

that any thing but immersion was the mode of baptism in Apostolic times. But, alas! in these days we see sad departures from Apostolic teaching. On one hand unconscious babes are sprinkled, and are said to be baptized, regenerated, and made children of God. And on the other hand some who profess to be believers in Christ refuse to be baptized at all, thus making the command of Jesus of no effect.

Is it not possible that Jesus is saying of those who teach and practice contrary to His Word and example, "In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men!" There is a great cry for union now-a-days by certain preachers. They say, especially to Baptists, away with sectarianism, let us all unite; and truly it is to be deplored that there are so many sects among professing christians. But the union so much to be desired can only be realized when, instead of the opinions of men and the decrees of councils, the Bible alone shall have become the law-book of every professing christian. It is better to stand alone with God and His Word than to make a compromise with those who hate and despise the example and command of Jesus. When Baptists are invited to mount an union team, would it not be well, before accepting the invitation, to observe well whether it is moving toward Jerusalem or Babylon. There need be no mistake; if the directors require that any portion of God's Word shall be suppressed, then for certain they are moving toward the latter. Now some modern, far-famed Revivalists seem to resemble Jehu of old. They drive fast, display great zeal for God in slaying the worshippers of Baal. No one can doubt but that they are in this respect doing the will of God. They cause a great sensation. The inhabitants of cities and villages are moved, and there is, without doubt, some reform. "But, nevertheless, the high places are not removed." Jeroboam's calves are still worshipped. Now those calves were made in order to prevent the ten tribes from going up to Jerusalem, as God had commanded them to do, and to turn their hearts away from the appointed worship of the true God. So, says Jeroboam to the people, it is too much for you to go to Jerusalem. Behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. Now these calves of gold became the great sin of Israel, for although they had many other idols, yet we find that none were so aggravating to God, and none so hard to part with as these. There were many reformers from time to time in Israel, and many idols were destroyed, but those calves remained until Israel was carried captive to Assyria. (See Hosea 10, 5-6, and 2nd Kings, 17, 22-23.) Now the golden calves of christendom are Infant Baptism (so-called) and Baptismal Regeneration. Inasmuch as they are regarded by a large proportion of professing christians more than the example and teaching of Christ, the originators of the error thought it more convenient, and so recommended it. And although there have been from time to time, all along through the past history of christianity, great Reformers, who have been the means, under God, of great good, still these calves are not destroyed, but are to this day the great sin of many of the so-called Christian denominations. Now for Baptists to agree to labour in union meetings with those who hold to such grievous errors, and where Christ's example and last and great command must not be faithfully and prominently presented for fear of offending co-workers or some of the congregation, is not wise. So did not Paul. He could say, I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. The whole truth will doubtless offend some. When Jesus preached and fed the hungry multitudes he gained many followers, but when he told them no man can come unto Me except the Father which hath sent Me draw him; and that except they should eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of Man they could have no life in them, (see the 6th Chapter of John), from that time many of His disciples went away and walked no more with Him. "It is enough that the servant be as his Lord." No desire to retain large audiences, or fear of offending their dearest friends, can justify God's servants in shunning to declare all that Jesus has commanded. It is reported that in some of those union meetings,

when persons have professed to have been converted, and have become convinced that they ought to be immersed, according to New Testament teachings, and have asked to be baptized, that they have been told by the leaders of the meeting that it is of no consequence, and that they had better say nothing about it, at least, until these union meetings cease. Now, may it not be asked, where in the New Testament can be found a command or even a permission for a believer not to be baptized, or even to put it off for a single day? To the law and to the testimony, God's word is to be the christian's light and guide. And, says Paul to the Ephesians, "walk as children of light, proving what is acceptable unto the Lord, and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate saith the Lord. Let Baptists see to it that they be not entangled with error, however anxious they may feel to be united with others in revival work. But perhaps some of those union brethren will say, although we unite with Pedobaptists and others in revival meetings, we do not thereby embrace or even favor their errors. They may think so; but if they agree to suppress or mystify the plain teachings of Christ and the Apostles, or not to expose what they know to be errors in religion, in order to please brethren of other denominations, are they not in effect saying of them, "Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves." (See Hosea 13, 2.) Let whatever doctrine or practice that has not a Thus saith the Lord, for it, be faithfully denounced; and every command and example of Jesus be faithfully taught and obeyed. "The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream, and he that hath My word let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the Lord." (Jeremiah 23, 28.) Now it is evident from the passages cited at the beginning of this article that the first duty of a penitent believer is to be baptized. But then, after all, baptism is but as it were the first step in the christian race, the putting on of the badge of the christian soldier. The race has yet to be run, the battle yet to be fought. Perhaps it is not so easy to get to heaven as some people suppose. While it is doubtless true that all who do truly believe on Christ will be saved, in spite of the world, the flesh and the devil, it is equally true that they will have to contend with the world, the flesh and the devil to the very end of the race, and it is folly to teach or think otherwise, for it is written, "All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day." Now, to enquirers after truth and duty we would recommend a careful examination of the 5th, 6th and 7th Chapters of Matthew, and the 12th of Romans, and also of the whole Bible, but especially of the New Testament. Let no one delude you with the idea that any other book or pamphlet, by whomsoever written, can possibly direct so well and safely as God's Book. Take the Bible and seek by earnest prayer the aid of the Holy Spirit to enable you to understand what God has therein revealed, and be resolved to follow where God's Word and Spirit direct. Before choosing any course, know from the Bible alone that you have in that blessed book a Thus saith the Lord, and having that, go forward in the fear of God, trusting in Him alone for the victory, in whom none ever trusted and were confounded. And

Never think the victory won,
Nor lay thine armor down;
Thy arduous work will not be done
Till thou obtain thy crown.

The conflict may be long and severe, but for the obedient trusting child of God, there is a certain victory at last, Jesus has not said in vain, "Lo! I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Remember, to obey, is better than sacrifice. The genuineness of our faith in Christ is greatly to be doubted, if we can set at naught, or refuse to obey, any one of His plain commands or examples.

Dear Reader, may it be ours at the end of our pilgrimage, to be able to say with the Apostle, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 2 Tim. iii. 7. Then, When we pass through yonder river,
When we reach the farther shore,
There's an end of war forever;
We shall see our foes no more;
All our conflicts then shall cease,
Followed by eternal peace.

R. S. MORTON.

For the Christian Messenger. Contributions to Home Missionary Union, received by Rev. J. H. Robbins, General Agent:—

PORT WILLIAMS, ANNAPOLIS CO.	
Joseph Graves.....	\$1 00
Rev. J. Bleakney.....	0 50
J. M. Dunn.....	0 25
Right Hand.....	1 00
W. A. Daltar.....	0 50
Collections.....	0 68
Total Port Williams.....	\$3 93
Evergreen Collections.....	2 15
Rev. W. E. Hall.....	1 00
D. Fale.....	0 50
Simeon Harris.....	1 00
J. R. Stronach.....	0 25
David Bent.....	0 50
Mrs. E. Downie.....	0 60
Edward Harris.....	1 00
Prince Albert St., Col.....	\$7 00
Geo. Armstrong.....	2 35
Geo. Armstrong.....	0 75
Total.....	\$3 13
MELVERN SQUARE.	
Collection.....	1 92
S. Spurr.....	1 00
Mrs. Phinney.....	0 50
Prof. Gates.....	1 00
Rev. O. Parker.....	1 00
Spinney.....	0 50
Total Upper Wilmot Church.....	\$5 92
PINE GROVE.	
Collection.....	2 04
Mount Hanley Collection.....	1 14
Mrs. Parker Dodge.....	1 00
Miss L. W. Parker.....	0 50
J. W. North.....	1 00
Mrs. Morse.....	0 50
O. Dodge.....	1 00
Geo. Dodge.....	1 00
Walter Welton.....	1 00
Rev. W. G. Parker.....	0 50
Mrs. W. F. Marshall.....	0 50
W. H. Miller.....	0 25
Mrs. J. W. Chipman.....	0 75
Mrs. T. Marshall.....	0 25
J. Dodge.....	1 00
Miss C. Dodge.....	0 50
J. N. Dodge.....	1 00
Theodore Marshall.....	0 15
Miss Bessie Dodge.....	0 15
E. G. Dodge.....	0 50
Mrs. Abbe Dodge.....	0 50
Mrs. McGregor.....	0 50
O. M. Taylor.....	0 50
Mrs. O. M. Taylor.....	0 35
Fred Taylor.....	0 15
Mrs. E. Morse.....	0 25
Geo. Neily.....	1 00
Miss M. Gibson.....	0 25
J. McKeown.....	0 50
Mrs. J. McKeown.....	0 50
A. C. Woodberry.....	0 25
Jessie Woodberry.....	0 50
James Morton.....	1 00
H. Shafner.....	1 00
Mrs. H. Shafner.....	0 50
Friend.....	1 00
S. Roop.....	0 50
Mrs. S. Roop.....	0 50
Mrs. D. Findel.....	0 75
Mrs. Millbury.....	0 50
Thomas Marshall.....	1 00
Miss E. Brown.....	0 50
Mr. McGregor.....	0 50
Mrs. Dr. Woodberry.....	0 50
Mrs. J. Morton.....	0 50
S. Wheelock.....	0 50
Joseph C. Neily.....	1 00
Mrs. I. Morse.....	0 50
Miss E. Randolph.....	0 25
Englis Phinney.....	1 00
E. S. Dodge.....	1 00
Mrs. E. S. Dodge.....	0 50
Miss A. North.....	0 60
Mrs. A. Phinney.....	0 50
George North.....	1 00
Wm. North.....	1 00
A. W. P. Dodge.....	0 50
Miss E. S. Harding.....	1 00
Mrs. Ambrose Dodge.....	0 25
Total.....	\$39 08
French Mission—PINE GROVE.	
Mrs. O. Dodge.....	1 00
Mrs. J. North.....	1 00
Miss A. Dodge.....	0 80
George Dodge.....	0 50
Mrs. W. G. Parker.....	0 50
Mrs. J. W. Chipman.....	0 50
Mrs. I. Dodge.....	0 50
Mrs. Geo. Dodge.....	0 50
Mrs. Abbie Dodge.....	0 50
Mrs. Geo. Neily.....	1 00
Mrs. R. Dodge.....	0 50
Dr. Woodberry.....	1 00
Total Pine Grove Church.....	\$7 38
Canard.....	8 64
Kentville.....	3 84
Hantsport Col.....	0 42
E. Davidson.....	1 00
Mrs. W. Holmes.....	0 50
R. Shaw.....	1 05
S. Taylor.....	0 50
Friend.....	0 75
W. A. Porter.....	2 00
Friend.....	0 20
W. M. Barker.....	0 25
G. L. Pelton.....	0 25
Friend.....	0 20
Hantsport Church paid.....	\$7 12
Falmouth Col.....	2 40
Mrs. Shaw.....	0 50
Ellershouse Col.....	\$2 90
Mrs. Wier.....	1 50
Mrs. Wier.....	1 00
Total.....	\$2 50

Billtown..... \$1 80
Mrs. P. Saunders..... 1 00
New Germany..... 2 42
Bridgewater..... 3 71
Pleasantville..... 1 10
Mahone Bay..... 12 40
Chester Basin..... 1 78
Chester Town..... 3 46
Dr. G. E. DeWitt..... 2 50

Total..... 7 73

Geo. Young, Blanford..... 2 00
Ingram River..... 1 45
Indian Harbor..... 1 16
Hammond's Plains..... 4 00
3rd Halifax Church..... 6 75
Mount Uniacke..... 1 50
Tobacco money..... 3 00
Left Hand..... 2 43
Mrs. Levi Dimock..... 0 25
Rawdon Church..... 6 25
Cambridge Church..... 4 23

BEAVER RIVER.

Collections..... \$6 22
Israel McCormick..... 0 50
Enos Raymond..... 1 00
David Floyd..... 1 00
Geo. G. Crosby..... 1 00
Asael Goudy..... 0 50
S. P. Raymond..... 5 00
David Crosby..... 1 00
Cyrus Perry..... 1 00
Alfred Perry..... 0 84

Total Paid..... \$18 06
A. H. Scott..... 2 00

It is due to some of the Churches where small sums are reported to mention, that, in some of them, subscriptions were taken at the meetings and left to be collected and forwarded either to the agent of the Board, or sent to the Association. I have reported only what was paid. In some churches also a good monthly or quarterly system was found in operation which it was thought best not to interrupt, and in such cases the amounts reported are extras.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

SHELburne COUNTY.—Dear Editor,—The Revival of God's work and the salvation of sinners is good news at all times, I wish to say a few words about the goodness of our Heavenly Father toward the Church at Lewis Head a part of my circuit. In the latter part of March we commenced holding some special services, humbly praying that our Heavenly Father would water his thirsty vineyard. The prayers of the people were heard and answered, backsliders were made to rejoice and sinners were converted to God.

Since then I have had the pleasure of baptizing eleven, mostly young men and women, who bid fair to be useful members of the Church of Christ. This is the first ingathering since I have had the pastoral care of this church. But such are the dealings of God with man, that while he gives rejoicing seasons he also sends occasion for mourning. Bro. Wilson and Mary M. McMillan have to mourn the loss of their son John, aged 18 years, a young man much beloved by all who knew him. He departed trusting in Jesus April 12th, 1877.

May the great Comforter impart to them and their family the consolation they so much need.

Yours in Christ,
J. F. McKENNE.

East Ragged Island, May 19, 1877.

DEDICATION.—The new meeting-house in Masstown, Londonderry, was opened according to announcement on Sabbath 13th inst. Rev. D. W. Crandall preached in the morning from 2 Tim. 2, 3; Rev. A. E. Ingram in the afternoon, from 2 Cor. 5, 10-11, and Rev. S. March in the evening, from Is. 2, 2-3. The day was fine, the preaching was good, the congregations attentive, and the presence of the Master was realized. The building is a credit to the community, and will, we trust, through Divine consecration, become the birth-place of many precious souls. M. P. F.

DIGBY.—The labors of Rev. Joseph A. Saunders have been blessed to this church and congregation. There have been thirty-seven received into the church within a few months past—twenty-two by baptism and fifteen by letter.

BLISSFIELD, N. B.—Rev. W. M. Edwards writes the Visitor May 14: A sacred and glad spirit entered our conference meeting held on Saturday, May 12. One young sister said, "I have long wished for the Christian hope—Jesus, within the veil is my hope; I rejoice to-day I have the Christian's hope—Christ in my heart, the hope of glory."

The love of God in the souls of his children burst forth in songs of praise:

All hail, atoning blood!
All hail redeeming grace!
All hail, the gift of Christ our Lord!
Our strength and righteousness.

Seven happy converts told their experience, and were received for baptism. On Sunday, May 13th, we met on the bank of the Miramichi River, where friends of the candidates and people from afar came to witness the solemn ordinance of believers' baptism. The seven were buried with Christ in baptism, and like the Eunuch went on their way rejoicing. In all twenty-nine have been baptized up to date.

St. JOHN, N. B. Brussels Street Baptist Church is being supplied for two or three weeks by Rev. A. J. Wilcox, of Ticonderoga, N. Y.

PRESBYTERIAN.—Rev. George Horne, parish minister, Port Glasgow, missed his footing and fell into the harbour while stepping ashore from a new ship which he had been showing to his son, a little boy of six years. Mr. Horne was rescued from the water, but he died on the following morning from the injuries sustained by the fall.

THE GOSPEL IN SIAM.—The Rev. S. G. McFarland, of the Presbyterian mission in Siam writes from Petchaburi that "every feature of our work here is encouraging. The congregations are larger and more interested than ever. The spirit of enquiry is more manifest among the people than formerly. At our last Communion, the first Sabbath of July, three persons were added, on examination and baptism, to this church. Others are enquiring." The Government has granted the request of the missionaries to allow the native Christians to take the Christian oath, instead of the pagan oath; but it refuses to allow the noblemen to swear their allegiance to the King by any but the old pagan oath. As one of the noblemen is much interested in Christianity, the refusal is a disappointment to the missionaries. Polygamy is another obstacle to the conversion of the nobility.

Pan-Presbyterianism in both hemispheres—in the Old World and the New—has been seized with a desire to modify its Confession. The General Assembly at Victoria—which, as becomes an Antipodean institution, holds its May meetings in November—concluded its sittings at the departure of the last Australian mail, and, from the report of the proceeding in the Melbourne newspapers, we observe that it has appointed a Committee "to prepare a memorial to the Pan-Presbyterian Council, asking their advice in regard to the modification of the Westminster Confession.—London Paper.

The Free Church of Scotland has now more than a thousand ministers. It started with under five hundred, so that in thirty-four years it has just doubled itself.

WESLEYAN.—Rev. Dr. Punshon has gone to Italy for the benefit of his health.

There are 19,379 Sunday-schools in the United States in connection with the Methodist Episcopal Sunday-School Union, and about a million and a half of scholars.

A new Wesleyan Church was to be opened in Rome, on the 29th April, in the Via della Scrofa, just opposite the palace of Monsignor La Valetta, the cardinal vicar. The church is under the ministry of the Rev. Mr. Piggott.

The first Christian church in Constantinople was founded in 1846; there are now seventy-six in the Turkish empire, about a third of which are self supporting and all self-governing. Four "Evangelical Unions" have been formed for mutual counsel and aid: one at Harpoot, in Mesopotamia, of twenty-six churches; another in Southern Asia Minor of twenty-three churches; and another in Bithynia of eleven churches. Connected with these churches are 3,303 members, and congregations numbering 13,000, with a population of over 18,000 native Protestants.

Since the suspension of the Rev. Arthur Tooth, the organ at St. James's, Hatchman, had been barricaded up, but the Rev. B. Dale, the curate in charge, has had the barricade removed, and the organ is again used. Mr. Dale wished to have certain portions of the service muted, but about a dozen prominent members of the Protestant League objected to this, and persisted in reading those portions in a very loud voice; the choir however maintained their ground, but the confusion was considerable.

The Liberator states that, as the result of further inquiry, it has learned that eleven times in seventeen years—from 1860 to 1877—the senior wrangler has not been a member of the Church of England, and it adds—"an astonishing and highly suggestive fact."

A queer bequest is that of Miss Maxwell Graham, of Williamswood, Eng., who has left \$100,000 to four charitable societies, wherewith to relieve poor protestants who are named Hutchison or Maxwell, and to educate their children.