

fantile state. Those recently converted say you must not leave us. I tell them that the brethren who bid fair to be useful in the church will visit them often and speak to them and for them. They answer their experience in speaking is not sufficient to keep alive the interests and advance the cause; while their locality and occupations would often prevent them from being here.

To lay aside my difficulties might be comparatively easy, but to lay aside those of my brethren is more difficult. In fact I see that to act contrary to their voice at the present time would cause offence and wound the cause of Christ in this place.

You call on me to "look at the state of the case." I look, and my heart is pained—sinners dying around and none to carry the pure gospel to them. An association formed to be an instrument for providing for the wants of laborers and no laborers to be found; believe me, dear brother, I am ready to do the work of an Evangelist if freed from my obligations here. I still look forward to the time when some one will take my place here and set me at liberty—till then I will endeavour to labor more diligently and more widely, and I hope that the brethren will not only pray to the Lord of heaven to send forth more laborers, but to bless the work of those in circumscribed fields who labor in word and doctrine for the edification of the church and preach the gospel for the conversion of sinners.

My Christian love to brothers Anderson, Kilgour, Mitchell and all the holy brethren and sisters.

Yours affectionately,

E. SHEPPARD.

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*For the Christian Banner.*

DEAR BROTHER:—A subject is referred to in the report of the "Committee of the Provincial Co-operation," to which I desire to direct the attention of the churches. In that Report, (see Banner, page 164) the Committee say:—"They cannot properly close without directing attention to the nature of certain difficulties or objections presented by brethren who were solicited to labor for the co-operation. Those brethren are devoted to the Lord, and willing to spend and be spent in his service. They reason thus:—'We desire to serve the Lord, not simply for a few months or a year but for life, or so long as God shall grant ability. We stipulate for no monthly or yearly allowance. If the brethren will say to us the Lord has need of you; do the work of an evangelist, and we will provide for you and yours, the things that are needed—we will leave all and labor to the extent of our ability. But to labor for a few months as ministers of the gospel; then to resume our secular pursuits with diminished ability, but increased necessity arising from the derangement of our business; and again to serve as evangelists—our affairs meantime becoming more and more entangled, this appears like a fruitless attempt to serve two masters. We must therefore decline accepting the call of the brethren until a more scriptural system is introduced.'