

from the top of an immense tree, the gorgeous views spread out before you.

Trees measuring 8 feet in diameter—streams of refreshing water at your feet—before you the sloping mountain sides and deep valleys, and away in the distance, the ocean truly Pacific.

But I must stop here—I have got to the top of the mountain and I will come down in my next.

H. A. ROBERTSON.

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## News of the Church.

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### Rev. Thomas Sedgewicks Lecture on Antichrist.

A full house greeted Mr. Sedgewick on the 18th ult., as he rose to deliver the fifth Lecture of the series by members of Synod to the Theological Students. His subject was Antichrist, and some had come to hear the proof of the Head of the Papal Church being the grand opponent of Christianity, while others anticipating something different from the old track came to hear something new.

The Lecturer soon entered into his subject, giving a rapid outline of the different descriptions of the Man of Sin, for while he reminded us that the Apostle John only, used the term Antichrist, he gathered around the person or system so designated, the various descriptions of Paul, of Daniel, and of the Apocalypse.

He next reviewed the leading interpretations of these prophetic and apostolic passages, and found no difficulty in showing that neither to Nero, nor to Domitian, nor to Julian, nor to Mahomet, nor to any one person or persecutor were all these striking delineations just reviewed—applicable.

He next examined what is now, and has been for centuries, the recognized Protestant interpretation, which applies these marks to the papacy as represented by its living and acknowledged supreme Head. He neither desired nor sought to ignore the many striking evidences which might be adduced in favour of this view; and spoke with high respect of the able expositors and learned men, who had advocated it, but maintained that as true Protestants calling no man master, we should examine and judge for ourselves.

The next step was an attempt to show that the Scripture descriptions of the Antichrist are only partially verified in the Papacy, and that the Roman Pontiff while perverting some important truths and evacuating others, could not be said to have overturned fundamental truths. He therefore concluded that the Antichrist of Scrip-

ture was yet to appear, a more dreaded enemy, who should gather up the various forces of infidelity and superstition, a very incarnation of Satan to lay waste the church, and to be destroyed when Christ shall come, by the breath of His mouth and by the brightness of His coming.

The whole lecture was heard with marked attention and interest, being carefully prepared and delivered with much animation. In common with the most of his audience, we were pleased that the Students had an opportunity of hearing what could be said in support of a view adopted, and pressed into notice, by some of the wise and learned men of the present day. But we never were more fully persuaded that the "advanced thought" of the age had erred from the truth. For it is clear that the system called Antichrist is not only the subject of characteristic description, but also of historical prophecy. We have thus a two-fold key for its discovery, and if we find a system to which both of these tests belong, that is to say, a system whose *history* agrees with the historical prophecies concerning Antichrist, and whose *features* agree with the description of Antichrist contained in Scripture, then we have a two-fold proof of truth and accuracy in declaring such a system to be Antichrist. If either of these fails, the apparent agreement of the other though plausible is not real, and the system under examination is not Antichrist. But if both of these agree, then it is an extent and co incidence of agreement which baffles accident or ingenuity, and the system so doubly identified is Antichrist.

Of course the assertion that both of these lines of proof meet in Rome, or in the Head of the Papal church, amounts to nothing without proof; but what we felt was that the many striking and known facts, both historical and prophetic, which at least appear to concentrate themselves in the Papacy, were neither denied nor pointed in another direction. The advocates of the new view must feel the times perilous; they must feel somewhat concerned lest the Pope and Council should speedily complete the picture of the predicted apostacy in the person of its living Head, "as sitting in the temple of God, and showing himself that he is God." He has already accepted the appellation of Lord and God. He has declared with the outgoing year that his church is above the Heavens. Let infallibility be declared and assumed, and nothing more blasphemous, no more daring usurpation of Divine prerogatives, no more fearful "overturning of the foundations" of all religion will remain to be achieved even by an incarnation of Satan should he arise.

The practical lessons addressed to the Students in closing, were admirable, stimulating alike to earnest independent inquiry,