

OUR CONTRIBUTORS.

ANGLO-ISRAEL.

Can the tribes of Israel who were carried captive to Assyria about the years 729 to 721 B.C., be identified with the Anglo-Saxon races, as represented to-day by the nations of Great Britain and the United States of America?

This is a question which is stirring the hearts of not a few in all parts of the world to their utmost depths, and many from the ranks of the learned as well as the unlearned, from among clericals as well as laymen, have pronounced emphatically in the affirmative. Even in Montreal, where the subject has been held up to ridicule by so learned a man as the Rev. Professor Campbell of the Presbyterian College, such men as the Bishop of Montreal (Dr. Bond), the Rev. Gavin Lang, and several others of equal prominence have had the honesty, not to say courage to avow their belief in the doctrine, and to confess publicly that this manner of interpretation sheds a wonderful halo of light around the prophetic pages, and manifests to the world God's glory as a God who keeps covenant and mercy with His people Israel throughout all generations.

God has promised blessings to all those who search for "wisdom as for hidden treasures," and the Hebrews of old were counted noble because they searched the Scriptures to see whether Paul's new-fangled mode of interpreting prophecy in so literal a manner was borne out by the writings of God's prophets, and many in these days have not only found out the "Lost House of Israel" but in their search for them, have found Israel's Shepherd whom they had neglected—or rather have been found of Him, and brought into His fold with joy and rejoicing.

Rev. A. B. MacKay of Crescent street Church, Montreal, lately said in one of his sermons, "profounders of false doctrines are afraid to subject them to the test of Scripture." To this test I anxiously request every person to bring this subject. If it will not bear the test, by all means reject it, but if it does, candour requires that you confess it. "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good;" not the commoner mode of forming conclusions—take everything for granted your minister says, and above all, hold fast to the old landmarks.

A late lecturer in Montreal in one of his sermons on this subject used this amongst other illustrations: "Suppose you see an advertisement in the newspapers—'Lost, a little boy about three years of age, curly fair hair, blue eyes, of healthy appearance, dressed in a tartan woollen dress, white stockings and button boots' etc. You meet such a child on the street, and though he is unable or too shy to answer a question put to him, you know at once that he is the lost child, because he answers in appearance to the advertisement, and you would never think of going into scientific investigations as to his race, language or history before forming your conclusions as to his identity." And I would add that if the lost child were the renowned Charley Ross how speedily you would claim the reward of your discovery. Just such a minute description of God's Israel, the literal seed or offspring of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is given us in God's word, and with your permission, I will from time to time give you such evidences as will I trust prove to you that we, the British and American nations are in very deed, Israel, and that we alone of all the nations of the earth comply with the following scriptural advertisement.

Lost over twenty-five centuries ago, a nation consisting of ten tribes, descendants of the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, at that time answering to the names of Joseph (generally called by the aliases of Ephraim and Manasseh) Reuben, Gad, Asher, Napthali, Simeon, Issachar, Zabulon, Dan and Benjamin—this latter not lost until about 790 years later, or about 1,809 years ago; a warlike race, consisting of several millions of men, women and children; in their manners and customs, debased like the heathen nations around them; in their religion, idolaters of the worst type—the recipients of many mercies and blessings, but forgetful and ungrateful; their past history, a glorious one; their future, most magnificent, having entailed on them by virtue of their descent from the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, among other great blessings, the following:

1. They were to be as the stars of heaven, or the dust of the earth, or the sand by the sea-shore, for

multitude—the other nations of the earth having their bounds limited, with special reference to their future numbers and occupancy.

2. They were to spread forth to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and were to dwell in the coasts, or sides of the earth, as well as in the islands of the sea, and to possess the gates of their enemies.

3. In them as well as in their ancestors all families of the earth were to be blessed. Those that blessed them should be blessed and those that cursed them should be cursed.

4. They were to become not only a nation, but the fulness of nations or a company of nations, as well as the chief of nations, and therefore unconquerable.

5. They were to be in possession of a magnificent heathen empire as well as to be "mistress of the seas."

6. They were to be possessed of immense riches—lending to all nations, borrowing from none—riches of gold, silver and precious stones to be in the territories allotted to them, as well as the most fertile fields and the best fisheries.

7. They were to be witnesses for God among all the nations, and were to carry the light of the Gospel as well as the blessings of civilization to all nations.

8. They were ultimately to become the instrument in the hands of God for subduing the nations of the world and were to possess the kingdom of the whole earth.

9. But before these events should take place they were to be lost—disguised so as not to be known for centuries.—(1) by banishment from home; (2) their name changed; (3) their language supplanted by another; (4) their religion changed; (5) they should be brought into another land where God should speak comfortable things to them which should be to them as "life from the dead," etc.

Sir, I trust that you will give these few lines, as well as the proofs to follow from time to time, a place in your columns, and should any brother, lay or clerical, desire to reply, for the discussion of this subject on Christian principles they will ever find me

"ALWAYS READY."

QUEEN OR POPE.

"Shall we who would not submit to the lion family stand to be devoured by the wolf?"

MR. EDITOR,—Through the influence which the Church of Rome has acquired in this Province—Ontario—our political parties are brought completely under her sway, and unfortunately for the country, the leaders of those parties seem quite satisfied with the state of vassalage in which they are held. Give them a liberal share of the loaves and fishes and they are quite content to bear the yoke and the ignominy it entails. We are seven to one against the Catholics in this Province, yet our numerical strength avails us nothing in the presence of an organization animated by one soul, which moves as a unit in pursuit of its object, and is controlled by an authority which demands and receives the most abject acquiescence in all its behests, while we Protestants, on the contrary, are divided amongst ourselves, without unity, without discipline, and without any acknowledged authority to guide our movements. The Catholics, so called, steer a middle course between both parties, joining either at the dictation of their priests according as they may esteem it conducive to their own advantage. This being the case, how absurd is it either for Conservatives or Reformers to rejoice over successes which depend upon so hollow and so treacherous an alliance. We ought rather to hang down our heads with shame to think of the humiliating position we occupy before the world as the dupes of a crafty, insidious policy by which we, in our blind fatuity, allow ourselves to be ensnared. We claim no religious or political privilege for ourselves which we are not willing to share with our fellow-subjects of the Church of Rome. They cannot deny this for they have the most convincing proof of the fact, but when was Rome ever satisfied with her legitimate share of power. All or nothing is her motto. Our Protestant clergy are apparently lulled into the same fatal indifference to the common danger as the laity.

I don't meddle with politics, says one, and don't care to vote for either side; says another, I shall vote as a citizen for one of the candidates; neither of them being aware that both Reformers and Conservatives are advanced to or excluded from power as Rome determines at the hustings.

Since "the Catholic vote" has become an established institution in the land, surely there can be no valid reason why we should not take a page out of the Pope's breviary, with permission of his holiness, of course, and get up a Protestant vote to cope with his—sauce for the goose, sauce for the gander. We too have some trifling interests of our own to look after as well as other folks. We find those interests to be threatened by a powerful combination under skillful and able management, and we are bound to defend them whatever may be the hazard or the cost. Doubtless the effort would be condemned by a certain class of politicians, who would sell their birthright for a mess of pottage, as calculated to stir up religious feuds amongst us. The "Catholic vote" proves clearly who would be to blame in the event of feuds arising. Happen what may, it cannot be expected of us that we are to stand by with folded arms and allow our dearest rights to be wrested from us merely to gain a momentary exemption from evils which appear to be inevitable and which become more formidable to deal with the longer the contest is deferred. The clergy have fully as much at stake in this conflict as the laity, and it would appear advisable that they should lend their influence in so far as it would be consistent with the duties of their sacred office, to a movement in which all are equally interested. We have arrived at a crisis in our history which demands the most serious attention of all who prefer the good of their country to the interests of party. Canada is not inaptly termed the Paradise of the Priesthood, for those good people have gained an ascendancy here which is denied to them even in most of the Catholic States of Europe. They may thank the subserviency of our time-serving politicians for it all. Said one politician to another soon after last election: "We have lost the day, but never mind old fellow, we'll catch the Catholic vote next time and rule the roast in our turn." Exactly so, of all things in this world which your genuine politician covets the most, to rule the roast is that thing; place him there, and whether the path that leads to it be straight or crooked, that is a question which gives him no concern. In view of the dangers with which we are menaced—hostility without and treachery within—it behoves us to exercise the utmost vigilance to guard against them, and at the same time to recover that influence in the commonwealth to which our superior numbers—all other considerations apart—entitle us; that influence we have, in our egregious folly and short-sightedness sacrificed on the shrine of political treachery and venality. Under the circumstances in which we are placed, it seems to be required of us that we should organize a Protestant League with branches extending throughout the length and breadth of the Province. We have to meet Rome with her own weapons or to succumb to her artifices. A Catholic vote must be confronted by a Protestant vote, and the question decided as to whether the Queen or the Pope is to have the rule over us. As regards politics, the League would take an independent stand. Relieved of party ties and party trammels of the past, men would be selected to represent us in Parliament who had shown by their antecedents that they might be relied upon to do justice to the position. Each constituency would provide representatives from within its own borders, allowing the *wandering stars* to seek for more genial regions in which to exhibit their sparkling light. The rural districts would elect intelligent farmers to represent their own class. The farming community have not that voice in the legislation of the country to which they are justly entitled. They have only themselves to blame however. They have the ball at their feet and allow others to roll it. The foregoing suggestions and remarks are respectfully submitted to whomsoever they may concern. A word to the wise is sufficient.

A PROTESTANT.

Toronto, 30th June, 1879.

NOTES FROM WOODSTOCK.

Woodstock is the county seat for Oxford County and is the centre of an agricultural district superior to many portions of Canada. The dairy products of this county have an extensive reputation and are shipped in large quantities to places throughout the Dominion and to Great Britain.

Here, about the beginning of the present century, the rugged woodsman erected a log cabin and laid the foundations of what is to-day one of the prettiest and most prosperous towns in Canada. In 1812 there