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IN

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, & ADJOINING PROVINCES.

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"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING."—PS. 137: 5.

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### SERMON.

PREACHED AT THE OPENING OF THE SYNOD OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES,  
AT CHATHAM, MIRAMICHI, ON THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE, 1869, BY  
THE REV. DR. BROOKE, THE RETIRING MODERATOR.

"Thy word is Truth."—John xvii. 17.

THERE is a sense in which the expression, "God's Word," is sometimes employed in the Scriptures, and with which probably few here present are unacquainted,—I mean as denoting His own Eternal Son, the only begotten of the Father, and who, in the fulness of time, became incarnate, and died upon the cross to make reconciliation for iniquity. This was the Word, or voice, as it stands in our translation, that Adam and Eve, after their fall, heard "walking in the garden, in the cool of the day." From the moment that man sinned, it was impossible that a pure and holy God could hold intercourse with him, except through a Mediator; and this office His well beloved Son undertook in the councils of peace. And as it is through him alone that God has spoken to man, in every age, He is thus denominated "the Word," and sometimes "the Wisdom of God." It was through Him that He spoke to Noah, warning him to "prepare an ark to the saving of his house." It was through Him that He called Abraham from a land of idolatry, and guided him into the land of promise. It was through Him that He spoke to Jacob in the plain of Bethel, and, in the visions of the night, pictured to his imagination a ladder reaching from earth to heaven, with the angels of God ascending and descending upon it. It was He that appeared to Moses in the bush "burning but not consumed." It was He that guided the Israelites in their wanderings through the wilderness, "in a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night." It was He that appeared to Joshua, before they entered the land of Canaan, as "the Captain of the Lord's host, with a drawn sword in his hand." It was He that inspired the prophets by His own Spirit, and enabled them to testify beforehand of the sufferings that He should endure, and the glory that should follow. And when, in fulfilment of the gracious plan which from eternity had been devised,