

which, after all, undeniably belong to themselves. Christian friends, "these things ought not so to be:" they are most unbecoming the character of any professed disciple of Christ. Such conduct is *very shameful* on the part of any members of a mere worldly association; it is *very criminal* in regard to the affairs of the Christian Church. We know not to what it ought to be attributed but to ignorance of those principles which should characterize those so associated together for the highest and holiest ends; if not, worse still, it must be charged to the want of any true love to Him, whose cause it is, and whose servants they nevertheless profess to be. It is, besides, the fruitful source of the multiplied embarrassments and murmurings which so abound when important financial concerns are considered or transacted. The *few* who seek the prosperity of the cause, and who, to advance it, "devise liberal things," have often, through your want of co-operation, their hands tied up, and their hearts perplexed. Are collectors appointed to call upon you to contribute "as of the ability which God giveth?" Are they not often received as ungraciously as if they were seeking means to advance a payment on their land or to supply themselves with the implements of their calling? Well! and is it not a hardship truly, to be associated with those who *will expect you* to co-operate and *still ask you* to co-operate in discharging *your* business,—unreasonable that these *managers* will not pay *your* subscriptions out of their own pockets, or that *the minister*,—*your minister*,—should so much resemble other beings of earthly mould, and cannot learn to live upon the air? "We write not these things to shame you, but, as our beloved brethren, we warn you." We address you with the earnest desire that you should seriously ponder your responsibilities, think rightly of your honorable position as members of Christ's visible body, and that your spiritual welfare may be promoted by your carefully cherishing in the heart the love which "is the fulfilling of the law," and giving full scope to it in your conduct. And with this view, we mean at another opportunity to advert a little farther to this subject, and to the honor of the Christian in being called to be a "*co-worker*" with God in advancing his cause and glory in the earth.

VOLENS.

RELATION OF THE CIVIL MAGISTRATE TO RELIGION.

We now give the extracts on this subject referred to by IRENICUS, and for which we had not space in our last. It would be easy to add indefinitely, to the same effect, from authors the most respectable and unexceptionable. We beg to advert to a paragraph by Sir George Sinclair, which will be found on pages 128-130 in our number for May. The learned Baronet is ecclesiastically incorporated with the Free Church; yet he manifestly holds the forbearance principle—the principle of our Church—or rather, we suppose, he is a voluntary, so that he is at present, like a number of others, in a somewhat false position. The following lines from Milton's Sonnet to Sir Henry Vane the