

of the query; but should not refuse one or two temperate and brief articles on both sides of the question.

#### PIETY IN CHURCH CHOIRS.

Employing ungodly choirs of singers in the Church is a barrier to the progress of the Gospel. Singing is a very important part of divine worship. It is either adoration, confession, deprecation, intercession, supplication, or giving of thanks: and should therefore be conducted by pious persons, who "sing with the spirit and with the understanding also," Christians would not think it right for ungodly men to engage in public prayer in the sanctuary of God, but would be greatly shocked at such an impropriety: and yet there would be no more impropriety in that, than for ungodly choirs to lead the singing of public worship; for in both cases, the holy God is to be addressed and worshipped. Far too little attention is paid to this subject in every section of the Church: and hence in many of our places of worship, when that Being is to be praised before whom angels veil their faces, we have no devotional singing; but a grand performance of sundry conceited, vain, and giddy young people, who praise God with their lips, whilst their hearts are far from him.

Their spirit, gestures, and general behaviour, as well as much of their music, would be more accordant with the Opera, than the house of God; and yet, strange to say, many of them are remunerated for their valuable services.—REV. ROBERT YOUNG.

**QUERY.**—How far is it agreeable with New Testament principles, for Christian Churches to allow the use of Musical Instruments of any kind in leading or assisting in the praise of God, under the Christian dispensation.

C.

#### PEACE CONVENTION IN LONDON.

The following communication was received per last mail from London; addressed to the Rev. H. Wilkes, by the Rev. John Jefferson, Secretary of the Peace Society. We hasten to lay it before our readers:—

LONDON PEACE SOCIETY,  
19, New Broad Street, April 7, 1843.

MY DEAR SIR,—The Committee appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the ensuing Peace Convention, respectfully invite your attention to the accompanying Circular, and your assistance in the attainment of its object in any way which may be in your power. Is there any possibility of our obtaining delegates from your Province? Are there any friends to peace who can be called together and consulted with on the subject? Can you obtain insertion of the Circular, or a notice of it in any of the newspapers or magazines published in the Colony? Can you

supply, by letter or otherwise, any information which may be useful to the Convention, especially of a statistical kind?

#### PUBLIC CONVENTION.

The Committee appointed to make the preliminary arrangements for the ensuing Peace Convention, have great pleasure in placing before the friends of the cause, a more complete statement than has yet been furnished concerning this important measure. Some of the particulars here mentioned are already known to many; but as this Circular will probably come into the hands of others who have had fewer opportunities of information, it is thought desirable to repeat them.

The proposal for holding a Convention of the friends of Peace from all parts of the world, originated at a meeting at Boston, in America, in the year 1841. The American Peace Society entered cordially into the proposal, and submitted it to the consideration of the Peace Society in London; and at a Conference specially summoned to discuss the propriety of the measure, the Convention was decided upon in May, 1842. The Committee of the London Peace Society, with a few other gentlemen, were appointed to make the necessary arrangements, as to time and place, and the order of business, so far as appeared eligible. The Constitution of the Convention; the principle upon which it is to be founded; its object; the rules for regulating its proceedings; and the probable order of those proceedings, will be fully learned from the accompanying programme, which has been prepared with care, and will, it is hoped, meet the just expectation of the friends of the Convention.

The Committee do most respectfully and earnestly ask your attention to this object, and your cordial and vigorous co-operation to give to it the greatest degree of publicity and effect. It is peculiarly gratifying to know that the pacific character of the Christian religion is more clearly and extensively understood than formerly; and that the Governments of the nations are less readily induced to enter into war: and that in several instances, they have shown themselves inclined to adopt peaceful means for the settlement of international disputes; a course of procedure which has never been fairly tried without leading to the most satisfactory results. That Peace Societies have done much to contribute to this improved state of feeling and action, will not be doubted by any who have had opportunity fully to consider their operations. To give to the principles of Peace as set forth in the New Testament, their due prominence before the world, and especially amongst the professed disciples of Jesus, cannot but be regarded as an effort of paramount importance. If the object contemplated by Peace Societies can be brought forward, so as to excite that degree of interest in the minds of the Christian public, which its magnitude rightly claims for it; if it should once take hold of their sympathies and prayers, as it is evidently desirable that it should, an impulse would be given to the cause of Peace, upon the progressive effects of which in annihilating war, it is impossible to calculate. The Committee urge you to reflect, whether the Convention be not very likely, under the Divine blessing, to secure such a result, at least in some considerable degree. It must excite attention, attention will