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"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING."—Ps. 137: 5.

SERMON.

PREACHED AT THE OPENING OF THE SYNOD OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES,
• AT CHATHAM, MIRAMICHI, ON THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE, 1869,
BY THE REV. DR. BROOKE, RETIRING MODERATOR.

(Concluded.)

It tells us that God so loved the world, guilty and polluted as it is, "that He spared not his own Son, but freely gave him up to death," that sinners might live. Very early was the promise of a Deliverer given to sinful man. No sooner had the fatal offence been committed, than God spoke of "the woman's seed" that should bruise the serpent's head—a promise which, in the fulness of time, was accomplished in Jesus Christ, who was manifested "that he might destroy the works of the devil." As we follow the stream of revelation downwards, we find the first obscure intimation gradually becoming brighter and brighter, till at length the long expected Messiah, of whom patriarchs and prophets had spoken with such delightful anticipations, appeared to gladden the hearts of those "who waited for the consolation of Israel." And it may serve to convince us at once of the unsearchable love of God, and of the incalculable value of the human soul, when we think who was the illustrious Being "who came to raise our fallen state." It does, indeed, to our unaided reason, appear passing strange, that the Son of the Most High God, who "was in the form of God, and thought it no robbery to be equal with God," should resign the sceptre of universal empire, and forsake the glory that He had with the Father before the world was, and descend to this apostate earth, and clothe Himself with a body of flesh, and live a desolate outcast in that very world that received being from His hands. That He should have done this for a single day would have been more than the mind of the highest angel could have conceived: and how much is the wonder increased when we are told that He dwelt upon this sin-polluted earth for more than thirty years, and at last suffered death upon the cross, not for the sake of friends, but in behalf of those who were his enemies! There is a