

what were called, but really were not, Micmac books and gospels, they meddled with their faith, and sought to carry them back to their old worn-out life and language, now sadly disjointed from the present times." "We can only lament so much money and so much hard work sincerely wasted, in harrassing their untutored minds with another language and another faith, before they had taught them to wear shoes and stockings, or to eat from tables." "INDIANS OF NOVA SCOTIA. By J. BERNARD GILPIN, B.A., M.D., M.R.C.S." (Read 12th March, 1877. Transactions of the Natural History Society, page 260.) Perhaps it was this able (!) document that my worthy friend, the editor of the *Christian Messenger*, had before him when he deemed our history so dolorous as "compared with some others, instituted about the same time." Why Dr. G. would have told you the history was sufficiently discouraging without instituting any comparisons. Only think of it. A few weak-headed visionaries, such as the late Dr. Twining, Dr. Forrester, and Dr. Crawley, Dr. P. G. McGregor, and more or less of the other leading ministers, merchants and lawyers of Halifax at the time, actually undertaking to *civilize* the Indians by such a huge *mistake in natural laws* as they made, like trying to make water run up hill, and by *seeking to carry them back to their old worn-out life and language*, now sadly disjointed from the present times. Surely that *was one way* to try to *civilize* them! And to add to the absurdity, they *aimed to teach them their own language!*—sending poor Rand round among the alders and bramble bushes to teach the Indians their own old worn-out and all-but-forgotten Micmac!! And worse than all,—but what will not such simpletons do? They actually printed and taught the Indians to read what *were called, but really were not, Micmac books and gospels!!* The books really, of course, were in Sanscrit, Chinese, Greek, or some other language, but they *were not, as pretended, in Micmac!!* Why really, like the little boy who broke his father's axe, I must exclaim, "I did not know I was so strong." Not much credit can accrue from the *morality* of the transaction, certainly, but what marvellous powers of *intellect* must have been required to make such men as the gentlemen really were, whose names I have mentioned, believe, and to make the Indians everywhere believe, that the books referred to really were printed in *bona fide* Micmac, when all the time this was not so!

Well, doctor, no wonder *such* a mission as you have so graphically described in your paper, had it ever existed, came so speedily to