

signed, have they not been perverted as much in fact if not in extent, as if they had been used to enrich the individual Trustees, by their speculating with them in the funds? R. after repeatedly admitting all the facts essential to the objects of this discussion calls for proof, but it is R.'s turn first;—let R. prove his assertions, which were laid before the public before even a syllable came from my pen; and I pledge myself to give him all the proof that can be reasonably required relative to any thing which I have advanced. R. has said "the Funds of the Society are not large." Will R. be so good as to say *how large* they are? He tells us "the Society's exertions are not great." Will R. be pleased to tell us *how great* they are?—and furnish us with a little documentary evidence such as we have from all other Missionary Societies? If R. will do this the public will judge for itself and determine the correctness or incorrectness of the third proposition that their exertions correspond with the funds.—I have already challenged R. to prove what he has roundly asserted in the most unqualified manner, viz. "That the funds of this Society are not large, nor its exertions great; the latter however correspond with the former," but instead of coming forward like a man to prove these broad assertions, he turns round and tells me that the *onus probandi* rests upon me whilst his own unfounded assertions are destitute of even the very thinnest shadow of proof, and after all it comes out that R. really knows nothing at all of the matter, and that *still*—"the points at issue are whether, "the New England Company," has large funds, and whether they have abused those funds;" and now about four months after he had assumed the appearance of knowing all about "the New England Company,"—having had time to expose his ignorance to the world and

to find out that he really knew nothing of the Company except its name, he has really and in good truth begun to make some enquiry, and although I perceive in him a most unhappy propensity to indulge in airy speculation, and to cherish the most improbable conjectures, I am not without some hope, Mr. Editor, that after a seasonable correction of his *new theory* relative to the comparative value of property at the different dates specified in your late remarks, you will have the satisfaction ultimately of finding him fully persuaded that the only way to be able to give information is to possess it one's self, and that the way to possess it is to obtain it, and I have but little doubt, that he will so far improve as to know that one excellent way to find out truth is to exercise reason and common sense; and however *incredulous* he may be at present, I do not despair of his being brought to believe that there are persons in the world who have some portion of these.

One word more, Mr. Editor and I have done. R. seems apprehensive that the agitation of such questions will weaken public confidence in charitable institutions; but this apprehension is chimerical, for if it should have this effect in a very few instances and for a short period, it will be more generally and permanently regarded as a pledge that the Managers of Institutions will be observed by the conductors of the press, and if necessary, called to an account, and it will tend to assure benefactors that unfaithful dealing with their benefactions will soon or late be followed by merited animadversion.—An explicit account of funds and exertions from the New England Company are absolutely necessary.

And now Mr. Editor, whether R. will believe it or not, I doubt not but you will believe me to be, not the informant of Mr. Morse, but,