

to the belief that he had been affected with leprosy. His eye was remarkable for a brightness, almost a glare, which reminded his courtiers of that of a lion. He had a contemptuous habit of throwing back his head, which, by bringing out the full proportions of his thick neck, procured for him the nickname Trachala. His voice was remarkable for its gentleness and softness. In dress and outward demeanor the military commander was almost lost in the vanity and affectation of Oriental splendor. The spear of the soldier was almost always in his hand, and on his head he always wore a small helmet. But the helmet was studded with jewels, and it was bound around with the Oriental diadem, which he, first of the emperors, made a practice of wearing on all occasions. His robe was remarked for its unusual magnificence. It was always of the imperial purple or scarlet, and was made of silk, richly embroidered with pearls and flowers worked in gold. He was especially devoted to the care of his hair, ultimately adopting wigs of false hair of various colors, and in such profusion as to make a marked feature on his coins. First of the emperors since Hadrian, he wore a short beard.

He was not a great man, but he was by no means an ordinary man. Calculating and shrewd as he was, yet his worldly views were penetrated by a vein of religious sentiment, almost of Oriental superstition. He had a view of his difficult position as the ruler of a divided empire and divided Church. He had a short, dry humor, which stamps his sayings with an unmistakable authenticity, and gives an insight into the cynical contempt of mankind which he is said to have combined, by a curious yet not uncommon union with an inordinate love of praise. He had a presence of mind which was never thrown off its guard. He had the capacity of throwing himself, with almost fanatical energy, into whatever cause came before him for the moment. One instance at least he showed of consummate foresight and genius.

We have seen from his dress, and we see also from his language, that he was not without the wretched affectation which disfigured the demeanor of the later emperors. Against one great old Roman vice, that of voracious gluttony, he struggled, but struggled in vain. The Christian accounts all speak of his continence. Julian alone insinuates the contrary. It was only as despotic power and eastern manners made in-roads into the original self-control of his character, that he was betrayed into that disregard of human life in his nearest and dearest relationships which, from the causes, darkened the declining years of the Grecian Alexander and the English Henry.

Proceedings of Presbyteries, &c.

PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.

This Presbytery met at Stratford on the 30th September last, the Rev. Thomas Lowry, Moderator.

A petition was received from Elma Centre, Molesworth, Listowell, and West Monkton, praying that these station may be united under one pastoral charge, and also for the moderation of a call to a minister.

The prayer of the petition was granted, and Mr. Beattie was appointed to preach at Elma Centre on the 20th October, and to Moderate in a call.

Messrs. R. N. Grant and Wm. Moore having completed their literary course were examined as entrants of the first year in Theology, and passed their examination with the approbation of the Presbytery.

The subject of the State of Religion was taken up, when the Presbytery agreed to devote one sederunt at next ordinary meeting to the consideration of this subject, and the moderator was requested to introduce the same by an address on Missions.

Kirk Sessions were instructed to produce their Records, at the next ordinary meeting for examination.

Arrangements were made for supply of vacant congregations and Mission Stations.

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for ordinary business at Stratford, on the first Tuesday in January next at eleven o'clock, A.M.

WILLIAM DOAK, Pres. Clerk.