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No. 6

GOING TO SACKVILLE, AND A GLIMPSE OF MT. ALLISON.

(From the Presbyterian Witness.)
Several of the readers of the *Witness* have asked me to give my impressions of the educational institutions of Mt. Allison, Sackville, N. B., to which I had the privilege of lately paying a flying visit. In trying to do so I am sorry for two things,—first, that my visit was so short and consequently my observations were necessarily superficial; second, that I did not look around me with the keen, quick eye of a newspaper reporter, collecting items for publication and committing them at once to paper. Had my visit been longer, my impressions would have been much deeper, and had I written sooner I could have expressed myself more vividly. If however I can reflect on any of your readers a single ray of the sunny memories that crowd upon me as I think of my visit to Mt. Allison, I shall be satisfied.

I am somewhat familiar with the scenery on the road that leads from Halifax to Sackville. I have travelled all the way afoot when I had plenty of time to meditate as I trudged along, a weary boy fascinated by the strange things of a new country that I never got tired of admiring; and the memories of not a few squirrel hunts, and of leaf and flower gathering, and troy croakings and owl screechings come back to me as I think of that time; and, sweetest of all from a boyish standpoint, the savoury meals and long dreamless sleeps I enjoyed at the comfortable way-side inns or hospitable farm houses on the road. Very vividly in this respect do I remember the summer night of 1851, which I spent in the Temperance inn of Sackville, and the survey I took, in the morning, of the Academy then recently built, the time I also took to go down to the shipyard where the builders were at work and to examine the covered bridge—the first I had ever seen. And ever since that day Sackville has been associated in my mind with temperance, education, and shipbuilding. I know I should have substituted for the last, hay and cattle raising—but one cannot very well help first impressions.

I have passed over the road frequently, by coach, riding through clouds of dust, splashing through mud and sticking in mire, or rolling through snow drifts, and when I think of these good old times when the passengers became a happy family—a kind of jammed up moving world—out of which hard bumps and rough driving only shook trivial jokes or merry peals of laughter and who seemed with such voracious zest to enjoy the meals, at Purdy's, or O'Keefe's, or Caul's, or King's,—I often wish for one more opportunity of "singing it" over the Cobequid Mountains and across the Tantramar marsh, with one of those loads of passengers that went the way once and again in years gone by. But progress and improvement compel us in these days to ride a rail instead of travel in a stage-coach. We submit in this case to dire necessity, but in the name of the dead past that is burying its dead we remind railroad passengers that they do not appear to us nearly so happy or so healthy as the stagers of the olden time. What they have gained in speed and comfort they seem to have lost in patience and manliness. That is my opinion. And now that I am on the way to Sackville dragging the past after me I will ask your indulgence a moment longer. It has been my privilege to wander a good deal among the Cobequid mountains in my boyhood, fishing in their lakes and shooting in their glens, and I know of nothing more entertaining than some of the views of landscapes—especially in the autumn— that may be obtained from their sides and summits. But to enjoy the sight of glens and mountain sides covered with autumnal foliage—to catch the spirit of the pictures mirrored from the lakes in gleaming sunshine or by softening moonlight—to appreciate the prospect that takes in the Bay of Fundy with the marshes on the shores, the mountains in the distance, and the settlements, villages and towns which fill in the landscape, one needs to be out in the woods one or two nights, sleeping or chatting by the camp fire, and stimulated by drinking strong boiling hot out of a tin pint and eating the trout you have caught and cooked with your own hands. You can never see the attractions of the face of nature through palace car windows or through the crevices in dismal, dark, suffocating snow sheds. Oh no, the place to see

their work is carried on in a broad, liberal, almost unsectarian spirit. They are Wesleyans it is true, but they are not bigots.

I found President Inch and others regarded the Halifax University scheme with considerable favour, as an honest endeavour to unify the interests of higher education in Nova Scotia. He considered that through this institution the various denominational colleges might harmonize their courses of study, and be kept under the fostering care of government. The educational policy of Sackville, I would suppose, looks in that direction.

The professors all seem to derive confidence and comfort from the thought that they have the Wesleyan denomination with its energy, sympathies, and wealth at their back. They talk quite encouragingly of their future. At present they have about 73 students in the college. There are about 80 in the Male Academy, and I think somewhere about 70 in the Ladies College.

The work that I saw doing in the Academy was of an elementary character, but the drilling seemed to be very thorough. The students in the college seem to be an energetic and superior class of young men. In the classes students and professors wear the time-honoured gowns. The points in the work that left their impression on me were the careful, accurate and emphatic way in which Dr. Stewart drilled his Hebrew scholars—he having forcibly impressed me with the idea that he knew every jot and tittle of the lesson which he was teaching and a hundred-fold more—then the light and vivacity which Professor Weldon threw into the class of mathematics, which was engaged in mastering the difficulties of surds—then the way in which Professor Smith walked through the *Sæpe* of Horace. He taught in the regular peripatetic fashion, and impressed me with the idea that he knew something about everything that was needed for illustrating his text book. I do not remember of ever hearing a recitation that interested me more than the lesson of Professor Smith—then there was the mental philosophy of President Inch. He was perfectly at home in his subject, and what was of special interest to me, was to see the clearness and accuracy with which the students explained the different theories that had been held by the great philosophers, Spinoza, Kant, Berkeley, Hamilton, &c., concerning the sphere and reliability of consciousness. From the glimpse I had of the work and arrangements of the college, I think it furnishes most excellent facilities for obtaining a thorough education. And I could not help expressing my regret that the students of all the colleges could not meet together in the same classrooms. The whole together would not number more than 300—not too many certainly to construct a lively thriving University. As the matter stands, however, the Wesleyans have every reason to be proud of their institutions and the efforts they are making in the cause of higher education. I would suggest to them when they get the funds, which some liberal-hearted man is going to give them to build a new college, that they acquire for a University of the Maritime Provinces to be located at Sackville. Things far more Utopian than this have been realized before to-day.

Dr. Kennedy conducted me over the Ladies Seminary and enabled me to get a peep into some comfortably sitting and sleeping rooms. We disturbed not a few who were practising music. We visited the studio, where we saw a large number under the superintendence of Miss Inch making good progress in painting. We heard the recitation in analysis conducted by Miss Whitfield, the preceptress, who showed great tact in teaching the lesson. But details, however pleasant to me, become tedious to others. The College is in a flourishing condition.

The situation of the college buildings is very fine. I do not remember of ever getting a more extensive view from any building in the Maritime Provinces than I did from the top of the Ladies Seminary. Some of the artists taught in that studio near the roof, will, I trust, some day or other commit to canvas some of the magnificent views to be obtained from that building. To me the landscape to the south and east and west was a far reaching prospect—great marshes locked up in the frosts of winter, bays driving their tides against snowy shores—villages and farm houses seeking shelter behind leafless

When death's dark stream I'm ferried o'er
A time that surely shall come,
In heaven itself I'll ask no more
But just this kindly welcome.

During my intercourse with the professors and teachers I felt that they were men whose hearts were in their work. They believe in giving the best education possible to the young men and women of the country. And whilst they are denominational in name, and by the force of circumstances, yet all

their work is carried on in a broad, liberal, almost unsectarian spirit. They are Wesleyans it is true, but they are not bigots.

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trees, and mountains and shores far off clothed in the azure hue of distance which lent enchantment to the scene. In summer lovelier colouring will meet the eye, but I doubt if the scene will be any more impressive and suggestive.

I think a few more trees around the college grounds would not hurt the appearance of what is now a most commanding site for a University.

But there is more needed for this flourishing institution than a few trees. A new building for the college is required. There are four edifices connected with the institution besides Linzey Hall, the Male Academy, a comparatively new and very commodious building in which male boarders are accommodated,—the building in which the class work of the Academy is carried on, which is also large and well furnished,—the Ladies Seminary which is a large comfortable and well ventilated building on a most conspicuous site,—and the old college structure which is respectable and even venerable but too small for present requirements. We believe the old building was the gift of a generous Wesleyan to his denomination. His good deed has already borne abundant fruit. But some one is now needed who will give the institution a sum of money large enough to build a good substantial stone edifice for college use. Who will erect his monument on Mount Allison by building a new college for the Wesleyans? Here is his opportunity.

I think again that we Presbyterians are not doing ourselves justice in remaining a single year without a thoroughly equipped Ladies' Seminary under our own control. Both the Baptists and Wesleyans, with their first class female colleges, put us to shame and ought to provoke us to good works. But suppose the mill must stop, though I do not feel as if the hopper were empty. I could grind out a great deal more about my new made acquaintances and their kindness to me—and about old friends who came to see and hear me when I tried to lecture before the Eumetorian society. The students, male and female, listened very attentively to what I said to them and gave me more applause than I deserved. They say that the night I spoke in Linzey Hall the thermometer sank to 15° below zero. I was quite oblivious to the fact, and were I to judge from my own feeling in the Hall, in the house and in bed, I would say it was near the melting point. To me, and to some of my friends it was summer in the soul, though it was winter in the world.

Rev. Mr. Cuapman—a friend of nearly twenty years standing—after feasting me at his house drove me in a regular John Gypsin gallop to the station. It was an after dinner drive that made things look lively, and sent me away with the impression that Sackville horses run fast and Wesleyan ministers are good fellows—lively—kind friends and hard workers.—C. B. Pitblado.

THE REVISED NEW TESTAMENT.

In view of the fact that the revised New Testament is to be published within a few months, the revision having been finished some time ago, an account of the origin of the revision movement, the names of the revisors, and how the work was done, will be both timely and interesting. It will have been ten years on the sixth of May next since the Convocation of Canterbury provided for a committee of biblical scholars to revise the English version of 1611. The committee were authorized to associate with them representative scholars of other denominations and proceed with the revision. They accordingly invited a number of men, properly qualified, from Dissenting bodies, to work with them, and also authorized a company of revisors to be formed in America. The two committees, the English and the American, are each divided into two companies, the Old and New Testament companies. The committee embrace at present 79 active members—52 English and 27 American. Besides these, some 22 were lost to the committee by death and resignation, so that 101 scholars have been connected with the revision. The English New Testament Company is composed as follows: Bishop Elliott, of Gloucester and Bristol, chairman. Bishop Myerly, of Salisbury. Dean Bickersteth, of Litchfield. Dean Stanley, of Westminster. Dean Scott, of Rochester. Dean Blakesley, of Lincoln. Archbishop Trench, of Dublin. Bishop Wordsworth, of St. Andrew's. Dr. Joseph Angus, Baptist, of London. Dr. David Brown, Presbyterian, of Aberdeen.

Dr. F. J. A. Hort, Anglican, Cambridge. The Rev. W. G. Humphrey, Anglican, London.

Canon Kennedy, of Ely. Archbishop Lee, of Dublin. Bishop Lightfoot, of Durham. Dr. W. M. Lullin, Anglican, Cambridge. Dr. Wm F. Moulton, Anglican, Cambridge. Dr. Samuel Newth, Congregational, London. Archbishop Palmer, of Oxford. Dr. Alexander Roberts, Anglican, St. Andrew's, Scotland. Prebendary Scriver, London. Dr. George V. Smith, Unitarian, Carmarthen. Dr. Charles J. Vaughan, Anglican, London. Canon Westcott, of Peterborough. The Rev. J. Troutbeck, Anglican, Westminster.

The following are the members of the American Company: Dr. T. D. Woolsey, Congregational, chairman. Prof. J. H. Thayer, Congregational, Andover, Mass. Prof. Ezra Abbot, Unitarian, Cambridge, Mass. Dr. J. K. Burr, Methodist, New Jersey. Dr. Thos. Chase, Friend, Pennsylvania. Dr. Howard Crosby, Presbyterian, New York. Prof. Timothy Dwight, Congregational, New Haven. Dr. A. C. Kendrick, Baptist, Rochester, New York. Bishop Lee, Episcopal, Delaware. Dr. M. B. Riddle, Episcopal, Hartford. Dr. P. Schaff, Presbyterian, New York. Dr. C. S. Short, Episcopal, New York. Dr. E. A. Washburn, Episcopal, New York.

A number of scholars who were invited to join the company declined for various reasons. Three members—Dr. G. R. Crooks and W. F. Warren, Methodists, and Dr. H. B. Smith, Presbyterian,—resigned. Prof. Hadley, of Yale, Dr. Hackett, Baptist, and Dr. Hodge, Presbyterian, died.

The principles upon which the revision is made are as follows:

1. To introduce as few alterations as possible into the text of the authorized version consistently with faithfulness.
2. To limit, as far as possible, the expression of such alterations to the language of the authorized or earlier versions.
3. Each company to go twice over the portion to be revised—once provisionally, the second time finally.
4. That the text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating, and that, when the text so adopted differs from that from which the authorized version was made, the alteration be indicated in the margin.
5. To make or retain no change in the text, on the second final revision by each company, except two-thirds of those present approve of the same; but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities.
6. In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to discussion, to defer the voting thereon till the next meeting, when the same shall be required by one-third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting.
7. To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics, and punctuation.
8. To refer, on the part of each company, when considered desirable, to divines, scholars, and literary men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinions.

The English and American Committees exchange lists and second revisions, after which, if differences remain unharmonized, they are to be indicated in an appendix or preface. The revision is carried on privately. The work of revision is not divided among sub-committees, but is carried forward by all members of the respective companies. As to the changes made, Dr. Schaff says: "The revision will so nearly resemble the present version that the mass of readers and hearers will scarcely perceive the difference, while a careful comparison will show slight improvements in every chapter and almost every verse."

In a few instances changes may be made in the text, on overwhelming evidence, italics may be omitted, and new headings to chapters adopted.

The revised Bible will be published by the University Presses, from which company have come the funds to defray the necessary expenses of the English Committee. Neither the English nor the American revisors are to receive any compensation for their work. The expenses of the American Committee are provided for by voluntary contributions, which are managed by a committee of which Dr. Nathan Bishop, of this city, is chairman. Dr. Schaff, from whose article we have already quoted from the book on "Bible revision" published by the American Sunday School Union, does not think the revision of the Old Testament will be finished before 1882. There will be ample time, therefore, for the critical examination of the revised New Testament before the Old Testament is ready for the press. When the whole Bible is finished and printed, it will be for the Bible societies and churches to adopt it, if they shall approve it, before it can replace the form of the Version of 1611, now in use.