

see the veneration felt by English subjects for their queen, the reverence of the German for his emperor, even the faith of the Russian in his ruler, and contrast it with the ridicule, the falsehoods, and the abuse which our so-called chief magistrate receives, that the average American reveres nothing but plutocracy and pugilism. Is America really great, or merely overgrown, dropsical, as it were? Did those of us who fought in the late civil war contend for a nation in the true sense of the word, or for an unwieldy collection of peoples with diverse interests, bound together only by a slender thread of selfish gain? Mr. Bailey thanked his good fortune that when he landed in Halifax, penniless, he was at last in a land of freedom as contrasted with the realm of discord and tyranny which he had left. Are we quite sure that we know what the much used and abused word freedom really means? Do we use up the article in repeating the word? Certain it is that when we consider the treatment given the American Loyalists of a hundred years ago, we must admit that Republics may be needlessly severe and tyrannical. Is any man un-American when he affirms this?

Mr. Bailey has been called eccentric. Also unyielding. These terms are contradictory, and show that those who used them knew nothing about the subject of which they spoke. His opponents were, as he expressed it, "like the weather cock on yonder steeple." And they were the ones who would not yield. Even after he had obtained permission to leave the country they still pursued him. When he consented to leave out the objectionable passages from his church service, he still thought it no harm to pray for the King. He might have said that the King needed praying for. Taking the oath they insisted upon would have proved his ruin. I do not find that they insisted upon it with his friends Abiel Wood and Major Goodwin, both of whom spoke words of kindly sympathy to him and who were as much Tory as he.

These events have long since passed, and it would seem that the time had come for Americans to view them dispassionately. And when the time is ripe, we may learn to revere the memory of the brave Itinerant Missionary of the Kennebec wilderness, as we study his character portrayed in the manuscripts which have come to us.