

this kind I fear they would hardly convey a correct idea of the manner in which I appreciate your kind expression of regard. I feel unworthy of so much consideration, and wholly unequal to the duty of returning such a reply to your address as would convey all I could wish to say. You have in that address alluded in affectionate terms to the connection which has existed between us as pastor and people for a period of nearly five years. If good has resulted through this connection, and I hope through God's mercy this has been so, to Him from whom cometh every good and perfect gift be all the praise. For myself I know assuredly that, according to my ability, I have not shunned to declare unto you the gospel of Christ. My determination has been to know nothing among you but Christ and Him crucified, and my endeavour to inspire you with love to God and your fellow-men,—to so order my ministry that no one amongst you should be ignorant through whose merits alone he may hope for acceptance with God, and by what influence his evil nature may be changed and made holy. If the influence of the gospel has been conveyed to one soul under my ministry, how great my reward!

I rejoice further in this testimony of your regard because thereby is conveyed an additional proof of your attachment to the pure and reformed branch of the church of Christ to which we have the high privilege to belong. These are times in which every exhibition of this attachment comes with peculiar force, and when every thing tending to draw closer the bonds of christian love is to be hailed with joy and thankfulness. God's blessing has hitherto rested on our beloved church, and though at times a dark cloud may appear in the horizon, and cause the heart of unbelief to waver, still we know that in human weakness God's strength is made manifest—all will be well in the end, for if God is with us who can be against us? Let us never forget that the honour of our Zion is in our keeping, and that whilst we acknowledge the scriptural basis on which she rests, the surest way to promote her prosperity is for each one to live up to her rules, and make full proof of his faith by a godly life. If all thus acted, then indeed would her praise be in all the earth, and many who now "shoot out the lip" would see and acknowledge her beauties. I believe it to be among your highest privileges that in God's Providence you are amongst her members; and for myself, the highest honour on earth is that I, unworthy as I am, have a place amongst those who minister at her altars. I pray God may keep us all steadfast in our faith, veering neither to the right hand or to the left, holding fast the form of sound words delivered to us, relying on the Redeemer's merits, and earnestly seeking the sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit upon our hearts, without which all our privileges will be unimproved, our professions empty, and we ourselves dead before God.

Again, reciprocating all your kind expressions, and thanking you for the accompanying token of your regard, I conclude; praying that the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, may make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

I remain,
Your affectionate friend and minister,
ARTHUR HILL.

The Parsonage, West Gwillimbury,
Dec. 16, 1851.

Clergy Lists.

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" J. Pearson	St. Margaret's Bay.
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