

He began his ministerial career in 1837 ; has been twice President of the Eastern British American Conference ; has been sent on delegations to the Parent and other Conferences, and is now actively employed on behalf of the Endowment Fund of Sackville University. Full of life and vigour, with a rich experience and matured judgment, he may render essential service to the Methodist Church of Canada for many years to come. The missionary deputation to the Eastern Conferences thought they discovered some of the energetic peculiarities of Brother Pickard by receiving intelligence at several important points of his being before them in his canvass for the Endowment Fund. His early business training and long experience would naturally lead us to believe he knew at what time of the harvest to put in his sickle.

TRUE SCIENCE *versus* SPECULATION.

BY WILLIAM COOKE, D.D.

PART II.

IN my former article I observed that those speculations which are now advocated by certain theorists against the truths of Revelation, are for the most part reproductions of the errors of ancient times. They have not the merit of originality, for they are in substance but the revival of old worn-out speculations of antiquity, varnished and dressed up afresh, like so many old effigies pitched out of a lumber room, and passed off under new *cognomina*.

The ETERNITY AND INDEPENDENT EXISTENCE OF MATTER is no new doctrine. Nearly two thousand years before Spinoza advocated this dogma, it had been propagated by Ocellus, Epicurus, and others of note in the Grecian schools of philosophy.* Yet these notions were confessed even then to be mere speculations, and they are no better now ; for up to this hour science has afforded no proof of the eternity and self-existence of matter. Indeed the best of ancient philosophers regarded matter as derived from the

* Ocell. Luc. de Fragm. et Lucret. Lib. V. etc.