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ANNIVERSARY SERMON.

ON BEHALF OF THE UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.

*Preached by the Rev. John Hall, D.D., of New York, in the Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Tuesday evening, May 8th, 1883.*

It is hardly necessary to say, dear brethren, that when I agreed to be the principal speaker this evening, I did not intend to speak to my brethren to the right and left of me, and many of whom I see in the audience—brethren, at whose feet I might myself sit with advantage. I contemplated only speaking to you, their people, and preaching the word of truth to you somewhat as they are wont to preach it. The text is contained in the 1st Epistle to the Corinthians, 15th chap. last verse: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

If we consider the theme, simply, of this chapter, it is important in the highest degree. For what can be of deeper interest to us than the death and resurrection of our blessed Lord, and our hope of resurrection and eternal life in Him and through Him? If we consider the argument of this chapter, it is no less striking and impressive. For we have the two covenants presented to us, and the logical consequences that follow from the provisions of these covenants, the resurrection of our blessed Lord from the dead, and the results that are necessarily connected with that resurrection, in view of His standing as the representative of His people who believe in Him. If we look at the eloquence of the chapter, it is singularly interesting and attractive. We have illustrations drawn from the most remote and various sources. The facts with which the husbandman is conversant, the constitution and the laws of our human bodies, the sublime objects with which the attention of the astronomer is engaged, and the glorious vision of angels round about the person of Christ as he comes again in His triumph—these facts bring their proper element of illustration to the striking and most graphic exhibition of