

and black epithet that he can mark with a gallon of ink, provided he furnish us with one argument against anything we have attempted to establish from the Holy Book. And if he fails even to attempt this, but instead thereof fires personalities from his battery, we shall bid him a benevolent adieu.

We are free to affirm that no man of Mr. N. Holmes' ability could pursue such an anti-spiritual course were he conscious that his cause was a maintainable one. He first submits to us something like a dozen queries, all of them, in his judgment, important. He is in Rainham. At the close of his communication, and in a Postscript, he in substance says, Mr. Editor, I have no objections to the publication of this letter; but I shall leave this vicinity shortly; therefore, if your business will allow you, furnish me with a private answer immediately. For many reasons we chose to furnish a reply through the paper, as it was left optional with us to do the one or the other—(or not at all:)—believing that wherever the gentleman went the reply would find him, two of his relatives being regular readers of the paper—unless indeed he went out of reach of Queen Victoria's or President Filmore's mail carriers. Our response, it appears, reached him. The rest our readers already know. Instead of thanking us for thinking his communication worthy of being generally read, or feeling grateful that he was accounted of sufficient *calibre* and candor to speak with publicly on such solemn matters as conversion, spiritual power, prayer, and some others, he very consequentially turns to one of his friends and speaks not very like a courteous gentleman in respect to the young man called D. Oliphant, comments largely upon evasions, squints at his own attainments, and treats contemptuously what he should have opposed with the Word of Truth; and now, when he appears before us, instead of endeavouring to ascertain the mind of the Spirit in relation to what is conversion or anything connected with it, or attempting to show how we evaded his queries, we are treated to a second edition of very undignified personality. Such is the course which at least one of the able opponents of the Disciples has chosen to pursue. If he does not present us with other evidence, the candid reader will justly infer that he regards his own cause as too defective to defend. So endeth the first and second lessons!

We are beginning to be convinced, from his manœuvres, that the gentleman dare not say one word respecting our answers to his questions, unless it be to affirm that they are evasions, or something of that sort; and any one, on the same principle, could designate him the Prime Minister of Siam. We have, we frankly say, overrated the gentleman's candor and love of investigation for truth's sake.

D. O.