

## RELIGIOUS PAPERS IN 1826.

We boast not of ourselves ; but of the excellency of those principles which we have been led to espouse ; and our unfeigned desire that our opponents would either manfully, argumentatively, and affectionately produce their strongest reasons ; or come over and help us.

While the press is laboring every day and pours forth upon the public eye volumes of declamation, of commendation, of eulogy upon the toys of childhood, and the trifles of old age ; upon the glorious fruits of *tracts*, the exploits of the heroes of modern invention ; while holy romances, fictitious travels and religious novels are gravely recommended by the pulpit and the press, methinks there is room and need for a few faithful advocates to plead the cause of the bible, and to argue its superiority over all human expedients to convert the world.

The great majority of papers called religious, are as much political, commercial and facetious as they are religious. The Luminaries, Stars, Suns, Registers, Recorders, Secretaries, &c. &c., in one column tell us the way to heaven, and in the next how to engraft trees, make canals, raise revenue ; and some advertise strayed or stolen horses, hogs, and negroes. In the same column I lately saw the way to escape the wrath to come, and to clean black silk, separated by a single line. In another, a direction to devotion followed by a direction to find the residence of the barber. A famous conversion is, in another, followed by a broker's list of the rates of exchange. The necessity of humility and temperance is argued in one paragraph—fancy goods, gewgaws, and sweetmeats announced in the next.

The above is from the Christian Baptist, and it still sounds like the voice of reformation.

D. O.

## EXCELLENT HINTS FROM TEXAS.

The "Philanthropist," by brother Kendrick, says, in remarking upon a late discourse of D. S. Burnet's:—

"We do not like the phrases, 'our destiny as a people,' 'our crisis is come,' 'our cause.' For twenty years we have been hearing them, and they mean less, with us, now than formerly. Truly, we have a cause, but it is more probably called God's cause. 'Our crisis' and 'our destiny as a people,' savors to much of self and of party. Perhaps the love of 'our people,' 'our cause,' and a fear for 'our destiny' may supplant the cause of Christ in our hearts."

Again, brother Kendrick says: "*Our duty* is all that especially concerns us. God will rule the crisis, and take care of his own cause."