

TEXTS AND THOUGHTS FOR EVERY DAY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

AUGUST 26.—TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

1. The Lord hath done that which he spake by his servant Elijah. 2 Kings x. 10. When Jehu pronounced the slaughter of the seventy persons of the house of Ahab in Samaria, he acted in obedience to the command which was given him, when he was anointed king over Israel; but the rulers and elders of Samaria, when they slew them and sent their heads to him, acted under base fear and cowardly treachery. Yet Jehu justly directs the eyes of the prophet to the righteous decree of the Almighty, who equally by the obedience and sins of men accomplishes his purposes. Let me rely that nothing shall fall to the ground of his promises to those who trust in him.

2. Come with me and see my zeal for the Lord of Hosts. 2 Kings x. 16. If Jehu said this sincerely, he knew not himself; for, although he destroyed Baal out of Israel, he kept the worship of the calves; although he obeyed the first commandment he broke the second. A false heart may renounce some gross sin, yet meantime cling to some smaller evil which shall equally condemn it. But a true zeal for God produces entire obedience or the endeavor after it; and no other can receive an eternal recompense. If, O Lord, thou hast estranged me from the Baal of gross sins, cleanse me likewise from the golden calves of smaller corruptions.

AUGUST 27. 1. Because thou hast done unto the house of Ahab all that was in mine heart, thy children of the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel. 2 Kings x. 30. Such is the bounty of God, that every degree of obedience to him meets with its reward. A partial obedience receives a partial reward; an obedience from mere earthly motives obtains an earthly reward, an obedience from a single minded faith receives an everlasting recompense. Let me then fully rely on the bounty of my heavenly Master; but let my motives be so purified, O Lord, that I may reap the fruits of thy glorious and eternal remuneration.

2. But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the Lord God of Israel with all his heart. 2 Kings x. 31. God rewards our partial good with earthly favors, that we may see that none who serve him shall go unrewarded, and thence be led on to serve him more and more.—But Jehu did not learn this lesson. He remained as he was. He could follow a precept which agreed with his own inclinations, but he did not care to serve God with all his heart; and therefore he received only the earthly portion which he had chosen.

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2. Hezekiah trusted in the Lord God of Israel. 2 Kings xviii. 5. Hezekiah ascended the throne in the first dawn of manhood, when passion is strong, and seconds temptation. He had been brought up by Ahab, the worst of fathers, yet he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, as David had done. And whence was this? He had learned to trust in God; to believe that his goodness intends our good, that his wisdom knows our true good, that his power can shield us from harm and give us what is truly good. Give me, O Lord, this full and implicit reliance upon thee.

HEZEKIAH. 1. The Lord was with him, and he prospered whithersoever he went forth. 2 Kings xviii. 7. Faith in God is the only sure foundation of prosperity. For with it we never willingly pursue objects which he disapproves; but our desires and his are the same, and, therefore, whithersoever we go, he is with us. And he makes it to be so by way of reward, giving success even to those desires of ours, which he has made it our nature to seek, which have in them neither good nor evil,—excepting that they give us pleasure. O that my heart may be so guided that the Lord may be ever with me.

2. Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the Lord. 2 Kings xviii. 16. Hezekiah did right on the whole; but he was not perfect. He really trusted in God, and that faith kept him on the whole; but it was sometimes weak and failed him. He saw the power of Sennacherib to destroy the ten tribes; and when Sennacherib came against him, his courage sunk, and he ceased to rely on God's power to deliver him, and so robbed God's temple by buying off the enemy. Grant me, Lord, an unshaken faith; so that I may submit to anything rather than renounce my trust in thee.

2. Our sufficiency is of God. 2 Cor. iii. 5. St. Paul is not blind to the fact that we possess powers; but he would have us remember whence they are derived. And for three reasons: first, that we may not be puffed up; second, that we may be sensible that we are answerable for the use we make of them; third, that we may be encouraged to trust that sufficiency will be supplied to us according to our needs, that we may be able to do and bear all that God looks for in us. Let me be humble in the sense of my own nothingness, and confident in Him who is in and with me.

1. If the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more shall the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. 2 Cor. iii. 7. The law of Moses was the ministration of condemnation; inasmuch as by it came the consciousness of guilt, without any permanent release from that consciousness. Yet its ministration was glorious, because it magnified God, and tended to rouse man from his slumber in sin. But the gospel does more than that. It ministers righteousness, both the righteousness of remission of guilt and the righteousness of deliverance from sin. These are ministered to us by ordinances and by those who administer them; and both the ordinances and those who minister them are made glorious by the greatness of the gifts. O that I may ever duly honor both.

2. He took him aside from the multitude. Mark vii. 33. Jesus did many miracles in public, but this he chose to do in retirement; whether that he might give us an example of not seeking to show our gifts before men; or

because the perversity and envy of the Scribes and Pharisees might have hindered the miracle, either by vain questioning or damping the faith of those who brought the deaf and dumb man to be cured. Grant me, O Lord, this prudent observance of times and circumstances; that the gifts thou hast given me may be most effectual to their ends.

AUGUST 30. 1. He sighed, and said unto him, Be upon. Mark vii. 34. When Jesus sighed, it was not from need or distrust. He had the Father ever working with him, and he had no doubt of the same power in him now. But he compassionated the many infirmities which had brought upon mankind, and would show that he felt for them. And while he thus felt, he had power likewise to heal. Glory to Thee, O Blessed Jesus, for thy pity. Let me, like thee, feel for the distresses of others; and, O, impart to me likewise the power and will to lighten them.

2. He charged them that they should tell no man. Mark vii. 36. It is our ordinary duty to publish the good works of our God in and towards us; but Jesus now forbids it,—for this reason, no doubt, amongst others, to teach us that there is a time to refrain from professing God's name, and publishing his works. And such a time is come, when we should thus be casting pearls before swine, or incurring the danger or the suspicion of preaching our own glory, whilst appearing to publish the works of God. Give me, O Lord, to know both when to speak and when to be silent.

AUGUST 31. 1. He maketh both the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak. Mark vii. 37. No work is too great for Christ. If men willfully shut their ears against our instructions and persuasions, we have no power to change them for we cannot govern the heart; but Jesus by his spirit can melt the stubborn heart and open the unwilling ears. We cannot constrain the unwilling to open their lips and show forth God's praise; but he can bring them to feel how great things God has done for them; and then they cannot but speak. O Blessed Saviour, give me the hearing ear and the mouth to speak thy praise.

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HEAD QUARTERS.

Quarter, 10th August, 1855.

MILITIA GENERAL. In pursuance of the provisions of an Act passed in the 18th year of Her Majesty's reign, intitled, 'An Act to regulate the Militia of this Province, and to repeal the Acts now in force for that purpose.'

His Excellency the Governor General and Commander in Chief is pleased to appoint the following Officers to command the Militia in the respective Districts to which they are named as below stated, with the rank of Colonels of Militia, viz:—

Lieutenant-Colonel the Honorable Sir Allan Napier Macdonell, Knight, First Battalion, Wentworth, to be Colonel, and to command the Militia in Number Seven Military District in Upper Canada.

Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Panet, First Battalion Quebec, to be Colonel, and to command the Militia in Number Seven Military District in Lower Canada.

Lieutenant-Colonel the Honorable George Moffat, Second Battalion Montreal, to be Colonel, and to command the Militia in Number Nine Military District in Lower Canada.

Lieutenant-Colonel T. E. Campbell, C. B., First Battalion Bourville, to be Colonel and to command the Militia in Number Five Military District in Lower Canada.

No. 2.—Officers in command of Battalions in the several Districts of the Province, to which Colonels in command are appointed, will govern themselves accordingly in making the Reports required by Law to the Colonels in command of their respective Districts.

No. 3.—His Excellency the Governor General and Commander in Chief is pleased to make the following Promotions and Appointments in the Militia Force of Canada, viz:—

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER ONE, UPPER CANADA. First Battalion, Prescott. To be Lieutenant-Colonel: Major Neil Stewart, vice Brown deceased. Third Battalion, Carleton. To be Lieutenant-Colonel: Major Daniel Cameron, vice Macdonell, deceased.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER THREE, UPPER CANADA. Seventh Battalion, Hastings. To be Lieutenant-Colonel: Major William Crayton, vice Jones, resigned.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR, UPPER CANADA. Third Battalion, Peterborough. To be Lieutenant-Colonel: Major Walter Scott, vice Birdall, deceased.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER SIX, UPPER CANADA. First Battalion, Huron. To be Lieutenant-Colonel: Major Daniel Lizar, vice Morgan, deceased.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN, UPPER CANADA. Third Battalion, Wentworth. To be Lieutenant-Colonel: Major Daniel Lewis, vice Gourlay, resigned.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER NINE, LOWER CANADA. First Battalion, Megantic. To be Lieutenant-Colonel: Major William Rhodes, unattached, List vice Hill, deceased.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER SIX, LOWER CANADA. Seventh Battalion, Huntingdon. To be Lieutenant-Colonel: Major Alfred Pinaussault, vice Morau, who retires, retaining his rank.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN, LOWER CANADA. Lieutenant and Adjutant John Rowan Spence, Second Battalion Montreal, to be Assistant Adjutant General to the Militia in Number Nine Military District in Lower Canada, with the rank of Major in the Militia Force.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN, LOWER CANADA. Captain Francis Real Angers, Third Battalion Quebec, to be Assistant Adjutant General to the Militia in Number Seven Military District in Lower Canada, with the rank of Major in the Militia Force.

MONTREAL CAVALRY. The following Officers are permitted to retire from the service: Captain Patrick Leslie, retaining his rank.

MILITARY DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT, UPPER CANADA. Lieutenant Colonel Walter Anderson, Second Battalion Northwick, retaining his rank. By Command of His Excellency the Governor General and Commander in Chief. DE ROTTENBURG, Colonel. Adjt. Genl. Militia.

ANCHOR OF ROWLAND HILL, OR FAMILY PRAYER AT A TAVERN.—Rowland Hill was once driven by a storm into a village inn, and compelled to spend the night. When it grew late the landlord sent a request by the waiter that the guest would go to bed. Mr. Hill replied, 'I have been waiting for a long time, expecting to be called to family prayer.' 'Family prayer! I don't know what you mean, sir, we never have such things here.' 'Indeed! thou thou my master I cannot go to bed until we have had family prayer. The waiter informed his master, who in consternation bounced into the room occupied by the faithful minister, and said, 'Sir, I wish you would go to bed. I cannot go (I'll have seen all the lights out. I am so afraid of fire.' 'So am I,' was the reply; but I have been expecting to be summoned to family prayer.' 'All very good, sir; but it cannot be done at an inn.' 'Indeed! then pray get me my horse. I cannot sleep in a house where there is no family prayer.' The host professed to disbelieve his promise rather than his guest, and said, 'I have no objection to have your horse; but I don't know how.' 'Well, then, summon your people, and let us see what can be done.' The landlord obeyed, and in a few minutes the astonished domestics were upon their knees, and the landlord called upon to pray. 'Sir, I never prayed in my life. I don't know how.' 'Ask God to teach you,' was the gentle reply. The landlord said, 'I have no objection to have your horse; but I don't know how.' 'Well, then, summon your people, and let us see what can be done.' The landlord obeyed, and in a few minutes the astonished domestics were upon their knees, and the landlord called upon to pray. 'Sir, I never prayed in my life. I don't know how.' 'Ask God to teach you,' was the gentle reply. The landlord said, 'I have no objection to have your horse; but I don't know how.' 'Well, then, summon your people, and let us see what can be done.' 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