

Food for the Higher Critics.

To the Editor of Carleton Sentinel:—

Re your article on "Higher Criticism" in issue Nov 10th of your valued paper you suggested airing this all important subject of accepting the bible in its entirety or as do the 'new lighters'.

For my part I cannot see how a son of God can conscientiously reject any part of the bible. For should the day ever come when I am forced to admit the possibility of error in the word of God several things would be forced upon me also. I should become sceptical of the rest of the bible. I could not accept it thereafter as the word of God because God could not be guilty of error therefore it would not be 'His Word' if it contained error and the Holy Spirit who inspired holy men to write for our guidance is too jealous of God's honor and truthfulness to permit men to mistake the facts. He wished recorded as God's word to every generation since they became facts. Thank God that these 'Higher Critics' cannot influence a single soul that is born (not of blood but of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man) of God. Whosoever doeth the will of the Father shall know of the doctrine whether it be of God, John 7:17. A man is only a 'natural' man until born of God, he then becomes a 'supernatural' man. No higher critic can comprehend this fact because the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God for they are foolishness to him neither can he know them because they are 'spiritually discerned', 1 Cor 2:14. In a true sense just as Christ was begotten by the Holy Ghost so are we begotten by the Holy Ghost. The only difference being our Saviour and Elder Brother is the 'only begotten' and 'well beloved son' needing no adoption, as we do, into God's family. We are not sons of God until we are begotten (born over) by the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost, the Third Person in the blessed Trinity is God just as are God and our Saviour God the 1st and 2nd person. Therefore being begotten by him we are literally and truly born of the God. Let any 'higher critic' examine himself and ascertain if this change has become a fact in his life. Their 'criticism' is proof against it. Dishonesty is a mild word to use in regard to their action. They meanly accept salaries to preach the word of God while they openly disclaim that it is the word of God and the other third the world knows they have no use for. They are manufacturing sceptics by the score. Let me say that any 'science' that opposes the truths contained in the bible is only what we learn from 1 Tim 6:20, science falsely so called.

I listened to the utterances of a young Methodist preacher in Andover; he is I understand a graduate of both McGill and Harvard colleges and has several appendages to his name showing him to be an able scholar. I felt a pity for him in my heart because he is earnest and believes what he learned at Harvard. But almost all theological seminaries and schools are governed by Higher Critics the class that our Saviour refers to as the 'wise and prudent' in Luke 10:21 in these emphatic words. 'In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit' (because of the faith in evidence among the seventy elders) and said 'I thank thee O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou has hid these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them unto babes; even so Father for it seemed good in thy sight.' Let me call attention to Paul's memorable words in 1 Cor 1:25 to 28 inclusive. 'The foolishness of God is wiser than men and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called. But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world (the babes to confound the wise and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty); and the base things which are despised hath God chosen, yea and the things which are not to bring to nought things that are.' In conjunction with the foregoing read 1 Cor 2, 6, 16.

Now Sir let me quote my young B A & C of Harvard college in only one or two of his statements; time nor space will permit of more. He said among lots of 'cute' things, 'some people are foolish enough to accept the bible as a whole, (that certainly takes me in). Nature is very slow, men are always getting ahead of nature being too impulsive. It probably took 10 million years to perfect the first feather. Multiply this fact by the number of feathers on a goose and you will see what a vast period was needed to produce the first goose, and yet, he added smiling blandly, 'there are many men who can make a goose of themselves in 10 minutes.' 'The ass,' he averred, 'probably took an equally lengthy period to materialize while many men could and did make an ass of themselves in one minute.' This may possibly be the occupation I am engaged in at present. I shall be so judged by his ilk. These remarks were followed by an anecdote illustrating the folly of accepting the bible literally. A woman having vainly tried to subdue an incorrigible husband at length appeals to her pastor for advice and consolation. In brief the pastor recommends she 'heaps coals of fire on his head,' well she replied, 'I have tried hot water two or three times but I'll go right home and try the coals.' Then began the illusion to Jonah and the folly of accepting such silly nonsense as that the world was made in six days, a personal devil, or hell or a book of remembrance &c.

I must have nearly exhausted your patience. I know I have undertaken a task that is a great one on me as a very tired farmer who has worked hard all day in the woods with my axe and had to do this

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chores since I got home. Some will appreciate the sacrifice I am making in defence of the dear old book. I will briefly say that when I hear any one making such impious statements I simply look up what God has to say about it. With regard to the creation, I turn to Exodus 31 I read the 15 and 16 verses and then the 17th which reads as follows:—'It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth and on the seventh he rested and was refreshed. In this verse God says he created the heaven and the earth in six days. This learned young man says he did not. One of them is a liar to put it in very strong language that the force of the argument may go home. Let every one judge between this student and God. Which is right? The 'new lighters' will say 'science' proves so and so. God's word says nothing contradictory to the fact that animal life existed pre-Adamic times. We know the coal we burn today was once forests which were populated by enormous quadrupeds &c. But because the scriptures are silent on the reasons God had for destroying that world that existed prior to Adamic creation is it a reason that God should be accused of falsifying statements? Our record of creation makes no statements for or against a mighty visitation of God's wrath upon the pre-Adamic earth. That eternity alone will make clear. It simply begins the story of creation of man (in God's image). No such existence is to be found prior to Adam's exit into being. The story begins by simply saying the earth was without form and void; 'yes void of everything but darkness and spirit of God moved (or brooded) upon the face of the waters. After some vast upheaval or cataclysm of nature it is not unreasonable to expect such conditions to exist nor is it out of keeping with 'science' to believe this. Darwin, Huxley and others of gigantic minds being without guidance of the Holy Spirit failed to find these 'spiritually discerned' truths nor could God show them to them. We must come in the attitude of 'babes' if we are to learn at the feet of Jesus. If we are self-willed (wise and prudent) we repel the blessed spirit and he cannot 'take of the things of God and reveal them to us'.

The whole story is repudiated from a scientific standpoint. 'Science' says or rather higher critics say so (for science would not be capable of making such a gross error) that the whale's gullet is too small. Out of the 51 different species of whales the Greenland whale is the only one with a small gullet, it is the only one armed or having its gullet protected by whalebone created for a very special purpose but certainly not that of swallowing prophets, nor was it at all likely to wander so far as Nineveh or Joppa. Now let me quote from Mr Frank Bullen, a man who has taken a very high place in English Literature. He calls himself and was a veritable 'sea-waif'. As a boy he went on board a whaler and passed through a large experience in connection mainly with American ships. He describes a struggle with a whale one of the sperm species. 'During the conflict I had not noticed what now claimed my attention. Several great masses of what seemed transparent looking substances floated by of huge size and irregular shape. One of these curious lumps came floating as we lay and I immediately asked the mate if he could tell me what it was. He told me that when dying the cachet always ejected the contents of its stomach which were invariably composed of such masses as were before us. He believed it to be portions of cuttle fish but he was not sure, but I could bring this piece alongside if I liked. Sticking a harpoon into the lump I drew it along side and found the massive fragment of cuttle fish with six or seven discs on it. These were about as large as a saucer.' He describes another specimen of this mass ejected by another whale. 'The masses ejected,' he says, 'in this case were masses of enormous size larger than any we had seen on the voyage. Some were the size of the ship's hatch house, eight feet by six feet by six feet. Here is a mass then that went down that whale's throat 8 feet long (about 2 ft longer than the prophet). The mass was 6 feet by 6 feet (thirty six square feet) five or six times the bulk of the prophet one might judge. Just think of it, the bulk of nearly six men rolled into one had gone down the whale's throat and up through it again. Who will say in the face of Mr Bullen's statement that there is not a whale in all the seas able to swallow Jonah?

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Again the Lewiston (Me) Journal some 10 or 12 years ago contained a reprint of a whaling accident in which the captain of the boat that had been smashed to pieces by the enraged whale was swallowed and after the whale had been killed and opened the captain was found to be still breathing though unconscious and very much like a man taken from the water apparently drowned. He was resuscitated and regained his usual health to give verbal evidence in corroborating the truth of the story.

Who called it a whale? No mention is made as to the species of fish in the book of Jonah. It merely states 'God prepared a great fish'. It was Jesus Christ who called it a whale. Now either Christ was the son of the living God or he was not. He either was with the Father before the foundation of the world was laid or he was not. If he was not Christ then there are no Christians and as Paul says 'we are all of men the most miserable'. If he is 'the Christ' then he surely knew what was going on on earth while he was yet with the Father. He surely could speak with authority on the subject yet our 'new lighters' inform us it was no such thing. Well again I repeat either Jesus Christ was not truthful or these 'higher critics' are and I must certainly lay the stigma of falsity upon them. There is hardly a book in the Old Testament but has been 'backlashed' by these men. The beautiful story of Esther which was our 88 lesson a week or two ago does not escape their ruthless criticism but its truthfulness is clearly established by the keeping of the festival of Purim by the Jews for centuries afterwards in commemoration of the casting of Pur or Lot &c.

To-day the blood of Jesus that cleanses from all sin. The personal devil. The book of remembrance. The place of torment for the lost, called hell, are all expunged from the 'New Lighters' Bible. Again if Christ is the Son of God He must have had authority for His statement of the Lake of fire and brimstone—the place He consigned the lost wretches, Matt 25:41, 'Depart from me ye cursed into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.' He admits of both 'hell' and a 'devil' in this verse. But pardon me my Harvard student knows more than either God or His Son, at any rate he would like us to believe this by believing him.

To those vainly struggling in the sea of doubts created by our present day preaching let me give you Paul's advice to Timothy 'O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings and oppositions of science falsely so called which some professing—have erred from the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen. A SUBSCRIBER.

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East Newbridge.

The rain last week left the roads in a very bad condition. Mrs Tracy Clark, who has been very ill at her son's home for the past two weeks is slowly recovering, Jack and Miss Jennie McDaniel visited friends in Clarkville Sunday.

Grace, the little daughter of David Bagley who got badly bitten about the face by a dog is gaining rapidly. We are glad to hear that Jack Horton who has been away to Lewiston for the past year has returned home.

Miss Nina Martin has also returned from Southampton where she has been attending school for a few months.

Edward McDade Sr intends moving in the near future. Being an old resident of this place he will be much missed by all.

Hunting seems to be the order of the day, but most of the folks are very unsuccessful. Although one of our young men had the fortune of shooting a fine deer one day last week. A FRIEND.

Bristol. Some of our local talent are practicing for a concert to be held at Christmas.

A temperance lodge was organized here Thursday evening of last week and will meet in future every Wednesday evening.

A party given by the Misses Crandall was enjoyed by the young people Wednesday evening of last week.

Miss Core McInosh spent part of last week at Glasville.

The river opposite the village froze over on Sunday last. Storm windows and doors are beginning to make their appearance.

Miss Maude Hartley was absent one afternoon of last week attending the marriage of her sister at East Florenceville.

The roads at present are very rough in this section making hauling difficult.

Men are passing through the village daily bound for the lumber woods.

Saturday evening of last week a number of young people participated in a straw ride to East Florenceville where a pleasant evening was spent at the home of Mr and Mrs A. B. Gaines.

James E. Barter of Avondale was in town on Tuesday en route for Miramichi.

J. N. Winslow of Woodstock was in the village on Monday and Tuesday.

FIFTH Maritime Winter Fair.

Under the auspices of the Dominion, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Departments of Agriculture and the Maritime Stock Breeders' Association.

AN EXHIBITION OF FAT CATTLE, SHEEP, SWINE, POULTRY, APPLES, APIARY, SEED GRAIN AND POTATOES.

At AMHERST, Dec. 4th, 5th, 6th & 7th, 1905.

The Greatest Educational Event along Agricultural Lines ever held in the Maritime Provinces.

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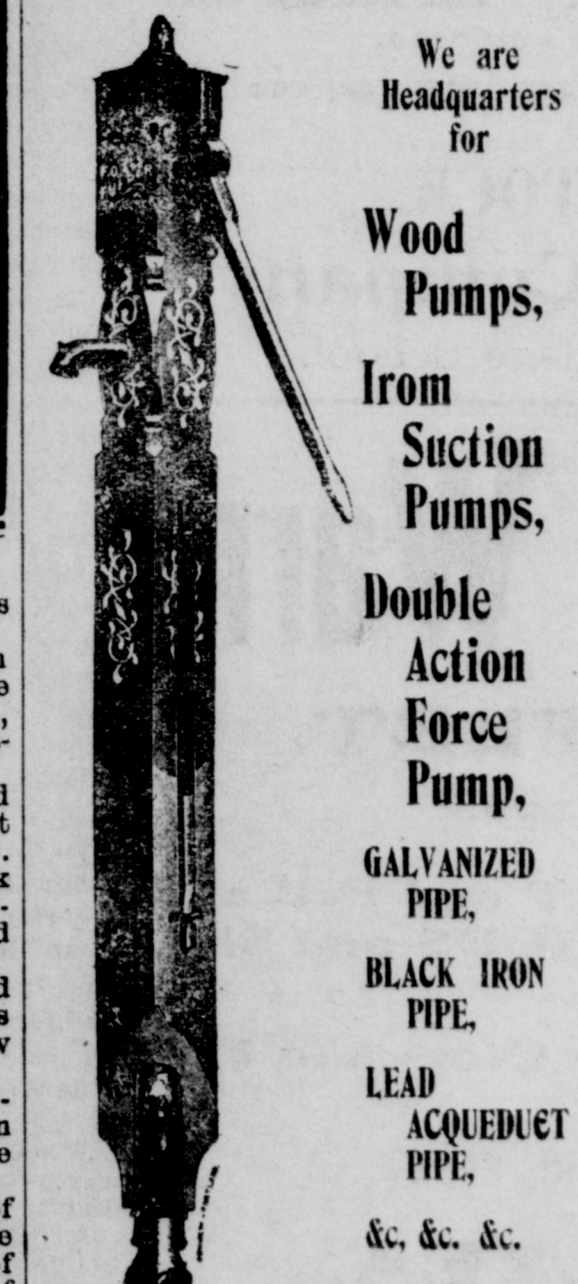
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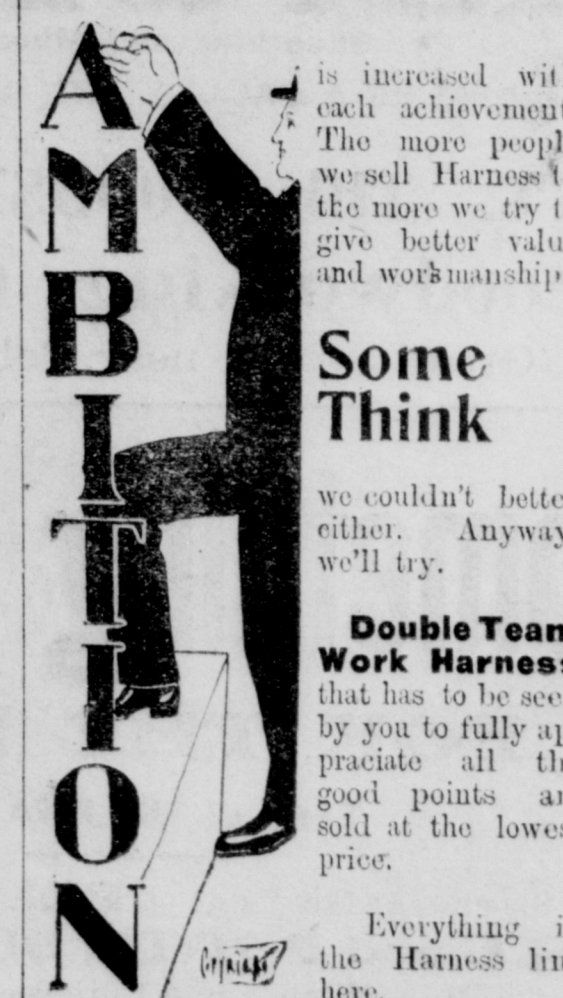
TENDER,

SEALED TENDERS marked "Tender" will be received by the undersigned until twelve o'clock noon of the 31st day of December, 1905, for the construction of two vans for the conveyance of children to Conn. School Florenceville, with a capacity to carry thirty and forty children respectively, of an average age of twelve years. To be fitted with running gear for both winter and summer, and to be so constructed that they may be easily changed from one to the other, also that the sides may be opened in fine, and closed in stormy weather. To have spring cushions and backs with leather coverings. All material and workmanship must be first-class in every particular. Each tender must be accompanied by accurate specifications of vans for the approval of trustees. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Each tender must be accompanied by a deposit of \$20 in cash or certified cheque, which will be forfeited if the party to whom the contract is awarded fails to sign a contract according to the form accorded upon by the trustees, prior to December 12th, 1905. Unsuccessful tenderers will have their deposit returned.

JOHN N. PERRY, Secretary, Connell, N. B.

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Suits, Overcoats, Trousers, Underwear of every description, Outside Shirts, 20 different varieties, a large range of Sweaters, Jumpers, Overalls and Cardigan Jackets, splendid Fur and Fur lined Caps, Leather Fleece Lined MITTENS and GLOVES, a large range of MUFFLERS. These

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