to the mind, how mer-
riest soever the Christmas may appear to be.

Nor will it be alone at the recollection of
the horrid war butchery lately perpetrated
that some of the Provincial Wesleyan
readers will feel disturbed even in the hour
of their gladness. For the year 1870 is
going out in gloom; and the months may
not be far distant which will see half the
world wrapped in the flames of war, and
that half may include the British Empire,
so perilous are the times which have over-
taken us. God grant it may be otherwise!
God grant that the day may be hastened
when even the rumours of war shall dis-
tress the nations no more, not to say war's
dread realities. For wars and fighting come
from the Devil; but peace and good will
come from Jesus Christ the Prince of
Peace, to whom be glory and dominion for
ever and ever.

J. R. N.
ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE.
Mr. Mackonochie sentenced—The Queen at
"Kirk"—Dismissing Preachers in the
churches—The Liberator Society—The
New School-boards—The War in France—
—Subsidence of the Russian question.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—The strong arm of
Law has at length been brought down upon
one of the most notorious of the Ritualists.
The Rev. Mr. Mackonochie who has per-
sisted in his attempts to evade the decision
of the Judges after his first trial; and with
his Curates maintained all the peculiarities
and frivolities of his services has been
sentenced to three months silence and to
pay the tremendous costs of the protracted
suit. It is a great blow to the party in
whose midst the reverend gentleman has
been distinguished as one of the most ad-

vanced men. Yet in view of the protracted
proceedings, the amazing expense of the
Ritualist party and the painful uncer-
tainty of the issue, there is not much con-
gratulation for those who in the Established church
mourn over the evils which are done in her
midst, and would fain punish the wrong do-
er. It requires no ordinary amount of
courage, and plenty of money to engage in
one of these Ecclesiastical prosecutions.

Her Gracious Majesty has lately been
taken severely to task by the High church
papers, for what was in their estimation a
most serious offence. It was rumoured
that not only had she appeared in a Pres-
byterian church and listened to the sermon,
but had actually remained and partaken of
the sacrament. This was too much for
their endurance, and very loud were they
in their protests, and solemn in their pre-
dictions of the consequences of this most
unconstitutional act of the sovereign. At
length an official refutation of the story ap-
peared, and the truth came out that the
Queen had remained a spectator of the
simple and touching ceremony, but had not
partaken. This is not the first time that
the out-and-out High church papers have
become almost wild at the respect shown
by the Royal family for Presbyterianism, a
feeling which is evidently on the increase.
"Hence these tears."

The attempts that were being made to
introduce Dissenting ministers into the
pulpits of Established churches, have been
rude and summarily stopped. It is not
clearly made out what law has been broken.
Old music canons have been hunted up,
and although the public laugh at the almost
fruitless attempt to find authority for the
interference, yet the screw of inhibition has
been put on and is for the time successful in
coercing a new and true hearted re-
former. The question is not taught the
regiment, and will be fairly investigated as it
is believed that no law has been broken,
and no impediment exists to the use of the
English churches by Dissenting ministers
when invited to preach by the Rector or
Incumbent.

The Liberator Society, which contem-
plates the entire severance of church and
State, and consequently the dis-establishment
of the English churches, is organizing
its forces for a great campaign during the
coming winter. It is evidently rapidly gain-
ing strength and coherence. It is enter-
ing afresh upon a great work, but its
leaders are inspired by recent successes in
Legislative measures and resolved to spare
no effort or expense in placing their views
before the public mind of Eng and, and in
introducing the necessary measures into Par-
liament.

The truth is that the recent action of the
church of England in relation to Elementary
Education, in grasping at every opportunity
to extend the national schools which are
entirely under the control of their clergy, is
fiercely opposing wherever practicable the
election of a school Board; and obtaining in
the form of Building grants before the
months of grace expire, a sum of nearly
a million of money; it opened the
eyes of Non-conformists to understand the
full intention of the Established church, to
consolidate their system. The course of
events is clearly such as indicates a closer
union of all who dissent from the national
church and determined attempts to take
from it its vaunted prestige and power.

The elections for School Boards in several
important towns including the City of Lon-
don have taken place during this week.
In a few cases an election was avoided by
mutual consent. Representative men were
selected from each section of the communi-
ty, and much trouble was avoided by the
withdrawal of others until the required
number above were left and they were elect-
ed by acclamation. As far as the returns
are published the newly elected school
Boards fairly represent all the principal
Churches, and good grounds of hope are ap-
parent that the new set will have an im-
partial trial for the very first.

Another fearful Railway accident has
occurred at Harrow, near London. Seven
lives were lost and a large number of the
passengers very seriously injured. Some
trucks became detached from the train and
rolled down the embankment, and the dense
fog prevented their early discovery,
and while they were being removed an
express train dashed upon them and terrible
ruin and destruction followed. Among
those who suffered from the shock and col-
lision is our esteemed Secretary at West-
minster College, the Rev. G. W. Oliver.
His injuries are not serious but are of such
a nature as to compel great care, and tem-
porary retirement from his duties, which at
this season are peculiarly arduous and im-
portant.

The great hopes which were being enter-
tained of the new French forces, and their
ability to check the German advance
have not been justified. The battles which
have been fought during the week last
past have been unfavorable to the French.
The grand sortie from Paris, the French were
driven back with great loss. The situation
of affairs in and around Paris has not
changed much since my last letter. The
city yet holds out resolutely, and studious
efforts are made to conceal the true state of
affairs within the walls. Unless relief in
some form appears within a few days, suc-
cess in the hands of the Prussians is cer-
tain. The Prussians do not appear in any haste,
they know their terrible power and are not dis-
posed to abate any of their claims.

The Russian question is subsiding into
quietness and diplomacy. It is supposed
that the firm attitude taken by England has
rather astonished the Great Northern power,
and that now a Conference will constitute
itself to meet in London to discuss the
provisions of the obnoxious Treaty.

We are truly thankful to God for the
prospect of continued quietness at Home,
and trust that before 1870 shall have rolled
away, there will be a good prospect of peace
on the Continent.

UNITED STATES CORRESPONDENCE.
REVIVAL INTEREST.
The religious interest noticed in my last
still continues, and is evidently increasing
in some parts of the country. In some in-
stances the work is very powerful, and
some societies rejoice over hundreds of con-
verts. This outpouring of the spirit is
quite general through the country, and is
experienced largely through the use of the
ordinary means of grace. We note this
with pleasure, as have observed that re-
vivals thus experienced are of more perma-
nent value to the church.

CHURCH BUILDING
is carried on among us to an extent that is
truly surprising. I refer not to the South-
western portion of our work, where we have
to build a house of worship in every society
as the Methodist churches previously erect-
ed there are in the possession of the Metho-
dist E. church, South, but throughout the
Northern and Western States. Take, for in-
stance, the New England Conference, one of
the oldest Conferences in the Connection,
and some dozen church edifices are now in

process of erection within its bounds.
Many of these new edifices are large, ele-
gant buildings, and some of them are among
the best structures of the kind in the coun-
try.

THE MISSIONARY INTEREST.
is evidently on the increase, though it is far
from receiving that attention its importance
demands. The Missionary Board at its
recent meeting appropriated for the mis-
sions of the Church in 1871, the sum of
\$671,181.05, \$224,198.54 of which is for
the foreign work. This is a large sum, and
is a little in advance on previous appropria-
tions, but it is far short of being what the
M. E. church should raise for the mission-
ary cause. We hope soon to be able to say
that the church contributes for this noble
cause an average of one dollar per member.
Certainly, she should think of doing nothing
less than this.

Provisional arrangements has been made
for establishing missions in Mexico and in
Italy. In the former, the work of God is
wonderful, now carried on principally un-
der the superintendence of the "American
and Foreign Christian Union." We trust
the publishing house in the latter work
in Italy at once. The Lord is evi-
dently preparing the way for taking that
nation for Christ.

THE LITERATURE OF THE CHURCH
is taking a strong hold on our people. Our
books and periodicals have become a great
power for good, and are doing much in ex-
tending the influence and success of Metho-
dism. We publish 16 weekly papers,
most of which have an extensive circulation,
seven monthlies, and a Quarterly Review.
Our "Book Concern" including the New
York publishing house in the country, if not
in the world, and its business is rapidly in-
creasing.

THE GENERAL LITERARY NEWS.
is of considerable interest. Most of our
publishing houses are doing a large busi-
ness. Messrs. Lee and Shepard have
issued recently about forty new works, most
of which are adapted to youth, and among
them is the "Frontier Stories," in four
volumes, entitled, "Two Nights in the Hun-
ter's Camp," "One Thousand Miles Walk
Across South America," "The Cabin in the
Wilderness," and "Planting in the Wilder-
ness." These are charming books for
youth, attractive, and strictly moral in their
tone.

Messrs. Charles Scribner & Co., are
doing an immense business, and among their
late issues is the "Theology of
Christ, from his own words," by Rev.
Joseph F. Thompson, D. D. This is a
work of great value from one of our best
theologians, and most successful authors.
The principal doctrines taught by Christ,
are discussed with great ability and force.
They have also issued, "Short Studies on
Great Subjects," by James Anthony
Froude, M. A. The author is well known
by his very popular "History of England."
The present work consists of four or five
lectures, delivered in various places, and con-
tributed to different periodicals. They em-
brace a great variety of subjects, and are
written in a style exceedingly attractive.
Their new monthly—entitled "Scribner's
Monthly," conducted by Dr. J. G. Holland,
is a grand success, and is a work of great
merit and excellence.

Christian Biography is greatly enriched
by the publication of the "Life of Rev.
John Milne of Perth, by Horatus Bonar,
D. D. We have here the biography of one
of the most distinguished Scotch divines—a
contemporary of Robert M'Cheyne, William
Burns, and James Hamilton—and cannot
read but with interest and profit. The
same publishers have also issued "Bible
Thoughts and Themes," by the same au-
thor, the fourth volume of a series of
lectures on the "Lesser Epistles." These
are charming volumes, rich in scriptural
thought, and written in the author's pecu-
liarly attractive style. Every minister
will find them very suggestive and profit-
able.

The "Congregational Publishing Soci-
ety," have commenced the publication of
several vols., giving the history of the
Missions of various places, and papers con-
tributed to different periodicals. They em-
brace a great variety of subjects, and are
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thought, and written in the author's pecu-
liarly attractive style. Every minister
will find them very suggestive and profit-
able.

Permit me to call special attention to
"Little's Living Age," a weekly published
by Messrs. Little & Gay, of Boston which
is a work of great value, and represents
better than any other work published in this
country the Foreign Periodical Literature.
It contains the best articles of the abest
living writers, and is a rich repository of
knowledge. The enterprising publishers
issue it in most excellent style, and at a
very moderate price.

Messrs. Sheldon & Co., have issued
several works recently of great interest,
and among them is "Our Poetical Favo-
rites," being a selection from the best minor
Poems in the English language," by Prof.
A. C. Kendrick. We have here a volume
of the poems in our holy scriptures, col-
lected by a man of the finest philo-
sophical tastes, the result of years of patient
labor. It is a choice book, and will be wel-
comed by all lovers of good poetry. The
Galaxy, issued by this house, has become
one of the most able and popular monthlies
of the country. Its articles are fresh and timely.
But few of our periodicals command so many
readers.

CECIL.
PROFESSOR MACDONALD'S IN-
AUGURAL.
NO. 2.
In recurring to the consideration of the
above address we direct attention to the
Professor's offensive use of the word "sec-
tarian" and its cognate terms. It is the
whole Protestant population of the country
which he insults by his multiplied refer-
ences to the "sects," "sectaries," and "sec-
tarianism." We beg to assure him that
this attempt to attach odium to the religious
Denominations of the land must, of the
very necessity of the case, be an utter fail-
ure. The small segment of the population
not included in one or other of these is too
insignificant to be noticed. So that prac-
tically the whole people are traduced as
"sectaries" full of the essential spirit of
self-seeking, dotting upon antiquated pecu-
liarities, fighting over unimportant differ-
ences, and worse than all, dragging the sacred
cause of education into the interminable
strife, and making it contributory to the tri-
umphs of proselytism. Some, indeed, do re-
gard, or affect to regard, the various relig-
ious denominations as evils to be proscrib-
ed, and if possible, exterminated; and if
this be the opinion of the Professor, we are
in possession of a key which would allow
of the oldest Conference in the Connection,
and some dozen church edifices are now in

opinion is a juster sentiment, which regards
the different persuasions of Christians, as so
many distinct agencies for the promotion of
morality and religion, harmful only when
the spirit of their common Master,
historically demonstrated to be capable
of harmonious and effective working in his
cause. Be this as it may, inasmuch as any
system of education, elementary, academic
or collegiate, which ignores or opposes the
religious views and feelings of the people,
cannot attain true and permanent prosper-
ity, it is difficult to see what advantages
the Professor hopes to gain for his favor-
ited system, the persistent application to the
entire religious population of the country
of epistles which not only are, but are obvi-
ously meant to be, insulting.

But these terms as used by the Professor
are misleading also. They insinuate the
very contrary of fact. Here we cheerfully
acquit him of everything worse than igno-
rance. He entirely misconceives, and there-
fore misrepresents, the scope of denomina-
tional distinctions in the distribution of Univer-
sity honors, that, in his opinion, such dis-
tinctions are recognized in the Institutions
against which he levels his attacks. Need
we tell him that, in large part, he has been
fighting shadows. These institutions know
no religious tests and conditions. What
exemplary lesson the Professor's refer-
ence is intended to teach we are at a loss to see.
Again, "religious dogmas" is not taught the
students in the Arts' department in any of
our Protestant Colleges, if by "dogmas" be
meant either elaborated Christian doctrine
or distinctive theological opinion. The place
for such teaching is certainly the
"Theological Hall." But can we not en-
able the Professor and those who think with
him, to understand, that while no effort is
made to give a sectarian bias to the instruc-
tion imparted in its lecture rooms, a col-
lege may still retain upon a religious basis
and maintain a Christian character. The
denominational control under which most
of our colleges are placed is a pledge that
the principle of general religious instruc-
tion and moral oversight will be practically
recognized. It is a pledge that young men
leaving the salutary restraints of home, will
not have their imprudences left free
to the unchallenged and unchecked en-
trance of evil. Far be it from us to as-
sert that suitable provision is made for the
moral welfare of the students in no colleges
save in those under special denominational
influence. We are, however, quite justified
in affirming that this is the only system
which, in this particular direction, has evolved
satisfactory results. This is the system
which the people of this country have
become justly and warmly attached to. The
Professor writes gratuitously of "the
generous purpose of mental culture, of the
far-reaching laws and truths of science,"
of "all noisy sectarian differences sunk out
of sight in presence of these schemes, where
the 'true, the beautiful and the good' are
exhibited and discussed without regard to
party, or feeling," as the fruits of large "non-
sectarian" institutions. The parent who is
profoundly concerned for the spiritual wel-
fare of his son will require some more reli-
able guarantee than these vague and misty
words. He will demand a college control-
led by Christian men, conducted on Chris-
tian principles, and by a Christian
faculty, not forgetting, as he attempts to
forecast the future of the youth whom he thus
sends forth from the sphere of his own in-
fluence; that without religious habits and
dispositions, the recipient of the richest cul-
ture may be an accomplished villain.

But however obvious are the Professor's
misconception and misrepresentation of the
true relation of religion and education in
the colleges, as for himself, he avows the
"dogma" of extreme secularism. He pro-
claims an absolute divorce between religion
and the higher education. "With the
subjects of a liberal education religion has
as little to do as it has with 'such matters' as
"invoices of goods and bills of ex-
change." We have no more right of in-
terference in the religious opinions and Chris-
tian character of the men to whom we en-
trust the education of our sons, than we
those of the "engine driver" and "mer-
chant." Here is some of the Professor's
reasoning:—

"Religious principle, of course, ought to
underlie all our thoughts and actions; but
religious dogma is quite a different thing, and
has no more place in liberal education than
in politics or commerce. There is, for in-
stance, no possible connection between the
consecrated and the five points of Arminian-
ism, though a Arminian punster might allege
that, as a connection can generally be describ-
ed through any five assigned points in a plane,
the two sets of things may have a latent bear-
ing on each other. The exact significance of the
epithets and prelatory, in the Church of the
first ages, may involve much verbal and his-
torical criticism, and may carry in its determi-
nation very weighty results; but the Greek
Classics, from Homer downwards, say nothing
on the subject, and afford no data from which
it could be criticised except by the more ac-
complished inmates of a Lunatic Asylum. I do
not know whether the Pope is Fallible or Infallible;
but, whether the one or the other circum-
stance be the true one, the Chemical relation
of acid to alkali remains the same, and the
Undulatory Theory of Light rests on a mass
of evidence into which opinions about the Pope
do not enter. What the tenets and rules of
Methodist Societies may be, I do not know;
but I am sure they throw no light whatever
on the use of the Latin Subjunctive, or the
controversy between the 'intuitive' and 'derivative'
theories of the moral sentiments. With religion,
I repeat, the subjects of a liberal Education
have nothing directly to do."

We have called this reasoning, "but is it
not childish trifling?" Though Arminian
theology, we think we have heard of scient-
ists who manage to infuse a good deal of
sceptical poison into their teaching of sci-
ence and philosophers, who imbue with sci-
entific views their philosophical prelections.
Or is it right to teach infidelity and wrong
to teach religion? We are thankful that
the Professor relieves us from uneasy doubt
on this point by adding:

But if a Professor, when expounding the
wonderful simplicity and beauty of the great
laws and phenomena of nature, should make
some pointed allusion to the designing and
controlling Mind which works out, from com-
plexity and unity, results at once compli-
cated and beneficent,—and this is about the furthest
jargon into religious teaching that he would
ever be likely to make,—is there one here who
would object to that?

What a kind permission this! And how
grateful we should be to the inferentially as-
sured that the distinguished crowd of savans

and statesmen and clergymen surrounding
the Professor could view without displeas-
ure, such an "inroad into religious teach-
ing" as is involved in an ordinary course
of creative skill and power.

The conductors of Dalhousie College, we
are thankful to say, do not seem to have
fully adapted the Professor's extreme opin-
ions. We note with pleasure that the con-
vocations and other public exercises are
opened with prayer; and we infer that this
is the case with the daily sessions during
term. If however, ultra secularists' counsels
prevail, we have no doubt that Dalhousie
College, though founded under Presby-
terian auspices and controlled by Presby-
terian influence, will be repudiated by Pres-
byterian sentiment, which we are sure, is in
unison with that of the other denomi-
nations of the country, as to the paramount im-
portance of learning knowledge with godliness.

In our next article we hope to consider
some of the Professor's historical-educational
assertions and theories.

A SHORT DISCOURSE ON LONG
SERMONS.
TEXT ACTS, 20 CHAP. 7 AND 11 VERSES.
It would be usual if addressing a congrega-
tion to call them, hearers but addressing the
large congregation, whose eyes will
read this, the attention is called to it by
calling you, readers of the Provincial Wesleyan.
You think it strange to talk about
long sermons. I presume that most of you
hear sermons weekly or at least occasionally,
of whose merits or demerits much may
be said. In our churches, in fact in most
evangelical churches, the sermon
makes the greater part of the service. It is
not, whether it ought so to be, or not, that
we are calling in question, but whether it
ought to be so shortened as to be useless in
the design of instruction.—Some men are
concise in statement, sharp as a diamond
point in cutting into the consciences. They
reach their subject at once. They have
no braiding of the sword before it de-
scends on the heart with its keen edge.
They know its temper; they know how to
cut; they have tried its qualities often by
good soldiers, they obey the cap-
tain's command; "Go, preach the Gospel,
believe and be saved, believe and be
saved." They do not cover up with
beautiful flowers of rhetoric the mouth of
the pit. They see men going to hell, they
attempt to arrest them, and to point them to
the cross, the turning point toward heaven.
It is emphatically true of such, "that the
King's business requires haste."

All men, and preachers are men, are not
constituted alike. Some require delibera-
tion to approach the subject upon which
they have to speak. From many stand-
points they have to view their subject, meet
imaginary objectors and objections, say
this Goliath, out of the head of that giant,
before the field is clear to battle for the
soul. Their thoughts are many; ideas are
numerous, and they are not content to pre-
sent the skeleton, without incarnating it
with flesh. They do not cover up with
beautiful flowers of rhetoric the mouth of
the pit. They see men going to hell, they
attempt to arrest them, and to point them to
the cross, the turning point toward heaven.
It is emphatically true of such, "that the
King's business requires haste."

Modern compression, modern haste would
no doubt prefer the first class, terse, ani-
mated discourse, that suits to-day. Res-
pive under the long sermon, children are
sure to be and those older children too.
It seems to us to betray a lack, when men
will listen to political harangue for hours,
but are restless when the eternal truth is
not compressed in a sermonette. Paul
preached at Troas till midnight. And the
Great Teacher must have spoken in ex-
tended discourses to the people. No pre-
sident can be found of modern haste to
leave the service of the sanctuary, and the
ministry of the word of God.

What says biography on this subject.
The Wesley's, except when preaching out
of doors, preached long. Whitefield's last
sermon, "to a very great multitude" in
the fields, lasted nearly two hours. Adam
Clark, Watson, Bunting, preached
long sermons nearly two hours. Usefulness
may be abridged by weariness, but better
fed with bread from the children's table,
than with the crumbs that many would
break the bread of life.

It would be a bad specimen of a short
sermon to say more, but in good orthodox
style, let us now apply our remarks. Pa-
tiently listen to those who are getting some-
thing to say. Feed on the truth that comes
from the word of God. And above all
grow into Christian manhood by the im-
parted knowledge drawn out of the sacred
treasury.