

*Bring this back with you
Jones*

INTRODUCTION.

IN this lecture, which was delivered before the Y. M. C. A. students of Dalhousie College, I have been letting the light of truth fall upon—1st, The Christian's Standing in Christ ; 2nd, His Standing in the Church of Christ ; 3rd, His Hope in the World. That the truth gave pain goes without saying. This was to be expected, if not hoped for.

My success in this respect is some encouragement in giving the lecture to the public. Besides, since Baghot says there is no pain like the pain of a new idea, the pained ones will have a chance to resort to argument instead of detraction.

Then the Presbyterian Church, like all other churches, needs the truth. At one time, in Scotland, she passed a statute prohibiting any one but the duly licensed from expounding the Scriptures ; and forbidding lay religious meetings, other than family worship, as being to the prejudice of the public ministry. That statute is now observed in the breaking of it. Not so with its parent, which is none other than the principle enunciated in the Confession of Faith, Chap. XXVII., Section iv. : "There be only two sacraments * * neither of which may be administered by any but by a minister of the word lawfully ordained." The light of truth must be concentrated upon this principle until it appears too dark to retain its place in the confession. Christians must be made to realize their standing in the Church of God. The reformation has left nothing to be explained as to the Christian's standing in Christ. Not so, alas ! as to his standing in the Church. This must be remedied so that the weaker sections of our land can worship and administer the Christian rites with as much liberty as the early Christians enjoyed, and with the same facility as the synagogue exemplified. This boon Christ gave to his church. Of this boon the antichrist robbed it, and with this boon the Reformers failed to re-endow it. Here surely there is much land yet to be possessed. But the lineal descendents of those who closed the mouths of our forefathers and filled the wells are not the ones to lead in the van.

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