

THE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

AND CANADIAN EVANGELIST.

Duncan Robertson m. 96

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"If ye abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples."

—Jesus the Christ.

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The Disciple of Christ

Is devoted to the furtherance of the Gospel of Christ, and pleads for the union of all believers in the Lord Jesus in harmony with His own prayer recorded in the seventeenth chapter of John, and on the basis set forth by the Apostle Paul in the following terms. "I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beseech you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love; giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as also ye were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all."—Eph. iv. 1-6.

This paper, while not claiming to be what is styled an "organ," may be taken as fairly representing the people known as Disciples of Christ in this country.

Editorial Notes.

anno Domini 1896, we call it now. But the learned tell us we are five years behind in our reckoning, and that it should be A. D. 1901.

We have a suggestion to make to the warlike among our neighbors in the United States. It is this: Fit out an expedition and go over to Armenia, and relieve the poor, persecuted people of that country.

We hopefully wish our readers, "A Happy New Year," albeit the talk of war between Great Britain and the United States is unpleasantly serious. This year would be a most miserable year, not only for the British Empire and the United States, but for the world, should those two people enter upon a war, which would be beyond question most bitter and most bloody.

One very noticeable and pronounced effect of the war talk has been to intensify the feeling of Canadianism—British Canadianism—which, indeed, has been growing of late years in a way that is exceedingly gratifying to one of strong British proclivities. It might be reasonably questioned whether annexation would now find a single advocate among people of any intelligence or weight, in all the Dominion—saving only and always, of course, Goldwin Smith.

It is well that Canadians should clearly understand that Britain and Canada have many warm friends in the United States. We know a goodly number of such ourselves, and we do not refer to people of British birth or origin. We take the liberty of mentioning one, President Loos, of Kentucky University, Lexington, Ky. His loyalty to the United States is beyond question, but he always impressed the writer, in the class-room, on the platform, and everywhere, as being a warm friend, even admirer, of the British people. He made it very comfortable for the British students at the University. At the commencement exercises, when the writer and some other British students were graduating, there was a large Union Jack at the rear of the platform, displayed as conspicuously as the Star-spangled Banner. It is not true that the British flag can not be exhibited at any place in the States without being insulted. The writer has seen it repeatedly upon such occasions as mentioned here. Such instances should be kept to the front just now.

We notice that some of the United States papers think it would be very easy to capture Canada. We beg to notify them that it would be mighty hard to conquer Canada, and mighty hard to hold her after she were conquered. Canadian territory might be taken, but we are using words of sobriety when we say that hosts of Canadians would not be taken—alive. Before the United States takes into their embrace a few millions of fierce and untamable Canadians, it would be well for them to settle a few of the burning questions now confronting them within their present territory. Canada does not want war with the United States, but if the States force an unrighteous war upon our motherland, there is not a decent dog in Canada that would not fight the States as long as the breath was in him.

One of the points most earnestly discussed is as to the sincerity and high-mindedness of President Cleveland in the matter. We are waiting for our esteemed contemporary, the *Canada Presbyterian*, to assure us and the

world that Mr. Cleveland cannot but be maintaining what he conscientiously believes to be right, inasmuch as he was brought up on the Shorter Catechism. Our own opinion is that Mr. Cleveland's high-mindedness cannot be counted as a very large quantity. And we strongly incline to the view that if his "war-measure" were not merely an election dodge, or a wicked playing into the hands of the U. S. capitalists who are reported to have large interests in the disputed territory, his object is to get possession of Canada, thinking that on account of the condition of affairs in the East, it is peculiarly opportune to quarrel with Britain.

The *Christian Guide*, of Louisville, Ky., in an editorial heaping ridicule upon the jingoes, says:

There will of course be no war. As a religious journal and a Christian guide, we are bound to give our readers the truth. If the war could be rushed on in a week's time there might be one, but it will be absolutely impossible to bring one on in less time than six months, and long before that time the squawkers will have had their squawk, and the real, sound public opinion of the country will have spoken its veto.

As a sample of what high-toned journals in the United States are saying these days, take this from the *Christian Standard*:

"Congress is again in session, and that body will again be compelled to endure 'the slings and arrows of outrageous' criticism and abuse. Time was when this assembly was supposed to embody the wisdom, patriotism and high character of the nation. But not now. What has occasioned the immense loss of reputation and influence? One cause has been the great mass of hasty, crude, and 'inspired' legislation which it has perpetrated. Another has been the wild and unstatesmanlike things which prominent members often say outside of Congress. Some clamor for a war with England over imaginary or even manufactured affronts; others preach among the people the most absurd commercial and financial dogmas, while others would commit us to a world-embracing scheme of jingoism. But another, and serious, cause is a deliberate effort put forth by keen, influential and undemocratic men to discredit popular government. It requires no genius to discover growing aristocratic tendencies in our older and

wealthier states. This stream of tendency has flooded our 'House of Lords' with its aristocratic driftwood, and now if the lower House can be ridiculed out of all prestige, what better safeguard for the public welfare can there be than to put a strong, sagacious man in the presidency, and keep him there, not for three terms, but for life? But this is hysterical writing, and, let Congress have it. There can not be found a more much-enduring herd of pachyderms anywhere."

And here is a paragraph from the *Hamilton Times* which is worth passing around just now:

The *New York World* in a review of "England's Imperial Policy," says, "Prior to 1776, England was insolent and overbearing in its treatment of all its colonists. Since then it has grown more and more liberal towards them, until now such English dependencies as Canada and Australia have a fuller measure of local self-government than our Federal laws allow an American Territory." That's a truth that ought to be appreciated by the people of the United States. We are freer, have a better form of Government, and one that is more responsive to the popular will than the States have, and our laws are more respected and better enforced. The mistake the Yankees make is in dealing with the England of 120 years ago. They should move up and get acquainted with modern Britain, the freest and most enlightened of the nations.

AIMING TO PLEASE GOD.—A young musical composer was bringing out his first composition. As the successive members of the mighty theme were evolved, the house rang with applause, and, as he stood above the orchestra, hearing his ideas interpreted by perfect executants, irrepressible emotion began to swell in his breast. Yet he kept his eye fixed on one spot in the audience where sat a master of his art much greater than himself; and his heart trembled more at the slightest movement of his master's features than all the thunders of the crowd. This is the way to live. After man's judgment, there is another far more august—the judgment of God.—*Dr. J. Stalker.*

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