

ORDINATION CHARGE

Delivered by the Rev. E. Evans, Ex-President of the N. B. and P. E. Island Conference, on Monday, June 27th, 1881, in the Methodist Church at Moncton, at the ordination of Messrs. J. F. Esty, C. S. Wells, and W. E. Johnson, B. A. Published by the request of the Conference of New Brunswick and P. E. Island.

My dear young brethren, I congratulate you on the successful termination of your probation. And I trust that that Divine goodness which has been so abundantly shown toward you in the past will still be continued. Whatever may be your feelings, I am sure I can sympathize with them. You have devoted yourselves in the most solemn manner to the service of God. And when I think of this most important duty, which I am now to discharge, I cannot but look upon these reverend fathers, crowned by the hand of time, with the hoary head, symbolic of the purity and reward to which they are hastening; who have long led the van of the Lord's host, and whose protracted experience could furnish them with abundant suggestions of counsel required by you; or when I look upon these learned and able brethren, whose cultured taste, singular piety and abundant learning so eminently fit them for giving and enforcing, illustrating and adorning the advice which would guide you in your studies and labors, and prove a life long benefit, I may well tremble at the responsibility which has been placed upon me. But the lesson I have learned—and that lesson you must learn—is to attempt every duty resolutely, and proceed in it earnestly, and then you may hope to do it successfully. There are three principles which have guided me in the selection of the text