

THE
WITNESS OF TRUTH.

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THE EVANGELICAL PIONEER.

MR. EDITOR:—In reading a late number of a Baptist paper, published at London, C. W., called the *Evangelical Pioneer*, (dated 5th July) my eye caught the following language standing on the fore-ground in black type, and under the division appropriated to Essays on "Christian Faith and Practice"—"THE WITHHOLDING OF DIVINE INFLUENCE THE MAIN CAUSE OF THE WANT OF MINISTERIAL SUCCESS." As one desirous to receive only what is presented as an object of Christian faith I read the Essay with no small degree of interest to learn what the author meant by "the withholding of divine influence;" whether he meant that ministers being too generally unfaithful to the directions of the Spirit of God as given in the Word, the divine influence failed to reach the hearts of sinners, and few, comparatively, were converted to God; or, whether he charged the want of ministerial success to the non-impartment of the Spirit of God to a world lying in wickedness. The latter is published by the *Pioneer* to the church and to the world as true according to the experience of men, and the testimony of the Word of God. If it be so that the Divine testimony teaches this doctrine, and that the experience of God's people corroborates its truth, however mysterious and inexplicable it may be to our limited comprehension, let us bow to the celestial light; let us receive it with humility and fear. As far as the Essay is concerned, I fear the *Pioneer* is leading its readers into a dangerous path, an error of the most serious kind, namely, that God is neither true nor faithful. This is the natural and inevitable conclusion of the doctrine therein declared to be true, for it stands in direct and positive contradiction to the plainest testimony of the Word of God.

The evidence adduced to the writer from Scripture in support of his position is both meagre and unsatisfactory. There is nothing indeed in the form of direct evidence, but the only two passages quoted he