

to him in the February Banner. To show to every reader at a glance how the investigation advances, we re-produce the queries and will then give our brother's answer. We have asked and do ask—

1. Did the churches in the apostolic age execute the will of the Lord Jesus fully and faithfully?

2. Have the disciples in this age accepted the pattern of things,—in preaching, in teaching, and in discipline,—as given by the infallible workmen?

3. Do you conceive that the primitive congregations organized or required a missionary society to fulfil any part of the will of the Lord and Saviour?

4. Upon the principle of embodying our views of expediency in a newly devised society to evangelize, may we not also take the help of expediency to contrive a society to promote our personal salvation, and another society to assist in edifying and saving our brethren?

5. Will you, my brother, look at these interrogatories from the Jerusalem stand-point, and not from the Cincinnati altitude or latitude, that we may according to all our means of knowledge walk and work by faith and not by the law of expediency?

To the preceding, the highly esteemed Franklin replies in the following words:—

1. We simply answer the first question affirmatively.

2. The second question we also answer affirmatively.

3. I conceive that the primitive congregations made arrangements for their Missionary operations in the manner most convenient to them, but their arrangements, not being any part of the law of God, nor binding upon any other congregations, are not detailed to us, but all other congregations are free, to combine as large a number, raise as large an amount, call and send any preachers they can obtain, and to any field of labor they may see fit.

4. We make no plea for “embodying our views of expediency,” but simply for *embodying an agreement* that we will adopt a certain arrangement for a certain work, and work in that way while it appears profitable to do so.

5. We have looked at these “interrogatories from the Jerusalem stand-point,” from “the Cincinnati stand-point” and from every other stand-point that we could find, and claim that our Missionary operations are legitimate and feel no fears that we are violating any requirement of scripture, unless it be that we are not operating half strongly and zealously enough. This one of our brother's objections to our operations, we hope, by the blessing of Heaven, to remove somewhat the present year. We have more brethren who do the same way Bro. Oliphant does, viz.: Object to our operations, throw their influence against them and hinder them as far as possible, and then, it is at least one of their objections to the Society that *it does not do more*. Let us