

IS IT AN EXPLANATION?

In a former number we drew the attention of friend Updegraff to a seeming injustice in his reference to us personally.

In the April number, his next issue, he inserts a criticism from the pen of Rev. Kelso Carter on our teachings, which rings the changes on the word infallible, making very evident that he thinks that *infallible guidance* properly characterizes the teachings of the writers in the EXPOSITOR OF HOLINESS.

Elsewhere, in an editorial letter of counsel, our teachings under this name are spoken of and classed as follows:

"Are you striving to walk in the middle of the road? In these days of spontaneously multiplying evils, nothing is of more importance than this. A special characteristic of our day is the 'angel of light' disguise, which the adversary puts on continually. The Christian is beset by a horde of skilful imitations, every one of which is white-washed with an attractive name, and mixed with a great deal of truth, in plausible conjunction with error. Restitution, or universalism redressed for modern taste; Christian Science; Infallible guidance; Astrology; Occultism; Theosophy; Esoteric; Buddhism; Antinomianism, or the doctrine of indestructible depravity; the Dress Fanaticism; close-communication Baptism; the doctrine of Carnality in Christ; these, and many others, all appear dressed as angels of light, and make their appeals to the 'very elect.' Remember that the conventional red devil with horns, and split hoofs, and spiked tail, only exists on the boards and placards of the theatre; he has *never appeared* to a Christian. But an angel of *light* comes in beautiful and attractive dress, and promises 'deep things,' 'mysteries revealed,' great 'knowledge,' 'new light on old truth.' Remember, beloved! that the caution for our day is to search for the 'old paths,' and to 'earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints;' and that *increasing evil* and spiritual darkness are promised for the last day."—*Friends' Expositor*.

And so the only reply to our remon-

strance concerning a definite injustice done us is the above, implying, if words are any guide to the thoughts and intention of the writer, that friend Updegraff accuses us of being one of the emissaries of Satan, draped up in the form of an angel of light.

Well, suppose this all to be true, will that fact condone the injustice done? If so, then this plea will stand on the great day of final examination, when by our *words* we will be justified or condemned. But it will be a serious matter if at that sifting time any flaw should be found in it.

The Scriptures *seem* to teach that even an angel, much less a Christian, is not permitted to use a railing epithet when speaking of the king of all the devils (see Jude i. 9), and this would suggest the possibility of the above language not only not rectifying the presumed injustice, but as simply and only adding thereto.

Again, imagine the devil interesting himself in propagating a form of holy living which not only includes all that friend Updegraff professes, but even minutely criticises such blemishes as he and Brothers McDonald and Steel defend, and invites the same criticism upon our lives with the promise to rectify all such lapses according to Christ-taught justice and courtesy. Verily, when Satan shall have cast out all such blemishes from Christian character, his kingdom shall have an end.

THE BEST WAY TO UNDERSTAND
DIVINE GUIDANCE.

We only emphasize a truth often alluded to in these pages and distinctly enunciated in the teachings of Christ, when declaring that this best way is by experience.

The true process is, first, search the Scriptures until satisfied without a doubt that the Father in answer to the prayer of the Son hath sent the Comforter into the world with ample power to constitute Himself the guide paramount to each individual believer during every moment of time; second, when thus established intellectually in this