

Bentinck Council.

Bentinck Council met in Reid's Hanover, on Monday the 24th Feb., Members all present. The Reeve carried.

Received from Charles F. and 28 others, asking council to have John, son of the late Purvis, sent to the Deaf and Dumb.

Mr. McCallum, seconded by Mr. and 28 others, asking council to have John, son of the late Purvis, sent to the Deaf and Dumb.

Mr. McCallum, seconded by Mr. and 28 others, asking council to have John, son of the late Purvis, sent to the Deaf and Dumb.

Mr. Laidlaw, seconded by Mr. and 28 others, asking council to have John, son of the late Purvis, sent to the Deaf and Dumb.

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Scripture—the Interpretation and Knowledge.

God created schools to educate and qualify men for the duties of the prophetic office. Christ himself taught and trained the twelve for the functions of the apostolic office, etc. He gave them the commission—Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. In pursuance of this, the Divine plan, the church has always required men to be thoroughly educated for the ministry, etc. they were allowed to preach the gospel. Intellectual culture, on the part of the ministry, is necessary that they may be workmen that need not be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth. Intellectual training, on the part of the ministry, is necessary that they may conduct processes of thought, lead trains of thought and make statements with clearness. Scholarship, on the part of the ministry is necessary that they may read the scriptures in the original, use the grammar and lexicon, all exegetical and hermeneutic appliances. Such a preparation is doubtless necessary for the work of the ministry: but there are men now-a-days who look upon such attainments unnecessary, and therefore useless: who read the Bible in a manner that can never give them a true and comprehensive knowledge of it. Let us trace out this thought.

The study of God's word without helps. It is a very common thing to talk about studying the Bible without any human help to its understanding; but such a thing as that is really out of the question. No man studies the Bible without help from his fellows. And commonly it is he who rests most blindly on other people's declarations of the meaning of the Bible statements, who is loudest in the assertion that he wants no outside help in Bible study.

It is not true that the best Bible students reject all human help in Bible study. It is commonly those who study the Bible least, and who are readiest to accept what others say about it, who talk most of their studying the Bible exclusively. A gentleman called into Mr. Moody's room, and found the evangelist at his work of Bible study with a number of commentaries at hand on his table. This greatly surprised the visitor. "What, Mr. Moody?" he said, "do you use commentaries?" "Of course I do," was the answer. "Well, I'm sorry to know it. I thought you used no human help in study. I am afraid I shan't have so much interest hereafter in hearing you talk about the Bible." "Did you ever like what I said in explaining the Bible?" asked Mr. Moody. "Oh yes! very much," said the visitor. "Well, that was my commentary. So it seems you have liked commentaries." It would certainly be poor policy to accept without hesitation what Dwight L. Moody, or Henry Varley, or Harry Mordecai, says: "I do not forget that the best of men are men at the least, that the print of our fingers is seen on all our works, and that they are not spotless. But if we do not grow out of even genuine revivals, we will not, therefore, run down the work of revival. In revivals, as well as in all work, it is human to err."

A sentence or two close of Dr. Palmer's sketch of impressionable influences of Messrs. Moody and Sankey in Philadelphia, it seems *implausible*. *frame*, *petty*, *criticisms*, *on*, *as*, *while*, *a*, *work*, *and*, *on*, *sophis*, *and*, *so*, *proper*, *means*, *of*, *promoting*! After highly commending their work, he says: "I do not forget that the best of men are men at the least, that the print of our fingers is seen on all our works, and that they are not spotless. But if we do not grow out of even genuine revivals, we will not, therefore, run down the work of revival. In revivals, as well as in all work, it is human to err."

Many of such defects as the above are incidental to Christian life in general and to revivalism in particular; not while they may grow out of even genuine revivals, but when they would be near the truth.

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