

We teach that the Holy Spirit, the Counsellor divine, is prepared to guide every individual into all truth in these matters; and we maintain that no one is settled in his views on these subjects until thus taught of God. We find, moreover, that all who are thus taught of God have the peace of God concerning them, and are not tossed about by every wind of doctrine as it may happen to blow upon them; nay, their peace is in no wise disturbed when it blows a perfect gale from any quarter. We find also that they agree to differ, satisfied to leave the work of the Spirit to the Spirit Himself. They do not show their want of confidence in Him by dictating to others, beforehand, what He, the Spirit of truth, will teach them. If the Bible distinctly teaches any one course concerning these matters, he rests assured that He who inspired the written word will not contradict Himself in His individual teaching, to those who seek His guidance. They have reached the land of settled questions, the rest of faith, the sabbath of God's love.

On the other hand, we notice that they who wish to have a set of rules formulated concerning what we shall eat, what we shall wear, or what we shall do, not only do not exhibit that peace of God which passes all understanding themselves, but there is also a tendency on their part to exalt the outward expression of a profession of holiness above the graces of the Spirit in their judgment of its genuineness in others. Indeed, we believe they show a constant disposition to be censorious. Besides, it is an utter impossibility for them to be consistent in their judgment of others in these matters. We have never yet witnessed one who made it a matter of conscience to judge another's piety by these things to be consistent in his own practice with his pronounced judgment.

We have heard one denounce the wearing of a bit of gold in the ears, and yet have a hundred and seventy-five dollar gold watch in his vest pocket. We have heard another wax eloquent on the extravagance of wearing a plume in the hat, and yet have on a dress the excess of cost of which, above one which would have kept them quite as comfortable, would have paid for a dozen of such plumes. We have heard another, so particular in his dress that he would scorn to wear a suit of clothes that could be purchased for less than fifty dollars, grow anxious on the loss to the missionary cause of the money expended on a gold ring, and a wedding one at that. But yesterday, in conversation with a person on his way to a camp-meeting, where a large part of the work to be done was of this denun-