

The following we received from our
and Princeton correspondent.

HODGE ON THE CIVIL MAG- STRATE AND THE UNION OF CHURCH AND STATE.

of the fifth commandment enjoins as
general principle, respect and obdience
our superiors it includes our obliga-
to civil rulers; we are commanded
submit ourselves to every ordinance
man for the Lord's sake: whether
the king as supreme; or unto gov-
ers, as unto them that are sent by
for the punishment of evil doers,
for the praise of them that do well.
So is the will of God! (1 Pet 2: 13-

The whole theory of civil govern-
at and the duty of citizens to their
ers, are comprehensively stated by
apostle in Rom. XIII; 1-5. It is
taught,

1. That all authority is of God.
2. That civil magistrates are ordain-
of God.

3. That resistance to them is resist-
to Him.

4. That obedience to them must be
dered as a matter of conscience, as a
of our obedience to God.

From this it appears,—First, that
government is a divine ordinance.
not merely an optional human insti-
on; something which men are free
have or not to have as they see fit.
not founded on any social compact;
something which God commands.
only, it is included in the Apostle's
rine, that magistrates derive their
ority from God; they are his milis-
; they represent Him.

Thirdly, from this it follows that obe-
nce to magistrates and to the laws of
land is a religious duty.

Fourthly, that obedience is due to
ry de facto government, whatever its
in or character.

Fifthly the Scriptures clearly teach

that no human authority is intended to be
unlimited. Such limitation may not be
expressed but it is always implied. The
command "Thou shalt not kill," is un-
limited in form, yet the Scriptures recog-
nize that homicide may in some cases
be not only justifiable but obligatory.

It is true that Church and State are
not united in this country as they ever
have been in Europe. It is conceded
that this separation is wise. But it is
not to be inferred from that concession
that the state has nothing to do with re-
ligion; that it must act as though there
were no Christ and no God. It has
already been remarked that this is as
impossible as it would be for the state
to ignore the moral law. It may be
admitted that Church and State are, in
this country, as distinct as the Church
and a banking company. But a bank-
ing company, if composed of Christians
must conduct its business according to
Christ'an principles, so far as those pri-
ciples apply to banking operations.

So a nation, or a state, composed of
christians, must be governed by christi-
anity, so far as its spirit and precepts
apply to matters of civil government.

Let those Liberals who are so hostile
to the power of the civil magistrate, and
to the union of Church and State, refute,
(if they can) the arguments of the veter-
an theologian. The thing cannot be put
in a more lucid way than Dr. Hodge has
put it, and although there has been a
great deal written by many eminent
men on those points which stand so pro-
minent in the Bible yet there are many
who are slow to swallow them.

(1 Timothy IV. 13.)

GIVE ATTENDANCE TO READING.

It is the high privilege of those who
dwell in Nova Scotia, that they enjoy
in abundance the means of improve-
ment. Among these means good books
hold a prominent place. I have thought
therefore that I might render an accept-