

GREAT BRITAIN, THE COLONIES AND CHRISTIANITY.

[The following sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Brock, D. D., in St. James' Church, Kentville, on Sunday evening Sept. 26th 1897, on the occasion of the Annual Harvest Festival, and is published by request. England, in the sermon is generally used in the sense of Great Britain, including, that is, Scotland and Wales.]

SUBJECT: WHAT CHRISTIANITY HAS DONE FOR ENGLAND AND HER COLONIES.

Text—Psalm 126: 3. "The Lord hath done great things for us."

What ever Christianity has done for England, Christianity has done for England's Colonies. The Colonies have respected, or inherited, the blessings which Christianity has conferred on the Mother-land.

Payment by results is a test often applied to day to the work of men and institutions. Let us apply this test to Christianity in England. Let us try and see what parts of our well being as a Empire are due to our national religion.

I. FIRST—CHRISTIANITY MADE ENGLAND A NATION.

Those of you who have read that most fascinating and interesting of histories, "Green's History of the English People," will remember how clearly and forcibly that historian of our race proves this.

Before the Church was planted in England (and the Church of England was the only form of Christianity known in England for over 1000 years), England was split up into a number of little tribal states, which were continually making war on each other, and had no idea of uniting themselves into a nation.

It was the unity of the Church that pointed the way, and paved the way for the unity of the Nation.

When Northumbrians and Saxons, West Saxons and East Saxons, found themselves, under the government of Theodore, seventh Archbishop of Canterbury, brought together in ecclesiastical councils as members of the same Church, they began to wish to be all members of the same Nation.

The unity of the Saxon Church under Theodore at the close of the seventh century, prepared the way for the unity of the Saxon Heptarchy under Egbert at the opening of the ninth century. Hence, under the influence of Christianity, England becomes a Nation.

On this point let me quote a few words from our greatest living Church historian the present Bishop of Oxford. Dr. Stubbs, in his Constitutional History of England, says: "The Church of England is not only the agency by which Christianity was brought to a heathen people, a herald of spiritual blessings and glorious hopes in another life; it is not merely the tamer of cruel natures, the civilizer of the rude, the cultivator of the waste places, the educator, the guide the protector, whose guardianship was the only safeguard of the woman, the child, the slaves, against the tyranny of their lord and master. The Church was all this in many other countries besides England, in England it was more: the unity of the Church in England was the pattern of the unity of the State; the cohesion of the Church was for some time the substitute for the cohesion which the divided Nation was unable otherwise to realize.

Hence the Church of England was from the beginning of its history a national Church: national not only in its comprehensiveness, but national also in the fact that it really made the Nation. It blended the men of Kent, of Sussex and Wessex, of East Anglia, Northumbria and Mercia, first into one Church then into one Nation. It made them members of one great spiritual brotherhood, Christ's Holy Catholic Church; and this unity in the family of God did away, in time, with tribal feuds and tribal jealousies: and

thus, in the slow progress of the English Nation, and hence of the great British Empire over which Victoria reigns to day.

II. SECONDLY—CHRISTIANITY MADE ENGLAND FREE.

Next to unity and civilization, freedom is the greatest blessing a nation can enjoy. That England and her Colonies enjoy it as thoroughly as they do today is largely due to the Church, and therefore to Christianity.

At the great crisis of our English history, when the freedom of our forefathers was trembling in the balance, it was the Church which, throwing her weight into the scale of liberty, decided the question.

It was the Church which, in close alliance with Alfred the Great and Good, assisted him to give to the united Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Danish Nation good government, and equal laws.

It was the Church which, under the leadership of Archbishop Lanfranc, Anselm and Becket, put the first effectual limitation on the all-absorbing tyranny of our Norman kings.

It was the Church which, that under the leadership of the patriotic Archbishop of Canterbury, Stephen Langton, won the Great Charter of English liberty from the false and rapacious king John.

It was the Church which was the firmest supporter of England's great Baron, Simon De Montfort, in his attempt to obtain a recognition of the Magna Charta from the weak king Henry III., and gave her sanction to the calling of the first English Parliament.

The Church was the greatest supporter of the only dynasty in England, (before our present one), which honestly tried to rule England in a constitutional manner, namely, the House of Lancaster.

When Henry VIII. set about the creation in England of a system of arbitrary government, dependent merely on the will of the sovereign, in imitation of the great despotic monarchies of Spain and France, the Church was the first enemy with whom he had to deal.

The Tudor tyranny was not securely established, and fully developed in England, until the Church had been humbled, and firmly attached to the royal chariot wheels.

It is true that during the reigns of the first three Stuarts, the Church is seen apparently turning her back on her old policy, and allying herself with the cause of despotism. She had, however, been so closely dominated by the royal power under the Tudors, that it took some time for her to recover her independence of action, but when the crisis of the struggle came, when James II. was clearly seen to be bent on overthrowing the constitutional liberty of Englishmen, than the Church of England awoke, burst her chains, and, as has been so graphically told by Lord Macaulay, under the leadership of the Seven Bishops, guided the Nation along the path of Revolution, and in A. D. 1688 secured its freedom by the overthrow and banishment of the tyrant.

In recent times, it was undoubtedly the spirit of Christianity which prompted William Wilberforce, and his co-workers in the House of Commons, to carry out further the policy of Anselm and the Medieval Church, by inducing the Parliament of England to abolish slavery in all the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Empire, and vigorously to put down the slave trade, as far as possible, all over the world. By doing this they succeeded in vindicating the historical champion of individual as well as of national liberty.

III. THIRDLY—CHRISTIANITY GAVE ENGLAND OUR ENGLISH BIBLE.

First in the days of Alfred we had our Saxon Bible. Then in the days of Wickliffe, we had our early English Bible; the English of Chaucer. Then, in the days of Crammer and Parker, and later, in 1611, in the days of the translators of our present Authorized Version, we have our English Bible of today. And this most precious gift England and her Colonies owe to Christianity; or to speak with strictest accuracy, to the Church of England.

The influence which the Bible has had, and still is having, upon the lives and thoughts of Englishmen and their descendants is incalculable.

In no Empire, save that of Victoria, has the Bible been more intelligently read, or more deeply valued. I doubt, whether of any General save one belonging to the Anglo-Saxon race, could be recorded what is recorded of the late Duke of Wellington.

Alison, in his his history of Europe, referring to the Duke's (then Col. Wellesley's) Indian campaigns, says:—"During the campaigns which followed he had little time for study, and still fewer facilities for the transport of books: his library consisted of only two volumes, but they were eminently descriptive of his future character and principles. These two books were the Bible and Caesar's Commentaries." Yes, it is true of Englishmen and their descendants, wherever they are worthy of the honored name, that they value the precious gift of our English Bible which Christianity has given us.

With us, the Bible is placed in the soldier's knapsack, in the sailor's chest, in the emigrant's trunk, and it will be found among the presents of the bride.

He was an unworthy son of England, or of Canada, who desired that the wife of his choice should have neither a Bible nor a piano.

I pass to another blessing which England and her Colonies owe to Christianity.

IV—FOURTHLY—CHRISTIANITY HAS VINDICATED THE DIGNITY OF WOMANHOOD, AND THE PURITY OF HOME LIFE.

Woman owes her true position in society today to Christianity. Among the great nations of the East, and according to the great religions which still dominate the continent of Asia, woman was little better than either the plaything, or the slave of man. From Christianity, as it made its way in the world, proceeded a totally

different conception of the true relations between man and woman. Woman was no longer the slave to be bought with money, she is the equal to be won by love.

Christianity called forth the chivalry, the generosity, and the loyalty of man's nature. He becomes the protector, not the master of weakness, the partner of a mutual obedience of love.

There are no virtues more eminently Christian, or as we fondly boast, more eminently English, than domestic love, namely chivalry and womanly trust. There is no man so jealous of the sanctity of home life, and so proud of its domestic virtues as the English.

Long may it remain so; and to this end may the sanctity of Christian marriage as taught by Jesus Christ, and as enforced by His Holy Church, ever be safeguarded by our national laws.

Better for our national purity and well-being, better a thousand times take the view of the Church of the Roman obedience, that Marriage is Sacrament, than degrade it into a mere civil contract.

Our own Church, though not placing "the Sacrament of Matrimony" on a level with the two great Sacraments of Holy Baptism, and the Holy Communion, yet in her Book of Homilies distinctly speaks of the sacramental character of marriage. In Homily 7, Part I. our Church speaks of "The Sacrament of Matrimony, (as that which) kaiteth man and wife in perpetual love."

To sum up, and to conclude.

Christianity has made England a Nation.

Christianity has made England and her Colonies free.

Christianity has given us our English Bible.

The dignity of womanhood, and the sanctity and purity of our English and Canadian homes we owe to Christianity.

Did time allow, I could go on to show, that to Christianity England and her Colonies owe their Civilization, their Education, and all their Institutions of Benevolence and Mercy.

Surely, therefore with Israel's Psalmist we may say, as we take a survey of what England and her Colonies owe to Christianity:

"THE LORD HATH DONE GREAT THINGS FOR US."

Let us show our sense of the greatness of these benefits and blessings by our gratitude.

And let us show our thankfulness to Almighty God for the great things He hath done for us by our willing thank-offerings. Let our offertory tonight show that we are entering into the spirit of that hymn which we are about to sing:

"O Lord of heaven and earth and sea, To Thee all praise and glory be; How shall we show our love to Thee, Who givest all?"

"The golden sunshine, vernal air, Sweet flowers and fruit, Thy love declare, When harvests ripen, Thou art there, Who givest all."

"For peaceful homes, and healthful days For all the blessings earth displays, We owe thee thankfulness and praise, Who givest all."

Whatever Lord we lend to thee, Repaid a thousand fold will be, Then gladly will we give to Thee, Who gives all."

"To Thee from whom we all derive Our life, our gifts, our power to give O may we ever with Thee live, Who givest all."



The way people eat and drink has serious consequences. Very few people know how to treat their stomachs. Eating too much; or not enough; or the wrong kind of food; or at the wrong time—gets the digestive organs into such a thoroughly disordered condition that at last nothing whatever can be digested. When the appetite fails and the liver becomes sluggish, the whole system is dragged down and debilitated by imperfect nutrition. There is nothing in the world which restores organic tone and vigor so quickly and scientifically as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

It acts directly upon the nutritive organism; it gives the stomach power to extract a high percentage of nourishment from the food, and enables the liver to filter all bilious poisons out of the circulation; it puts the red, vitalizing life-giving elements into the blood, and builds up solid flesh, muscular force and healthy nerve-power.

In all debilitated conditions and wasting diseases it is vastly superior to malt extracts or any mere temporary stimulants. It gives permanent strength. It is better than nauseous emulsions, because it is agreeable to the weakest stomachs.

Whenever constipation is one of the complicating causes of disease, the most perfect remedy is Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, which are always effective, yet absolutely mild and harmless. There never was any remedy invented which can take their place.

"In August, 1895, I was taken down with what my physician pronounced consumption," writes Ira D. Herring, of Needmore, Levy Co., Florida. "My trouble continued for several months. Four bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cured me."

A WIDOW'S STRUGGLE

HARD WORK BROUGHT ON A SEVERE ILLNESS.

Nervous Prostration, Dizziness, and Extreme Weakness—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Came to Her Rescue After Hospital Treatment Failed.

From the Fort William Journal.

In the town of Fort William lives a brave widow, who for years has by dint of constant labor kept the wolf from the door and her little family together. From morning till night she toiled to provide comforts for her loved ones until nature at last protested against such a constant drain on her strength, and so she began to lose health. Soon the slender frame became unable to bear its daily load of toil, and the poor mother was at last forced to give up the unequal contest, and became a burden where she had once been the chief support. Nervous prostration, heart disease, consumption, and other names were given to her malady by local physicians, but months passed, during which she suffered untold agony, without finding any relief from her sufferings. Palpitation of the heart, dizziness, extreme pain in the chest, loss of appetite and nervousness were some of the symptoms of the disease, gatherings that caused excruciating pain formed at the knee, joints and other parts of the body, and at last she became perfectly helpless and unable to walk or even sit down. At this stage she was advised to enter the hospital, that she might have the benefit of skilled nurses as well as best medical treatment; but after spending some time there without obtaining any relief the poor woman gave up all hope of recovery and asked to be taken home. So emaciated and weak had she become that her friends were shocked at her appearance, and so utterly hopeless was her condition that it was like mockery to speak hopefully of her ultimate recovery. What then was the astonishment of all who had known her dreadful condition to hear that she had at last found a remedy whose magical power at once demonstrated the fact that where there is life there is hope. The name of this remedy that worked such a wonderful change in such a short time was Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and after taking five boxes she was able to walk about and visit her friends. Her strength gradually but surely returned and in a few months from the time she began using the medicine she was able to resume her work. The subject of this article, Mrs. Jane Marcelle, is well known, and her youthful and healthy appearance to-day causes people to exclaim—wonders will never cease. She attributes her restoration to her family, solely to the virtues to be found in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and experience she hopes, may put some other sufferer on the right road to health.

This great remedy enriches and purifies the blood, strengthens the nerves, and in this way goes to the root of disease, driving it from the system, and curing when other remedies fail.

Every box of the genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills has the trade mark on the wrapper around the box, and the purchaser can protect himself from imposition by refusing all others. Sold by all dealers at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

LONDON, Oct. 20.—The British gunboats, it is announced in a special despatch from Cairo this morning, advanced up the Nile today and shelled Metemneh, the dervish position between Berber and Khartoum, and retired after inspecting it with a view of ascertaining its defensive works.

During the season of 1896-7 there were 217 sugar manufacturing in operation in Austria-Hungary. The total production was 229,000 tons of sugar, made out of 157,500,000 cwt. of beet roots. The consumption of the country amounted to 365,962 tons of sugar, and the exports aggregated 419,845 tons of refined, and 101,386 tons of raw sugar. The average quantity of sugar contained in the beet roots was 12 per cent.

A large barn at Sackville containing hay and pressed straw, belonging to Charles Fawcett was burned a night or two ago. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. The loss, which is estimated at \$3000, is partially covered by insurance.

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ENGLISH SEAPORTS.

How London's Position Has Changed in the Centuries.

One of the most striking features of English history is the change which has taken place in the relative importance of her seaports. Even during the present generation there have been some notable variations, certain ports showing the signs of decadence and others advancing towards the front. London itself, although she keeps her place of primacy, scarcely displays the commercial preponderance which is exhibited by New York on this side of the Atlantic.

Without going back to the time when the so-called Cinque ports, namely Hastings, Dover, Sandwich, Romney, and Hythe, monopolized England's commerce, we may recall the fact that in 1205 London's trade only slightly exceeded that of Boston, or of Southampton, or of Lynn, which followed in the order named. At the date of the siege of Calais (1347) London, the greater part of whose trade was then transacted by the Hanseatic League, was surpassed in the number of ships and men contributed to the Royal fleet by Yarmouth, Fowey and Dartmouth, and was almost equalled by Bristol, Plymouth, Winchelsea and Southampton. About three and a half centuries afterwards, that is to say, in 1702, we find London controlling a considerable larger share of the nation's tonnage than she does today, the figures for London being 84,882 and for all English ports 261,226 tons. At this date Bristol held the second place; next came Newcastle, then Yarmouth and then Liverpool. A century later the tonnage of London was 568,262, and that of all the ports of the United Kingdom 1,682,496 tons. Liverpool and Newcastle occupy the second and third places, each showing about 140,000 tons, but Yarmouth and Bristol had fallen to the ninth and tenth places respectively. Southampton stood nineteenth on the list, and Glasgow barely obtained mention with 10,651 tons. Cardiff, destined to make so great a figure in our day, could muster at the beginning of the century only 1,996 tons.

Now let us observe the changes which the last quarter of a century have witnessed. To this end let us compare the statistics for 1872 with those for 1893. At both dates London and Liverpool ranked first and second in respect to tonnage entered, the two ports being credited in 1893 with 7,782,402 and 5,251,570 respectively. Cardiff, which occupied the fifth place in 1872, had risen to the third place twenty-one years later; Hull remained stationary in the fourth place, and Southampton in the sixth; Newcastle sank from the third to the fifth place. Glasgow, which in 1872 was the tenth port in point of magnitude, had become the seventh in 1893, and during the same period Middlesbrough had jumped from the eighteenth to the eighth place. Hartlepool, on the other hand, dropped from the ninth place to the twenty first. If we look at percentages of gain we find some still more surprising figures. Thus at Newport the percentage of gain during the period named was 382, at Fleetwood, 596, and at Kirkcaldy 847, per cent. Even London, in spite of all the reports that trade is being driven away from the Thames, advanced at a greater rate than the average gain of the United Kingdom, so far as imports are concerned, and even with regard to exports kept pace with it. Her imports now constitute slightly more than a third of the whole.

GRAND RIVER BUOY SERVICE.

SIR,—In your issue of the 15th, inst., I notice a letter signed by Geo. E. Saville, in which he accuses me of making false statements regarding the number and positions of the buoys and stakes in Grand River on October 2nd. I would ask Master Saville why (if my statements were false) was it necessary for himself and his grandfather since that date to spend four days placing buoys and stakes in the channels between Annandale and Bridgetown. He tries to convey the impression that he has fulfilled his contract to the satisfaction of the Harbor Master, while, at the same time, he admits his inability to do so by acknowledging that the work "that was done" was done by one of his sureties.

Now Master Saville, I can assure you that I had none of the contents of an ale cask in me when I counted the stakes, nor am I in any way connected with either Beers or ale; but I am in a position to prove to the satisfaction of these interested parties previous to, and on Oct. 2nd, there was only one lawful stake and four others that were either broken off or not in the proper position together with a fence rail used as a spar buoy, to mark Flat Rock. Making in all six stakes and buoys from the head of the cut to Bridgetown.

Just a word about the testimony that Master Saville claims to have (to use his own words) from the best pilot out of Georgetown. Mr. Samuel Hemphill is admitted to be the best Georgetown pilot who does any piloting on Grand River, and he informs me that on Oct. 16th he piloted a vessel to Bridgetown, and on that occasion he found the stakes to be far from satisfactory.

Master Saville also accuses me of having a crusted brain. Well I can assure him that he will never be troubled by the same disease, for the little brain that he has is far too soft to become crusted.

I would suggest to Master Saville that he study carefully the instructions furnished him by the harbor master. If he does so he can have no further excuse for repeating his glowing misrepresentation of the 11th inst., which, if too freely indulged in, will unfit him for the duties of Church and State, which he claims to have had forced upon him by the residents of Annandale.

MARINER. Grand River, Oct. 19, 1897.

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Do people cultivate and foster disease and sickness because they love suffering, and desire to show the world that they are martyrs to some particular ailment, and worthy of public admiration because of their fortitude and courage? We have yet to meet the individuals who are acuated by such motives. If such men and women were known, intelligent people would place them in the ranks of the foolish and insane.

Those who are sick and diseased suffer most unwillingly; their prayer by day and night is for new life, health and strength.

That most precious of all blessings—good health—can only be secured in one way. The old-fashioned medical prescriptions will fail to bring the desired results. The worthless pills and liquid concoctions of our times will only aggravate suffering and endanger life. Faith cure prayers and invocations will prove of little avail to the weak and dying mortal, and can never assuage pain.

To all who suffer from the common diseases of our times, such as kidney and liver troubles, dyspepsia, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous prostration, headache, heart trouble and blood diseases, we would say, "Use Paine's Celery Compound at once and receive new life." Do not imagine that your case is too desperate. Bear in mind that the great life-giving medicine is made for desperate and hard cases such as yours, that have resisted all other medicines and baffled the skill of physicians. Paine's Celery Compound always cures. Read the following testimonial from Mr. Thos. Baxter, of Largsdale, N. S.

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"I tried the doctors and all kinds of medicines, but no help or relief was afforded me, and I could not eat or sleep. I was then advised to use Paine's Celery Compound, and, oh, what a mighty change! The use of the first bottle enabled me to eat and sleep, and after using seven bottles I was quite another man; was perfectly cured and felt young again. All that I have written can be proven by merchants, doctors, magistrates, and by three ministers of the Gospel, and by scores of other people. I shall always thank you and your wonderful medicine, Paine's Celery Compound."

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