

his statements and views ; but he was so wrapt up in the doctrine of Episcopal Succession and a Church Establishment, that he was incapable of doing justice to those who differed from him, or of giving a fair account of the different religious persuasions in the country. He was more moderate and liberal in his views and feelings in his later years, and became the personal friend of his old antagonist, "The Reviewer," who, he said, had "fought fair."

In the course of his sermon, referring to the obstacles which retarded the progress of the Church of England in Canada, Dr. Strachan said :

"Even when churches are erected, the persons who give regular attendance are so few as greatly to discourage the minister, and his influence is frequently broken or injured by numbers of uneducated itinerant preachers, who, leaving their usual employment, betake themselves to preaching the Gospel, out of idleness, or a zeal without knowledge, by which they are induced to teach what they do not know, and which from their pride they disdain to learn."

To this "The Reviewer" replied :

"With respect to the small numbers who give regular attendance to the ministrations of the Church of England, I am of the Doctor's opinion. For I believe those instances are not very rare, which compel the venerable clergyman to say, with Dean Swift, 'My dearly beloved Roger, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places,' etc. And as a remedy for this doleful complaint, we may say with the eloquent Chalmers, 'to fill the church well, we must fill the pulpit well.'

"As to the Doctor's remarks on the qualifications, motives, and conduct of the Methodist itinerant preachers, they are ungenerous, unfounded, and false. The Methodist preachers do not value themselves upon the wealth, virtues, and grandeur of their ancestry ; nor do they consider their former occupation an argument against their present employment or usefulness. They have learned that the 'venerable' Apostles were once fishermen ; that a Milner could once throw the shuttle ; and that a Newton was not ashamed to watch his mother's flock. By these examples, and a hundred more, they feel themselves sufficiently shielded from the envious shafts of a bigoted ecclesiastic. They are likewise charged with 'preaching the Gospel out of idleness.' Does