

## THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND HIGHER CRITICISM.

### A Hot Debate in Montreal—Mr. Justice Hanington of New Brunswick and Dr. Langtry Take Strong Ground—Canon Welch and Dr. Allnat Reply;

Quite simply, as it seemed, a heated debate was precipitated in the Provincial Synod yesterday afternoon. Dr. Langtry proposed a resolution thanking His Lordship Bishop Carmichael for his lucid and powerful sermon, and ordering that it be printed in the Journal of the House.

Canon Welch at once rose and asked that Dr. Langtry withdraw his motion, which a large number of delegates could not accept, as it implied the endorsement of the synod upon the position taken by the bishop.

What is the matter with the resolution? asked Dr. Langtry, quietly. 'Was the sermon not lucid?' 'No,' said Canon Welch, with emphasis. 'Was it not powerful?' 'It was.'

Dr. Langtry did not see his way to withdraw, and Canon Welch said he would have to propose an amendment.

This brought Judge Hanington to his feet with a powerful protest against the higher critics and higher criticism. 'I hope,' he said, 'that Dr. Langtry will not withdraw his motion. If this thing is to be discussed and fought out, let us do the fighting now. It is time that we should make some announcement on this subject when we have men on the floor of this house who object to Bishop Carmichael's sermon because he said he believed the Bible was inspired. (Hear, hear.) I remember when I was young that there was a wave of scepticism which reached the Church and the colleges. We were told then that Noah was a myth, that the flood never took place, that the story of the creation was all a fairy tale and the like. Hugh Miller came, thank God, with his glorious testimony of the rocks, and this did much to check the unbelief of the time. But now we have men high up in the church of Christ who actually tell us the Bible is not inspired, these men are teachers of our young men; infinite harm will be done if this thing goes on. (Hear, hear.) I say let the synod show its feeling in the matter by carrying this resolution of Dr. Langtry unanimously. Let us know where we stand. Is the Word of God, which has stood for ages, by which we live and by which many of us hope to die, to be regarded as a mere piece of literature, and this by men who are teachers in the church? (No, no.) Then let us have a clear expression from this House. Dr. Langtry said that he had no thought of precipitating a discussion, but if there was a section of the synod which was opposed to the resolution because of the position taken by a bishop of the Church—because that bishop had upheld the orthodox view and defended the revelation of God, then he was prepared to have the question fought out. The fact of the matter was that the higher critics, even within the Church itself, not to speak of those outside, were undermining the very foundations of the Christian faith. (Hear, hear.) There was no blinking this fact. The Bible was a mere compilation, a later compilation from ancient documents. It was not inspired; Moses was mythical. He never wrote the Pentateuch. Somebody, hundreds of years after Moses, got hold of an ancient document and he made a compilation from it. He gave us, at a later date, his version of the creation which was merely a human concept. That was the theory. Where was the original document? Nobody ever saw it. He did not believe a word of the theory which had been put forward. (Loud applause.) It might be said oh, but there are moderate higher critics, and they do no harm. What was the difference between them? The Bible had to go as the inspired Word of God. He had heard of a professor in one of their colleges who had said that if he had to believe in a literal resurrection he would have to leave the Church. (Shame.)

Canon Welch strongly objected, to such a remark and wanted proof. The Rev. Mr. Inglis—The proof is, that the professor alluded to and whose name I will not mention, made this statement quoted by Dr. Langtry, to myself. (Shame, shame.) The speaker thought that if such persons were sincere they ought to resign from the ministry, because their influence would do incalculable harm. Dr. Langtry proceeded to occupy the position which Bishop Carmichael had taken and closed by saying that the Synod should give forth to the world no uncertain sound as to where they stood on the question of the inspiration of the Bible.

Rural Dean Ker (Niagara), who seconded the resolution, was very severe upon men, who no longer believed in the inspiration of the Bible, remaining in the church.

The Rev. Dr. Allnat, who labored under much excitement, approached those members who had sought to besmirch the higher critics.

Several delegates—"Your name was not mentioned."

Dr. Allnat said that it was not specifically mentioned, but it was known that he had had some association with the higher criticism and he would say that there was complete misunderstanding of the position. There were so many forms of criticism, the field was so vast, that it was impossible even to mention in a debate the variety of features which were comprised in the higher criticism—in regard to the doctrine of the resurrection, for instance.

Here the speaker was met by cries of 'No theology,' while Dr. Johnson emphatically protested against the whole discussion, which was out of order. That house had nothing to do with theology. It had to do with temporality, with discipline.

The resolution made no comment on the sermon. He had not seen the sermon himself, many others might be in the same position. Why should they discuss a matter of which they had no cognizance?

Chancellor Worrell also objected to the discussion, and said that the resolution should first be passed, and then this matter of the higher criticism should be brought in as a substantive motion.

However, Dr. Allnat was allowed to proceed. In regard, he said, to the doctrine of the resurrection he would say simply that he held a suspended judgment. ('Oh, oh.')

Subsequently Dr. Allnat explained that he held that attitude of suspended judgment in regard to the higher criticism generally.

Canon Welch moved his amendment to the effect that while the sermon he printed, it be added that the synod in no way endorsed the position of Bishop Carmichael. He said he was in a delicate position. Bishop Carmichael was one who had won the respect, indeed the affection, of the whole church (Hear, hear), and it was embarrassing to seem to be in opposition to him. Yet the position he had taken compelled him to dissent from the resolution. This matter was not of his doing. He had asked Dr. Langtry privately to withdraw his motion, but he refused. The bishop had taken the ground that there was no standing ground between the traditional view of revelation and the extreme form of destructive criticism. The fact was that every inch of that ground was occupied by men of moderate views, who devoutly believed in the Bible, and who were happier than ever in its study, through the light which criticism had thrown upon it. The traditional view, which Bishop Carmichael held, was a view which not a single scholar in the church held today, while, on the other hand, by condemning the higher criticism, he was condemning at least four of the most eminent bishops in the church. Indeed, were it not a bishop, he would be inclined to say that his sneering at the critics, especially his sneering at the letters 'P' and 'E' was very cheap and obvious. ('Shame.')

The Prolocutor said that he must withdraw such a remark.

Judge Hanington said it was exceedingly disrespectful.

Canon Welch withdrew the words, and proceeded to say that the mistake was made of considering the higher criticism as one thing only, and also of believing that the moderate critics meant to destroy the foundations of belief. For himself, since he had read the conclusions of the higher critics, the Bible had become increasingly precious to him. He read it with more reverence, with more beneficial effect than ever before. (Hear, hear.) The church had never put forward any theory of inspiration. It set the standard of the Word of God, but it never enacted any canon as to any theory of inspiration.

Dean Evans said he was quite willing to give fair play to the higher critics. If the resolution made comment upon the sermon, the amendment made more comment.

Archdeacon Ker followed in a speech through which ran a delicate irony. He spoke of the heroism of the higher critics, of their undaunted courage, of their 'face' of the known fact that the majority of the Synod were against them. The Synod was about as miserable a place as you could discover in which to discuss theology; a vestry meeting might be a shade worse. (Laughter.) He proposed that the higher critics, having defended their position might now allow the motion to pass, they entering their names upon the journal of proceedings as having dissented from the resolution. Thus their feelings would be placated, and they would go down to posterity. (Loud laughter.) He was not a higher critic himself. He had not the learning (laughter) necessary for the position. He was a working clergyman in a large parish, and his time was taken up largely with his duties. But he had read a little, and he would say that he had not the least fear for the Bible. He would ask that no creature be in the least dismayed. (Applause.) The Word of God had withstood the assaults of the ages, and it was still living, still vital. It would still exert its influence, still mould the lives of men, still be regnant when its critics were there. The speaker paused a moment—buried. (Applause and laughter.)

The Rev. Dyson Hague would go further than Archdeacon Ker, and appeal to the higher critics to allow the motion to pass, withdrawing all objection. He made this further appeal, amid laughter, that the critics rid their minds of all obscurantism.

Prof. Clark said that while the critics might not perhaps have all the learning, it was not a little ridiculous to charge them with obscurantism.

The obscurantism is on your side, said Canon Welch, pointing in the direction of Mr. Hague.

'No, no, it is you who have got it,' Archdeacon Norton said he had never in his life heard a bishop's utterance so criticised. The rule of printing sermons or addresses was a rule simply of courtesy; there was no expression of assent or dissent; it was a rule of gentlemanly politeness and courtesy, that was all.

Principal Whitney, who had seconded Canon Welch's amendment, made a dignified speech, in which he pleaded for fair play and a spirit of toleration which would permit the expression of individual views without rebuke.

Finally the amendment was withdrawn, and the original resolution carried unanimously.

## Morning News in Brief.

A slight blaze was caused by spontaneous combustion in the Union Oil Co.'s shed at the foot of Union street, early yesterday morning. It was soon extinguished.

Dr. P. H. Bryes of the department of the interior at Ottawa, who is looking up a site for the proposed detention hospital returned to Ottawa on Saturday night. The building will be erected in Carleton, and treatment will be given to immigrants suffering from favus, trachoma, and other mild diseases.

John M. Lyons, general passenger agent of the I. C. R. passed through the city, yesterday, on his way to Old Point Comfort, Virginia, where he will attend the annual meeting of

passenger agents in the United States, and Canada. He was accompanied by Mrs. Lyons and Miss Quinn, of Moncton.

The deacons of Woodstock will hold their next meeting at Benton, with Rev. J. E. Flewelling, on All Saints day, Tuesday, November, 1. The clergy will be entertained by the people of Benton. The chapter will meet, Nov. 2nd at 10 a. m. at the residence of H. Deakin.

Invitations are out for the wedding of Miss Maud, daughter of I. C. R. conductor, W. C. Foster, to Mr. Jos. L. Eaton. The event will take place at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Foster, Pictou Landing, on the 20th inst.—New Glasgow Times.

## A FINE NEW LIGHT HOUSE.

### What is Said to be the Finest in the World Just Completed Near Portland.

(Portland, Me. Press.)

It is conceded by leading authorities on the subject that the new Ram Island Lighthouse is probably the finest in the world. Of course this does not mean that it has cost the most because there are many places where it has taken a great deal more money to erect a station and the tower itself in finish, in workmanship, in idea, is without doubt unequalled.

The U. S. Government appropriated \$166,000 for Ram Island Lighthouse but a tower could have been erected on the same site for probably half this amount. The Lighthouse Department has come to the conclusion, however, that cheap lighthouses do not pay. They have tried them and it has been proven so. Ordinary finish for a lighthouse does not stand the banging which such a structure gets. Even the interior finish is affected and it has been found that the common woods used in finishing the rooms are affected badly by the salt air and do not last a very great length of time. For that reason the interior of the Ram Island Ledge Lighthouse is finished entirely in quartered oak, of the finest quality and put together in the finest shape.

It has also been found by the Lighthouse Department that steel is not suitable for a lighthouse and that after a few years it becomes rusty with the salt air and works badly. For this reason the first and only bronze lighthouse lamp in the world, so far as known here, has been installed at Ram Island Ledge at a cost for the lamp alone of \$10,000.

Here are the innovations introduced in the Ram Island Ledge Lighthouse the majority of which have never been tried before. First the tower itself is made of heavy stone which is something very unusual and the exterior of the lighthouse is therefore almost as smooth as marble; then the structure is lined with white enamel tiling which is also something comparatively new; then there is the interior finish of quartered oak all polished in the finest possible style. The most important innovation is of course the bronze lantern and then the glass used in the lighthouse is diamond shaped and of the very finest quality. The tower, itself is almost as strong as is the rock it stands on and there-

fore there is no possible chance of any catastrophe like that when Milton's Ledge was washed away so many years ago.

In fact it may be said that everything in the make up of the lighthouse and its equipment is the finest that money can buy and Portland may well feel proud of her beacon light which will rank with the finest the world has ever known.

It was stated today that the lighthouse would probably be in operation by Christmas and perhaps a short time before. It will doubtless have three keepers, two on duty and one off.

The light will be of the third order and will be a flash. This latter will be a double flash of four seconds duration of three and a half seconds between them, with an interval of 14 seconds between the double flashes, or put it another way it will be: Flash—21 seconds interval—flash—4 seconds—14 seconds interval and then right over again.

It is expected that the lens for the lamp will be shipped from New York in a few days and that it will be here before very long. This lens was made in Paris especially for this lighthouse and cost about \$7,000. It is the finest piece of work possible.

It is believed now that the exterior of the lighthouse will be clear of stagings by the last of next week and that it will then look from the outside about as it will when in working order. The interior will not be done for some time. It is expected now that the crew of about seven men working on the lighthouse and now living in the house on Ram Island will very shortly be moved into the tower itself as soon as stoves can be set up, and the crew will then remain and live there until the lighthouse is finished.

The new lighthouse will be a great aid in entering Portland Harbor, and with the Two Lights, Portland Head Light, Ram Island Light, Hallway Rock, Spring Point Ledge, the Breakwater, Witch Rock Gas Buoy, and the lightship the harbor will be in excellent shape for the safe entrance and departure of shipping.

### Young Ladies, Read This

If you are bothered with pimples, rashes or ugly blotches on your face, if your complexion is sallow it's an evidence that you require Ferrozone to tone up your blood. One Ferrozone tablet taken at meals makes the complexion like peach bloom, cheeks soon become rosy, eyes bright you'll be the picture of health. Thousands of ladies keep up their youthful appearance with Ferrozone, why not you? Price 50c. at druggists.

Interest asks nothing, but is glad of others' joys and sorry for others' misfortunes. Curiosity seeks to find more than is written upon the surface, seeks it for the purpose of distribution, for innocent slander.

## TWELFTH NIGHT'S GREAT SUCCESS.

Marie Wainwright, in Shakespeare's Comedy, at the Opera House Next Week.

'Twelfth Night,' with Miss Wainwright as Viola, is one of the phenomenal hits of the season. The 'Standing Room Only' sign is in constant attendance wherever she appears. Great as is her impersonation, of the delightful Viola, and Miss Wainwright is pre-eminently the best Viola of the present day, excellent as is her supporting company, and her support is composed of none but recognized artists, there is still another factor which plays an important part in the drawing capacity of this attraction. It is the production, scenic, auxiliary, accessory, the light effects and properties, which have added their full quota to the popular success of 'Twelfth Night' and Miss Wainwright. Of the Shakespearean comedies 'Twelfth Night' is the most beautiful, most varied and most perfect in conception and execution, and is particularly rich in the variety of characters it brings into view. There are Viola, equally charming as the woman in her male disguise; Duke Orsino, Malvolio, and Ague-cheek, the three wholly unlike rivals for the hand of the beautiful Countess Olivia, and of course the countess herself; and the little vixen Maria; and the plotting Toby Belch and Feste, the clown, all calling for special gifts on the part of the actors who would portray them. Miss Wainwright's splendid reputation as a Shakespearean interpreter is a guarantee that not only is the role of Viola matchlessly presented, but that her supporting company is made up of skilled actors. The play is most superbly staged and those who are preparing to attend the performance at the Opera House on Friday night next, and Saturday matinee, are assured of a night of exceptional enjoyment.

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