

# THE MONTHLY RECORD,

—OF THE—

## Church of Scotland

—IN—

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK AND ADJOINING PROVINCES.

VOLUME XXVI.

SEPTEMBER, 1881.

NUMBER IX.

*"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning."—Psalm 137, 4-5.*

### Are We The Ten Tribes?

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That the inhabitants of Great Britain are Israelites is a modern theory which has been widely propagated. Its defenders have invented a large number of resemblances or "identifications," on which, in the absence of authentic history or national tradition they rest their proof. The languages of our country, Saxon, English, Welsh, Celtic, have no affinity with the Hebrew, but that is made of no account. The history of the many tribes of which our nation is composed, whether Teutonic, or Saxon, or Caledonian, or Latin, or Scandinavian, is totally distinct from that of any of the ten tribes of Israel; but history is in this case set aside. The manners and customs of our nation, both religious and social, have not the slightest resemblance to those of Israel; but this is all ignored. The physiognomy of our countrymen, be they English, or Welsh, or Scotch, or Celtic, or Norwegian, or Norman, is the very op-

posite of Eastern, the Israelite face being a marked contrast to the British; but this is reckoned of no consequence. The names of men, women and places in our land are not Hebrew and Shemitic at all, but are traceable to another class of languages altogether; yet this weighs nothing. The occupation of our Island by certain tribes whom we now call the original Caledonians or Britons (long before the ten tribes were carried captive into Assyria) and who, therefore, could not be Israelites, is passed by. The grand story of an Israelitish emigration from Assyria in Great Britain—whether by sea or land we are not told—a century or two before Cæsar landed, is got up for the occasion, with history or tradition or local monuments to confirm it; yet when was there ever an emigration in which the emigrants did not carry their language, their religion, their manners, their dress, and their national traditions with them? This the identifiers of Israel with England have not considered. The ten tribes in their dispersion over wide Europe carried their