

once a month for social and devotional purposes, on the meeting of their two preachers after their three weeks' tour of eleven townships, west, north, and east of the town, preaching each two Sabbaths out of four in the town. At one of these social meetings, the discourse of the Archdeacon of York was read, containing attacks on different religious denominations, but chiefly on the Methodists. It thrilled the whole company, who with one voice insisted that the unjust attack and misrepresentations of the Archdeacon should be answered; and when the question was proposed as to who should write the answer, the common voice pointed to a young preacher, who had just finished the twenty-third year of his age, but not the first year of his probation in the Methodist ministry—the youngest, though now the oldest minister of the Methodist Church. He objected on the ground of his youth, inexperience, etc.; but finding his remonstrances unavailing, he proposed that the Superintendent of the Circuit (the late Rev. James Richardson, D.D.) and himself should each write something during their next tour round the Circuit; and out of what they should both write, something might be compiled that would meet the case. This was assented to; and at the next monthly meeting, inquiry was made as to what had been done in answer to the sermon of the Archdeacon of York, when it was found that the Superintendent of the Circuit had written nothing. The junior preacher replied that he had endeavoured to obey the wishes of his brethren. He was pressed to read what he had written, which he did with great reluctance. The effect of the paper (which occupied only twenty-seven octavo pages) seemed to be electrical; and the publication of it was instantly demanded. The author remonstrated, when one of the brethren present seized him by the arms from behind, and another wrested the manuscript from his hands, and said he would take it to the printer. Seeing that he could not recover the manuscript, he said if it would be returned to him he would not destroy it, but revise and re-write it, and give it back to his brethren to do what they pleased with it. This was agreed to, and the paper, which was written in April, 1826, was published, under the title of "A Review of a Sermon preached by the Hon. and Rev. John Strachan, D.D., at York, U. C., 3rd of July, 1825, on the death of the late Bishop of Quebec. By a Methodist Preacher."

This "Review" produced a sensation and alarm scarcely less