

edition. Every copyist used the best manuscript he could procure, and did his best to give a faithful transcript. That was all he could do.

An instance of the manner in which these authorities were used may now be given. Let it be 1 Tim. 3. 16., where we read, in the English version, "God was manifest in the flesh." Dean Alford, as I mentioned in my last, adopting a various reading, has, "He who was manifested." Bishop Ellicott, one of the profoundest critics of modern times, has the same reading. The critical editions of Griesback, Lachmann, and Tischendorf have also adopted it.

There are three readings of this clause. One is, "God"; the second is, "He who"; the third is, "That which." 1. "God." This reading is sustained by the Codex Clermont—not originally, however, but in a correction by a later hand; by two Uncial manuscripts, of the ninth century; and by nearly all the Cursive manuscripts.

It is not found in any Version older than the seventh century. This, you will observe, is very important.

Of the Greek fathers, Didymus, Dionysius of Alexandria, and Theodoret are the principal witnesses in its favour. Chrysostom's authority has been adduced for it; but his text has been tampered with by copyists and editors, as is evident from the tenor of his arguments when he has occasion to cite the passage.

No Latin father but Epiphanius the deacon (in the eighth century) has adopted this reading. 2. "He who." This reading is supported by the Alexandrine manuscript, the Codex Ephremi, the Sinaitic, two Uncials of the ninth century, and several Cursive manuscripts. "The Vatican is defective here, the Epistles to Timothy and some other portions of the New Testament not being found in it. The Codex Bezae contains only the Gospels and the Acts. So that the reading now under consideration is supported by all the older Uncials which have the first Epistle to Timothy in them, except the Clermont.

It is sustained by the Thebaic, Memphitic, and Gothic versions, and by a later Syriac.

It is favoured by Cyril of Alexandria, Theodoret of Mopsuestia, and Jerome, and probably by Clement of Alexandria and Origen.

Referring to Cyril, Dr. Davidson remarks that in his writings against the Emperor Julian, who maintained that the Saviour was never called "God" by the Apostle Paul, this text was not adduced, which is inexplicable if Cyril read "God was manifest." And if that were the reading, Dr. D. asks, "how comes it that it was not quoted by the fathers against the Arians, after the commencement of the Arian controversy? It cannot be shown that Athanasius himself ever cited it, though it be so apposite." 3. "That which"—referring to the word "mystery," which is in the neuter gender, and therefore requires a neuter relative. This reading is supported by the Codex Clermont.

Among versions, the Latin is the principal authority for this reading. The old Syriac, the Ethiopic, and the Armenian, may be adduced in favour either of this or the second reading ("he who"). They all employ a relative, which may be either masculine or neuter. At any rate, neither of them has "God."

All the Latin fathers, except Jerome and Epiphanius the deacon, adopt the reading "that which."

Reviewing these statements, the preponderance of authority must be allowed, I think, to rest with the reading adopted by Bishop Ellicott and Dean Alford, by Doctors Davidson and Tregelles, and in fact by the majority of modern critics. The text should be, "He who was manifest in the flesh."

There is another reason for this decision. It is unquestionably the more difficult reading. When the copyists altered the text, as they sometimes did, it was either to make it plainer or to bring it into harmony with some other passage in which the same words were used. They did not willingly create an obscurity. Hence it has become a canon of biblical criticism, that among different readings the more difficult is to be preferred.

Theological bias ought to have no force in this matter. It is simply a question of evidence. The inquiry is, in all cases, what were the words or expressions employed by the sacred writers?

1 Tim. 3. 16. has been usually considered a bulwark of the true and proper Deity of the Lord Jesus. Is it not dangerous, it may be asked, to give it up? To this I reply, in the first place, that if, according to the laws by which biblical criticism is regulated, "God" must be expunged and "He who" substituted for that word, we are bound to submit, and to believe that in all probability the Apostle Paul wrote "He who"; so that we have restored his

own word (it is one word in Greek—as). In the second place, I remark that the restored reading is itself a powerful evidence in favour of the above mentioned doctrine; for certainly it would be highly improper to say of any merely human being that he was "manifest in the flesh"—that expression clearly denotes pre-existence. In the third place, I have only to remind your readers that the divine glory of the Lord Jesus is so plainly taught in other parts of the sacred volume that it cannot be reckoned by us among points of "doubtful disputation." See Isaiah 9. 6.; 40. 10, 11. Micah 5. 2. John 1. 1-3, 14. Rom. 9. 5. Coloss. 1. 15-17. Heb. 1. 1-12.

A full discussion of this subject, with special reference to 1 Tim. 3. 16., may be found, in addition to the Commentaries of Bishop Ellicott and Dean Alford, in Dr. Davidson's "Biblical Criticism," Vol. 2, pp. 382-403, and in Dr. Tregelles' "Account of the printed text of the Greek New Testament," pp. 226-231.

Yours truly,  
J. M. CRAMP,  
Acadia College, Dec. 28, 1864.

Colonial and American News.

Prince Edward Island.

The Hon. Col. Gray, President of the Council, and the Hon. J. C. Pope have resigned their seats in the government, in consequence of the Hon. Attorney General Palmer declaring himself opposed to "Confederation, whereas he had heretofore expressed himself in favor thereof. He, Mr. P. is charged with duplicity.

Col. Gray says in his letter giving his reasons for the step he has taken—

"Mr. Palmer was selected by the Lieut. Governor as one of a body of Delegates, called by His Lordship the Governor General, to consult upon a subject of the gravest magnitude. At a public meeting—one of the most respectable ever assembled in British America—Mr. Palmer, on behalf of the Delegates representing Prince Edward Island, deliberately gave utterance to expressions intended to deceive; and he now alleges, in justification of such conduct, the desire to please and gratify his audience! Such conduct I feel it unnecessary to designate. The attempt to justify it I regard as further insult, not only to the gentlemen of Toronto, but particularly so to the Delegates from the other Provinces, and calculated to bring into contempt the people and Government of this Island."

The Examiner says in reference to this matter:—

"The resignation of Col. Gray—he being President of the Council—involves total disruption of the Cabinet, Mr. Palmer will, no doubt, be commanded to reconstruct it, and rumour says he will try his hand at forming a Coalition Government. A few days may serve to bring to light some strange combinations, the nature of which we shall carefully ascertain and report to our readers. If the Liberal Opposition in the House are wise enough to refuse aid and comfort to Mr. Palmer in his attempt at patching up an Administration, the present rickety thing of a Government will be smashed beyond all hope of repair."

From the Islander we learn that "Mr. Palmer, has submitted to the Executive his reply to Col. Gray's charges, and a majority of the Council have received the explanation as satisfactory. Between the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney General, we understand, there is a wide difference of opinion, and from present appearances we cannot see that there is much chance of a permanent adjustment of the present difficulties, until the meeting of the Legislature."

New Brunswick.

POSTAL MONEY ORDERS.—We observe by a notice in the Halifax papers that the Money Order Arrangements have extended, and that it includes the United Kingdom, Canada, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island. New Brunswick is left "out in the cold," for which of course we have ourselves to blame. We trust the Postmaster General has made some effort to extend the system as in the neighboring Colonies, or if he has not, that he will do so speedily. The good effect of the money system, even in the limited way in which we are permitted at present to enjoy it, is sufficiently advantageous to the public to warrant an extension.—St. John News.

Canada.

The Hon. Mr. Howland, Post Master of Canada, was re-elected by acclamation for West York, on the 14th inst.

The Hon. J. E. Tarte, Speaker of the Canadian House of Assembly during the last Parliament, died at his residence at Three Rivers, on the 20th, from an attack of paralysis.

LATEST FROM THE STATES.

[From Telegrams to Associated Press.]

MONDAY, Dec. 26.—The following is the official announcement received by President Lincoln from Sherman—"Savannah, Ga., 22nd, Dec. To His Excellency President Lincoln—I beg to present to you as a Christmas gift the City of Savannah, with 150 heavy guns and

plenty of ammunition, and also about twenty-five thousand bales of cotton. Signed W. T. Sherman, Major General."

TUESDAY, Evening Dec. 27.—The Richmond Enquirer of Saturday says editorially: "The march of Sherman through the heart of Georgia has been accomplished and he has been allowed to establish his communications with the naval forces without any other loss than that of stragglers and the wear and tear of an army on a long expedition."

The Enquirer anticipates that Sherman will at once march into South Carolina.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28.—General Grant telegraphs to the War Department at Washington the following extract from Richmond papers of yesterday.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 25.—The enemy's fleet of over fifty vessels, including two monitors, several armored vessels and many heavily armed frigates and sloops of war, made a furious attack on Fort Fisher about one o'clock on Saturday p. m. and upon an average fire of 30 shots per minute until night. Our loss is 23 wounded. The attack was renewed on Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, and has been very furious, and continuous. The enemy under cover of the heavy fire landed about two Brigades, two and a half miles above Fort Fisher. They were immediately engaged by a smaller force. The enemy held the ground at night.

It is reported that Sherman is moving a force up the Savannah River to capture Augusta.

Evening.—Richmond papers state that Saltville, in South Western Virginia, is in Federal possession. The salt works located there have supplied rebeldom with salt, and their capture is acknowledged as a serious disaster.

Kilpatrick, with a force of cavalry, has left Savannah for the purpose of liberating Federal prisoners held in the interior of Georgia.

Savannah papers of the 21st advise citizens to remain quiet under Federal rule.

THURSDAY, Dec. 29.—The Federal Infantry who had landed above Fort Fisher had re-embarked on board the Fleet. The bombardment of Fort Fisher continued furiously. An old vessel loaded with three hundred tons of Gunpowder was run in close to Fort Fisher and fired its slow match, the explosion was awful, but its effects not known. For fifty miles along the coast the shock was thought to be an earthquake.

Wreck of the British barque "Burnside" from New York, Nov. 8th, for Greenock, was fallen in with and three men rescued, ten had died from exposure or been washed overboard.

Evening.—Hood with the shattered fragments of his army is reported as having crossed the River at Florence, leaving Tennessee free of hostile invaders.

FRIDAY, Dec. 30.—Admiral Porter has made an official report of his attack on Wilmington. The powder ship exploded near the Walls of Fort Fisher, at two o'clock Saturday morning, but failed in the anticipated effort. The attack commenced shortly before noon. The firing of the fleet was magnificent. The fire of the Fort was speedily silenced, and the enemy driven to the bomb proofs. Two magazines were blown up, and several buildings set on fire. During the heaviest of the bombardment 115 shots per minute were fired. The enemy was silenced so quickly that no one was injured on board the fleet from their guns.

Six one hundred parrot guns in the fleet exploded, killing and wounding 58 officers and men.

An infantry force of 3,000 men was landed, but Gen. Weitzel found it impracticable to storm the fort, and the force was re-embarked, and will return to Fortress Monroe.

The naval attack will be resumed. Gen. Burbridge officially reports the destruction of the Confederate salt and lead works. He defeated the Confederates in various fights, captured 20 cannon, broke up railroads, and destroyed a vast quantity of stores.

Gold 225. Evening.—Steamer North American from New Orleans for New York, with 259 passengers on board, mostly invalid soldiers, foundered at sea Dec. 22d, and 197 lives lost.

Late Richmond papers urge that Jeff. Davis be deposed, and Gen. Lee installed as supreme ruler of the Confederacy.

SATURDAY, Dec. 31st.—The expedition of Major General Granger had effected a landing at Pascagoula, and was advancing rapidly on Mobile. Refugee state that Mobil is defended by only five thousand troops—mainly militia—and that there is strong Union feeling in the city.

Evening.—Rebel deserters from Lee's army state that great preparations are being made for an offensive movement. Lee told his men that he was going to attempt a movement which would astonish the world.

MONDAY, Jan. 2nd, 1865.—The rebel Gen. Bragg officially notified his government that Porter's Fleet has disappeared from off Wilmington leaving only the usual number of blockading vessels.

Butler's land force has rejoined the besieging army near Richmond.

The latest reports is that the rebel authorities are discussing a plan for the sudden massing of all their available forces in Virginia, in event of their affairs becoming desperate, and marching into the Northern States, with a determination to conquer a peace or die in the attempt.

MONDAY, Evening, Jan. 2.—Steamship New York, from Southampton 21st, arrived at New York to-day. Political news without special interest. Broadstreet markets remained quiet and steady. Consols 89 1/8 a 49 1/2.

The new rebel privateer Sea King, whose name has been changed to Shenandoah, is active-

ly at work on the Atlantic. Captain Hanser, of the brig Susan, reports the destruction of his vessel; also barques Ellena and E. G. Godfrey, and the schooner Charter Oak. The ship Kate Prince was captured and bonded. She conveyed the officers and men captured to Bahia, Brazil. The Shenandoah carries four sixty-eight pounder smooth bore guns, two thirty-two pounder rifle, and two twelve pounder smooth bore.

THE MALDEN MURDERER.—It is said that Friday January 13th, 1865, has been appointed by the Governor and Council for the execution of Edward W. Green, the medical commission having found no signs of insanity about him. He will be hanged in the jail yard at East Cambridge.—Boston paper.

A range of seven and a half miles is said to have been attained by a new projectile for a rifled cannon, invented by a Mr. Smith of Derby, Conn.

Women are employed as conductors on the street cars in some of the Western cities.

Two bears have lately been killed near St. Cloud, Minn. They had destroyed \$1900 worth of sheep.

Since the liberation of the St. Alban's raiders by the Canadian authorities, guns for the arming of the Vermont militia have been sent into the State in great numbers from the arsenals at Springfield and at Waterville, N. Y.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By the arrival at New York of the Australasia on Thursday last from Europe we learn that. At a large open air meeting of Conservatives held at Manchester, resolutions were adopted strongly opposing recognition of the Slaveholding Confederacy. Parliament meets on the 1st of February.

RUSSIA.

Advices from St. Petersburg state that the Russian Government contemplates a change in the press laws. That change is to be effected in a novel manner. Newspaper conductors are to be asked whether they would prefer the censorship system now in force, or the system of warnings, suspensions, and suppressions in force in France. If this plan be carried out, the Russian journalists will be asked to choose between remaining gagged or taking the liberty of speech, with the certainty of being ruined if they make use of that liberty.

Russia is suppressing the religious "houses" in Poland in a wholesale way. By an imperial decree seventy-one Catholic monasteries and four convents have been closed, because their inmates were small in number; and thirty-nine other religious houses have been condemned to the same fate, because they participated in the Polish insurrection. The property confiscated is to be devoted to ecclesiastical, educational, and charitable purposes.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A CLERICAL BARRISTER.—An interesting question is sub judice amongst the benchers of the Inner Temple. Early in the present year a member of a noble family, in this country, having gone through the usual course of terms, was duly called to the bar by the honourable society. It has since come to the knowledge of the benchers that the new barrister-at-law is a priest in holy orders, and the doubt now arises whether, under the circumstances, the gentleman having withheld information as to his clerical character, the call to the bar is valid, and whether the profession of a barrister is such a secular calling as duly ordained clergy men are prohibited from entering upon. Such a case has not arisen since that of Horne Tooke, and that does not bear much analogy to the present, for although Mr. Tooke went through his terms, he was not "called." When he presented himself for admission to the bar, the question arose whether it was lawful to admit as a barrister a duly ordained clergyman, and in consequence of the doubts entertained no benchers could be found to move the call, and further proceedings dropped. There are several clergymen who have been called to the bar, and one bishop (Dr. Cannon Thirlwall, bishop of St. David's) but they were called before they were ordained; and there are one or two clergymen now practising at the bar, but they were also ordained after being called, so that it is held to be doubtful whether they are violating the canons of the Church in returning to their first profession. The case now under the consideration of the benchers of the Inner Temple is, it is believed, the first that has arisen of a barrister being called after having entered into holy orders, of which under the present state of the law a clergyman cannot divest himself.—Daily News.

LORD DERBY'S TRANSLATION OF HOMER.—However high (says The London Guardian) may be the estimate which the public, next month, will place on Lord Derby's promised translation of Homer, we believe that his noble author, who has been three years in accomplishing his work, has taken all along a very humble estimate of its merits himself, and that it is only at the urgent entreaties of several learned friends that it is to see the light of day. Indeed, we believe that it was only after the MS. had been copied out by another hand, and had been submitted as that of an anonymous author to a venerable and learned dean (Dean Stanley), whose name is well known as a scholar and poet, and who strongly urged its publication, that the Chancellor of Oxford University felt that he had no alternative but to comply.