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ANNIVERSARY SERMON,

PREACHED BY THE REV. J. DENOVAN,

*In Alexander Street Baptist Church, Toronto, on Sunday, May 4th, 1879.*

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people."—REV. XIV. 6.

In all holy scripture nowhere perhaps have we a more expressive and impressive illustration of what the Christian Church should be and do than this symbol affords—a mighty angel bearing God's message of mercy to all that dwell on the earth.

What should the Church of Christ be? *One mighty agent*, like this one angel. One! The Church, alas, is not one; the shame and weakness of the professed Church of the Lord Jesus are that it has been so divided and subdivided into sectional fragments as to present to the world the spectacle of elements in a state of mutual repulsion; it cannot be denied that in some leading doctrines and in many religious forms, to say nothing of names, the modern Church presents to the world such variety and diversity that no person can suppose Christ's earnest prayer in the seventeenth chapter of John's Gospel to have yet been answered, "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou has sent me,"—a oneness which certainly involves perfect unity in nature, name, purpose, word and aim. While every sincere Christian heart must deplore the aspect in which the Church of the present thus stands before the world, every such heart must draw comfort and hope from