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Bedford's Lectures on the Divine authority of the Bible.

Dr. Payne's System of Theology.

— on Mental and Moral Science.

Jones on the Canon.

Dictionaries—(Hebrew and Greek)—by Gesenius,—(Robinson)—Giles—Donegan.

The Englishman's Hebrew Concordance—2 vols., large octavo.

Furl's Concordantia Hebraica et Chaldaica.

Wolf's Bibliotheca Hebraica—4 parts, 8to.

Kimmell's Libri Symbolici Ecclesie orientalis; Jenæ, 1843.

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Home Missions.

VISIT TO THE BATHURST DISTRICT.

By THE REV. DR. BURNS.

Toronto, Sept. 17, 1845.

MR. DEAR SIR,

Mr. Stark, of Dundas, having been associated with me in the visitation of the Presbytery of Kingston, we made arrangements for going through the work assigned us during the early part of August. Kingston, with the adjoining districts on the Bay Quinte, having been allotted to Mr. Stark; I shall leave it to him to send you such notices as he may think proper regarding his visit to these places. Of course neither he nor I can be at liberty to put into a letter for publication those more minute but important statements which affect particular localities, and to which the serious attention of parties may Synodically be called; but with which the public have nothing to do. All that we can send you, and all that you wish, I presume is, a sort of running sketch of our tours, with such remarks as may occur affecting the religious state and prospects of the districts.

It was at the request of the Presbytery of Kingston, I went to assist at the ordination of our friend, Mr. Wardrope, of Bytown. Of the services on that interesting occasion, you have already inserted a notice in the Record. On the day after the ordination of Mr. Wardrope, the Rev. Mr. Lochhead was inducted to the neighboring charge of Osgood. The second Sabbath of August I spent in Kingston, preached three times on the Lord's day, besides giving a discourse on Saturday evening, especially addressed to the members of the congregation. At that period there was every reason to hope that Mr. King would have been among his affectionate friends in that place, and that matters would under his faithful ministry go on prosperously. The disappointment in this respect must be injurious to the religious state of that congregation, and every effort must be made both by the Presbytery and Synod and Home Mission Committee, to carry on

the supplies vigorously in that important station, in hope that the Free Church may yet be induced to send forth one of her sons duly qualified for occupying a place so influential. I left Kingston on Monday morning by the Rideau Canal. The scenery was new to me. At first the mud and the marsh were not particularly attractive, but that part of the scene was soon succeeded by something more picturesque and inviting. All at once we seemed to be transported to the far west regions of the States, where deep waters and leafless trees of varied size and height growing up out of the waste of waters, like so many masts of ships under the sea; and the only sound heard being that of our steamer as she made her turnings and windings in a narrow but deep stream through the dense forest, reminded us of the first invasion of an unknown land. But the broad expanse of the Rideau Lake, with its clusters of Islands, was peculiarly gratifying to the eye; and the massy works at "Jones' Falls" gave us a very high idea of the skill and enterprise which had been embarked in this mighty national undertaking—the Rideau Canal. Our excellent Free Church Chairman at Montreal, Mr. Redpath, who superintended the execution of these vast works, was present to my mind, and when I looked at the humble edifice which he then occupied, I felt grateful to that gracious Disposer who had given to such a man the great elements of doing good—ample means and an enlarged heart.

Bytown is a most important station for our Church to occupy. The Free congregation here is not at present very large, but is composed of the very best materials. They have got their neat place of worship well advanced, and with every prospect of a vigorous Eldership, the interests of the congregation will be successfully consulted, while our excellent young friend, their pastor, will have his hands strengthened by an attached people. The meetings which were held in connexion with this settlement were very pleasing, and the affectionate greeting he received from Christian fellow-labourers of different denominations was a feature in the case not to be overlooked. May the Chief Shepherd bless his own cause in this rising locality. The magnificence of nature combined with great beauty, mark the splendid falls in its vicinity and filled me with admiration. May the wonders of grace be seen here also with an impressiveness still more captivating.

At Beckwith and Ramsay I had the pleasure of addressing large congregations, united and prosperous. At the former, a call, signed by 240 members and adherents, had been drawn out in favor of the Rev. Mr. McMillan, of Cantross. This call was committed to my charge, and is now, I trust, in the hands of my excellent friend, Dr. James Buchanan, of the Free Church College, Edinburgh, to be by him, and the Committee, of which he is Chairman, put into the hands of Mr. McM. At the latter of these places, a call was in the course of signature, in favor of the Rev. W. G. Johnston, late of Pittsburg. Thus both congregations are in a matured and settled state—perfectly able to support the Gospel creditably, and presenting most promising situations for laborious and effective Ministers. The rising village of Carleton Place too was not overlooked. An hour's notice brought out a respectable, though not a large audience, among whom I was privileged to meet with a few very pious Presbyterians.

The Township of Ramsay is almost wholly Presbyterian. Of 600 families in it, I am informed that five-sixths are either Scotch or Irish, and decidedly Presbyterian and Free. A large proportion of Beckwith is Gaelic—many of the settlers are from the Marquis of Breadalbin's Country—and all of them more or less flourishing. The kindness I met with in both of these townships, disposes me, irrespective of all higher considerations, to repeat my visit.

Lanark had not been put into my list at all—the reason being that no disruption had taken place there. This, however, was no reason at all why I should not pay my respects to my old friends, whom I had known of old in that place, and to whom I wished to carry the message of freedom, and short as was the notice, we had a tolerable audience. I don't think that vital religion is in a flourishing state here. The Free Church of Canada would require to look after it a little more; and were Perth, Dalhousie and Ramsay all planted with a faithful and zealous Ministry, Lanark

would not be in such danger of being passed by as it is at present. An adjoining settlement, called Middleton, I visited also, and preached to about 200 in the open air. Here I met with such warm-hearted men as Messrs. P— and B—, and others whose intelligence and piety cheered me.

Perth demands all that we can do for it. The congregation here have built a Free Church, most advantageously situated. Here I spent the Sabbath—preached three times to crowded audiences, and on Monday held a church meeting, at which the Member of Parliament for the County of Lanark, Mr. Cameron, a member of the Free Church at Port Sarnia, presided, and where the very best spirit prevailed. There are here a number of sensible and active Elders and others, who take a lead in the congregation, and the cause would prosper exceedingly, could a young Evangelist of talent and piety be obtained as pastor. A central situation like this will diffuse a healthful influence all around.

The Dalhousie District was to me personally very interesting. There I met with not a few whom I had seen and known 25 years before in Renfrewshire, and whose circumstances now contrasted most favorably with their situation then. It is wonderful what may be effected by industry, sobriety, and contentment, even when physical disadvantages are very great. The land here is far from being the best, and the distance from markets great, while the roads are bad. And yet, it was refreshing to find, that our industrious and well behaved people of the west of Scotland had come on amazingly well. A fine spirit prevails among them. Sobriety is prevalent, and they are what may be called a religiously disposed class. The library of St. Andrew's Hall, I had the opportunity of examining, and I have no doubt that the reading habits which that Institution has cherished, have proved salutary in promoting intelligence and sound morals. The number of volumes is nearly 1000, but they are mostly old and worn out, a good sign of the proper use which has been made of them. I preached in that Hall, and at another station in Dalhousie proper. The Free Church decidedly predominates, and a staff of nine Elders is a very good commencement. There are three stations which will form together one charge. The site for a Manse on the beautiful lake of Missisquoi, was pointed out to me, and the people are both able and willing to support a minister. A more promising station for an active, pious labourer, cannot be. I undertook to have the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper dispensed among them, in the course of the season.

Of Brockville, Prescott, and Gananoque, I need not particularly speak. I visited and preached at each, and held conferences with the sessions at each, the results of which are on record. To the kind friends in these places, I owe many thanks; may they and theirs prosper in the best sense! I regretted that I could not visit South Gower, one of the largest of our congregations; neither could I visit Edwardsburgh and adjoining settlements; but it gave me pleasure to learn that, there was a good prospect of the ordination of pastors over these congregations soon. Mr. Boyd of Prescott, has long laboured among them, in the way of occasional visits, and he will feel gratified in seeing them comfortably settled under pastors of their own.

In the Bathurst District, I found a peculiar attention had been paid to the cultivation of Sacred Music. The singing delighted me, and my associations led me back to the earnest and "grave sweet melody" of the Kilsyth audience, inspired by the revival of religion in that place. The practice of Sacred Music, I found to be one of the relaxations in which the people took much delight. Long may such be the relaxation which pleases! St. Andrew's Hall was expressly built for what is technically called, a spree on St. Andrew's day. That is now past. The Temperance Society has gained its laurels here, as everywhere in Canada, and the voice of Psalms is the music that now fills the place.

The Presbyterian ministers of the Bathurst District, without one exception, adhered to the Christian establishment of Scotland. The people sympathized not with them. A stronger hold of the Presbyterian Mind, our Free Church has not, than in the enlightened, and liberal, and well conditioned county of Lanark.

At Perth, the ministry of Mr. Wilson, now of