Dr. Cumming and Dr. Scott.

Our readers remember the charges made by *Norton's Literary Gazette*, against the Rev. Dr. Scott of New Orleans, of using Dr. Cumming's writings, without credit, in preparing his work on Daniel. Dr. Cumming himself has frequently been accused of taking similar liberties with other authors. The *Presbyterian Herald* publishes a letter received by the editor from Dr. Cumming, in which he thus expresses himself:

"My humble belief is, that a very unnecessary severity of criticism has fallen on Dr. Scott. He alludes to my lecturers, commends them to the study of his audience, and having thereby evinced his acquaintance with the volume, it was natural that incidental ideas, which had any point, should be adopted by him, and that the language in which he first saw them clothed should, without any deliberate appropriation, inevitably adhere.

"The fact is, I have no belief in originality in the year 1855. It is wonderful to notice how very little of it exists in modern literature. I candidly own that in any thing I have written I never aspired to be original.—I employed such ideas as memory, and pretty extensive reading, called up, and never stopped to inquire whether I was inventor or mere unconscious vehicle; and my impression is that all I have ever said or written has been better said or written before I was born.—Most of my writings were lectures or sermons delivered from notes, taken down in shorthand, corrected and printed. I never heard or read any charge against the originality of my lectures on Daniel; but I have no doubt that dry toilers, who will take the trouble to read Bishop Newton, Sir Isaac Newton, Wintle, and Fick, may succeed in making out a good case.

"An Independent minister in Hampshire, well known to me, has engaged his full force in this line in reference to my lectures on the Miracles, and he traces an identity between some of them and Trench's. I stated in the preface that I was largely indebted to Olshausen and Trench for valuable interpretations and solutions of difficulties. Trench takes largely from Olshausen. I have taken ideas, though, not to my knowledge, a single sentence, from both. But I dare say, a careful analysis might detect more than I am aware of. My design in preaching and writing is to win souls, impress the conscience, and unfold God's holy word; and any attacks on my originality I take as compliments to the force of truth, which thus receives a sort of *consensus* from many; and were there less personal jealousy in critics—who, like poets, belong to the *irritabile genus*—and more earnest desire to see truth vindicated, there would be less of such trifling. I am very deeply indebted to the vigorous writers of your great country; but even some of them could be brought in more guilty than Dr. Scott. It is eminently puerile to select a few sentences from a long lecture, and on the strength of such a collection bring in Dr. Scott a plagiarist. I know nothing [illegible] daily, nor by writing of the clergyman [illegible] question, and nothing more of the dispute than what I have seen in Norton and some other papers; but I feel obliged by his commendation of my volume on Daniel, which has really nothing to commend it, but the earnest convictions it expresses, and the direct and intelligible language in which old truths are conveyed."

THE WAR.

From the letter of a Chaplain of the Church of England, dated Scutari, Jan. 21.

I think I see some improvement here: and I *hear* that things begin to look better at Sebastopol. But it seems awful work. We receive patients as fast as they die or become convalescent. The deaths here range from 40 to 50 per diem still. In the midst of this gloom the spiritual work is cheering, and would be more so if it *could be done* satisfactorily. But it is impossible to do this; and "panting time toils after it in vain." All that I can do is to pray that I may, each day, be led blind, and led right, to those who are most in need, and that I may be able to speak the right words and give the right tracts, by some special superintendence of Providence and grace, for to do the work systematically is quite impossible. I have from 600 to 800 men, and these perpetually shifting, and often a certain per cent. dying and a certain per centage growing convalescent and sent off, and their niches filled up by new arrivals, some of whom are in a dying state. I have two corridors, and these contain about 150 men: and off these corridors I have 13 wards, containing each from 20 to 50 men. To visit these individually every day is impossible; to visit them systematically is imperfect work, for many would never be seen at all, as they come and die or go, so it is a great work of faith. However, I meet many interesting cases, some of poor youths not twenty years of age, who have bitterly felt the evil of their ways, others of older men brought to reflection by their awful circumstances. The bedside attendances on these are very exciting and interesting; but owing to the foulness of the air, and the variety of morbid matter, the vast number to be attended to, and the lack of help to do it, the fear is that the work must be slackened or the evangelist break down. I have tried to work six or seven hours a-day, but I find symptoms of failing. The experienced men tell me that [illegible] in spell of two hours at a [illegible] can in such an atmosphere [illegible] done. This may be so, and [illegible] much must be left undone, [illegible] minutes to each man would [illegible] run through 48 men per diem, and [illegible] only one minute on the average to each man would only go through 240 men per diem. So it must be a work of random and of faith to some extent, when you have 600 to look to.

I had been much interested for a poor fellow, Sergeant ——, whom I found in one of the wards, about three weeks ago. His fine face and noble spirit caught me, but I found him ignorant of spiritual truth, though anxious for it. He was simple and single-minded, and used to follow me verbally in prayer, and was always glad to see me, and to hear the simple tidings of salvation. I have seen the tears run down his cheek, and his eyes beam with pleasure, as I recited some of the simpler and plainer gospel texts, on which he appeared to feed. The day before yesterday (15th Jan.) I had been engaged with many dying men and new cases; and I was going home to luncheon, at half-past two o'clock, rather exhausted, when I passed his ward. His name occurred to my mind, and I intended to visit him on my return; but after I had passed the door, a man came out, and called after me, that —— wished much to see me. I immediately returned, and went into the room, and I shall never forget the face of that poor man. He lay stretched on his back, and with his feeble arms he threw the blanket off his bed, and stretched out both of his emaciated arms, as if to welcome me to his embrace, while his eyes beamed with delight. I went and kneeled beside him, and he said that he wished to have "the Communion" before he died. I told him not to depend upon that. He said, "Oh no; you, Sir, have led me to Christ, and I depend on Him; but I should like once before I die to partake of the sacrament." I said he should do so, of course. He asked me "when?" I replied, "This very evening." He seemed satisfied, and after some conversation I left him. I felt it was necessary for me to breathe some fresh air, and eat something; but I did not like to leave him so long as this required, and I therefore sent another chaplain to him immediately, who administered the sacrament. In the evening, about four o'clock, I returned to his ward, and found him alive and intelligent, and glad to see me again. He said he was weak, and could not follow me in prayer with words, as he was accustomed to do, but he wanted me to pray. I did so, and I heard him follow me in whispers; and whenever I ceased he said—"More prayer; I want more prayer." I went on for nearly half an hour, and still he drank it in. At length I concluded with the benediction, and he pressed my hand affectionately. On returning next morning, I learned he had died about fifteen minutes after I left him. Poor fellow; I hope he found rest on the Rock of Ages. These are the things that while they repay our work, do yet affect the mind with sad thoughts about the little that is done, and the much remaining undone. Yet this is not a solitary case; and you will easily see how impossible it is amidst such numbers of divers minds and conditions to do the work that is to be done satisfactorily.

However, it is the best part of the work here, because it is in wiser hands than ours.

Lady——has had consigned to her charge the most wretched set of poor women—soldiers' wives—wretched physically and morally, in bodily filth and moral degradation. They seem to have been abandoned by every one successively as a hopeless concern. But we are both of opinion this is not the way of Christ with sinners; and that kindness may perhaps do something when military discipline has failed. At all events she is trying. Will you, therefore, help her by getting out some flannel, through the instrumentality of some of our good friends, either as a contribution, or to be paid for, and you will be helping in a good work. If sent to the care of "Valsamachy Brothers," with a notification to them and another to me of all particulars, it will, I dare say, soon come to hand.

The necessity of taking immediate sanitary precautions has now been forced on the authorities of the town by the outbreak of a very virulent description of fever at Balaklava, and which is beginning to spread. On the 17th, a kind of council was held at Balaklava, over which Sir Colin Campbell presided, and promised that the work of cleansing the town and its neighbourhood should commence that very day. If any man can remedy the evil, it is Sir Colin Campbell. Throughout the whole campaign he has shown himself the steadiest and most energetic of our generals, and since the death of Cathcart and the departure of Sir De Lacy Evans and Pennefather, is most certainly the only general in whom the whole force places entire confidence.

Many of the men have been supplied with excellent fur cloaks and coats, apparently of Canadian manufacture; and some with boots of Russian leather, which will effectually resist the snowwater. The supplies of clothing distributed up to this date do not suffice by any means for the requirements of the troops. A few days more well employed may, however, enable our troops to clothe themselves.

Eupatoria.

The *Moniteur* contains a letter, dated Eupatoria, 9th inst., from which we extract the following:

"Eupatoria is the chief town of one of the four districts into which the Crimea is divided. It is inhabited by farmers and shepherds, who possess an immense number of oxen and sheep, and fertile lands, part of which only are cultivated. The population, which is 9000 souls in ordinary times, amounts to-day 35,000, a great number of inhabitants of the country ravaged by the Russians having sought refuge within its walls under the protection of the allied Powers. This population almost composed of Karait Jews, and Tartars, live by trade and agriculture, one branch of which, that of lambskins, commonly called lambs of Astrakhan, notwithstanding their origin, is well known throughout Europe. The country around is flat, with here and there some tumuli of gentle elevation, and hillock, which form a sort of enclosure round the town, and on the summit of which are stationed the [illegible] of the Turkish cavalry. Twelve or fifteen hundred yards further are the Russian scouts, who observe them, and often exchange shots with them. During the day the Tartars advance as far as that line, and leave their oxen, sheep, dromedaries, and camels to graze in the fields until sunset, when they return somewhat hastily to the town, from fear of the Cossacks who are continually watching them. Eupatoria is to-day a military point of the highest importance for the allies. From that place, now well fortified, they can operate on the rear of the enemy, and proceed, in three different directions towards Simpheropol, which is 60 kilometres distant therefrom, to Bakshi-serai, at a distance of 68 kilometres, or to Perekop, from which it is only separated by 105 kilometres. Those three points contain all the magazines and the reserves of the Russian army. Although protected of late by extensive works of defence, they are, nevertheless vulnerable and may be seriously menaced. Since the occupation of Eupatoria, the Russians have maintained in the neighbourhood a division of cavalry, composed of two regiments of Dragoons, four regiments of Lancers, and a corps of 1000 or 1200 Cossacks, with 32 field guns. This division is under the command of General Hizba, who has his head-quarters at Oraz, 10 kilometres distant from Eupatoria. This force has made several attacks against the feeble garrison at Eupatoria, which were always repulsed. The Russians destroyed the crops, rooted up the trees, burnt the villages, and sacked all the houses for a distance of nearly 30 kilometres round the place. The whole country was given up to plunder and devastation. On the 6th December the Russians made a last fruitless attack, and since then they have not re-appeared. The place now is in a perfect state of defence. On the 9th of December, the first Turkish troops of Omar Pasha's army began to arrive. The movement has since continued, and to-day the first corps, under the command of Mehemet Ferik Pasha, general of division, is quartered in the town, independently of the 25,000 Tartar refugees, can shelter 15,000 men and upwards of 1200 horses. The remainder of the Ottoman army, which, it is said, will consist of 50,000 men, is to encamp outside the town, in good positions. The place is perfectly fortified and able to resist any attack. Our men are now completing a number of closed and insolated redoubts on the line of hills above mentioned, and I may venture to say that Eupatoria will soon be one of the strongest and most useful towns to the allies in the Crimea."

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I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
(Signed) GEO. SINCLAIR.

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Copy of a Letter from Mr. Edward Tomkinson, of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, dated the 4th May, 1854.

To Professor Holloway,

Sir,—My sister, Miss Jane Tomkinson, suffered for a great number of years from a bad leg; in which there were several deeply rooted and old wounds, defying the skill of some of the most eminent of the medical faculty, a variety of remedies were also used unsuccessfully; and it seemed to me that there was not any thing capable of mitigating the agonies she endured. At length, she had recourse to your Ointment and Pills, and after using them for about five weeks, she was completely cured, after all other means had failed to afford her the slighest relief. I have no objection to these facts being published, if you feel disposed to make them known.

I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,
EDWD. TOMKINSON.

A BAD BREAST CURED WHEN AT DEATHS DOOR!!

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Henry Malden, of Three Rivers, Canada West, dated July 9th, 1854.

To Professor Holloway,

Sir,—My wife suffered severely after the birth of our last child with a bad breast. There were several holes in it, one as large as a hand; all the devices and stratagems I tried would not heal them, but assumed an aspect more frightful than before, and horrible to behold. As a last resource I tried your Ointment and Pills which she persevered with for seven weeks, at the expiration of that time her breast was almost well; by continuing with your remedies for two more weeks, she was entirely cured, and we offer you our united thanks for the cure effected.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
(Signed) HENRY MALDEN.

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The Library consists of upwards of 1000 volumes, and the Seminary is provided with apparatus which cost above £200. To both Library and apparatus the Synod is making annual additions.

The next term will commence on the first Wednesday in March 1855, and close on the first Wednesday in September following.

Introductory Lecture by Professor McCulloch.

Applicants for admission must meet the Board at the Seminary on the day previous to the commencement of the term.

By order of the Board,
JAMES WATSON, Secretary.
Theological Seminary, West River, Pictou, Nov. 1, 1854.

J. S. CUNNABELL.

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100 puns Rum, 14 to 60 per cent over proof
30 hhds and quarter casks GIN, DeKuypers
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