

In a very instructive address on Church Music delivered in his own church the other day, the Rev. Mr. Macdonnell said :

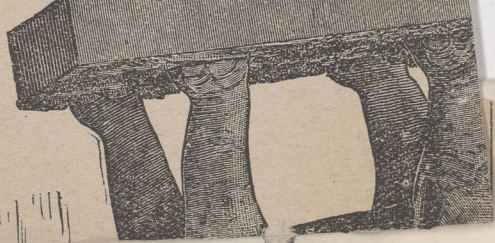
One of my earliest recollections in connection with instrumental music is a meeting in 1860 in the old city of Kingston. I was a student at the time, and went to hear a capital debate—though the subject seems now a little ludicrous—on the question whether St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, should be allowed to introduce a little larger harmonium or not. The whole question of instrumental music was brought up by the fathers, who were determined to contend for principle. When one recollects the solemn predictions of disaster which were to befall the Church if this church were allowed to introduce a larger harmonium, the thing is now very absurd.

There were several other unfulfilled predictions made about the same time. When the negotiations were going on that led to the union of 1865, it was predicted that there would be a very serious split in the Free Church if the union took place. It was also predicted that the union of 1875 would produce a second Disruption. When leave was given to congregations that so desired to use hymns and instrument, it was said that a serious rupture would immediately occur. It was predicted that the Gaelic men of Huron, Bruce and other places would secede. As a matter of fact the first and, we believe, only split of any account that occurred because of the organ took place, not in Huron or Bruce, but in the great commercial city of Montreal. That secession was led, not by the Highlanders, so often alluded to during the agitation, but by the most learned man in the Dominion. These things are now matters of history, but they have a moral,—*never prophesy unless you have the gift.*  
Canada Presbyterian Feb 19/85

Feb 19 Feb 4/85

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to increase the spiritual  
life of the members.



Thursday 19 Feb / 85  
Sir John Dawson  
My dear Sir

The enclosed I have  
cut out of the last  
number issued of  
Canada Presbyterian, do  
you think it worth  
while to take any notice  
of it? Certainly the  
general introduction  
of organs, anthems  
or have not tended  
to increase the spiritual  
life of the members.

and we do not see  
~~that~~ increased interest  
in Missions of the Church  
which we might reasonably  
look for in a Church  
numerically as strong  
as Presbyterianism  
in Canada. It is  
also painfully evident  
that the anti-separatist  
element is weakening  
and cannot be otherwise  
so long as the young  
remain without instruction  
as to what is their duty  
in regard to worship  
in our Churches, we need  
a Pastor in sympathy with  
our views. Excuse my thus  
troubling you at any time  
W. D. S. D. S.

Hyndale  
Feb/88

Dear Mother  
I received your letter  
in the morning of the 2nd  
and we were right away  
back for our church  
services only as they  
are very far on the  
in Canada, I  
hope you are well  
that the weather is  
element is not  
and cannot be  
colored as the  
remain without  
as what is there  
in regard to  
in our church we  
I hope to be  
our services  
I hope you are  
well