

words in the margin, to the deputy : *Indulge the education of these ministers, for they are Scotchmen.*

Mr. Blair went to Ireland, having received a call from Bangor, and when he came near the town he had a strong impression that the dean of Bangor was sick unto death ; he at first rejected it as an impertinent suggestion, but it came again with such power as compelled him to think it significant. He found the dean sick, and after he died Mr. Blair succeeded him.—*Standard.*

GUIDANCE AND MISTAKES.

Though there is a tendency in much we read and hear to make us doubt *the realness of our errors*, while claiming the guiding influences of the Spirit, still I am persuaded, with the founder of Methodism, that we may enjoy no state of grace here which frees us from mistakes of judgment and practice.

The ground of delusion upon this subject seems to be either a failure to recognize the continued existence of our own spirit in all its activities, or else a confusion of the guidance of the Spirit with the gift of inspiration. There is nothing in my admitting a mistake as a mistake, and laying it to the blame of my lack of information or deficiency of memory, or inefficiency of judgment, which militates against God's veracity in His promises to guide me, or against the completeness of my faith in those promises. If God had promised to *absorb* me into Himself, then you or I would never know any more about my mistakes from the moment I believed the promise. If He had said He would *substitute* His wisdom for my ignorance, and carry on my affairs Himself after this, then I would have been a cipher to everything else as well as to mistakes. I don't know anything that the economy of Redemption proposes to absolutely remove from us here, but sins and sin.

Some people imagine, since God allows them to see the sanctification of their mistakes, either to their own progress, or to some other good end, that, after all, it was no mistake ; but God had simply blindfolded them to carry out His purposes. How absurd ! Just as if God couldn't do what He was about if your eyes were open ! This looks enough like the notion that God was the author of the evil, so that He could get the glory of the redemption, to make us suspect that they are akin !

"All things work together for good," crime, sin, death, and mistakes, "to them that love God ;" but God is not to blame for any of them, and will show us in another world that He can work more good in a twinkling without them, than He chooses to do in an age with them.

We are as likely to make mistakes about Divine guidance as about anything else : and because we did not find something come out just as we