

The baptist denomination is rapidly advancing in education and literary character. Whatever may be the amount of actual attainment, some indication of at least a growing taste for knowledge, is afforded in the numerous periodicals and institutions hereafter enumerated. All classes of persons are desirous of information, both on general subjects, and on those connected with their particular vocations. While education is becoming highly prized, that which is strictly theological is more and more diffused. The same prejudices against learning as a qualification for the christian ministry, have prevailed here to as great an extent as they did formerly in England amongst the ruder masses of religious communities; but they are disappearing every day like the mist before the rising sun. It was gratifying to find, that in some of the strongholds of anti-literary prejudice, many of the churches had expressed their concurrence in educational projects, and their inclination to furnish pecuniary aid for their execution. The reports of state conventions and local associations contain newly-formed resolutions for this important end, which have been unanimously adopted. This is only what might have been anticipated from the energetic and common sense character of the people. No sooner do they see an error, than they begin the removal of it; and no sooner do they perceive a good, than they spring to its accomplishment. The steps they take to improvement are not like ours, "few and far between." We are more deliberative, they more prompt and self-confident. They are not, however, reckless, though rapid, and frequently unite the activity of