

From the Telegraph.  
UNION AND LIBERTY

Is the title of a Sermon by the Rev. Elipha White, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, John's Island, S. C. a copy of which we have received and hereby acknowledge.

With Protestant thelogy as connected with sectarian views, we never meddle. We are content to witness the thousand and one contradictory sects rushing to the common arsenal, and marshalling their squadrons of toxics for mutual destruction: and the only question that can be asked during a moment of truce is, which has been most successful in bringing Revelation into contempt—which has done most to make the God of truth the author of contradictions?

This is a cheerless state of things, and the Rev. Elipha White feels it. It is worse—it is a low, contracted, bigoted, fetid state of warfare, and in his liberality he scorns it. Anathema, maranatha on it and us abettors! and hence he sings

Oh sinner, believe and adore, &c.

"Union and Liberty" in religion is the theme of this discourse redolent of true Protestant orthodoxy. The great impediment to union is found in the different forms of religious worship, and each considered as infallibly correct by their respective partisans. "This jargon of religious opinions too often drives him (the enquirer) to universal scepticism; or what is perhaps more common and not less fatal, he settles down with the belief that all are only pursuing different ways to the same place." What then is the enquirer to do? Universal scepticism is bad:—the belief that all sects are right, equally so: what says the Rev. Mr. White? Mr. White, we regret to say, is much more intelligible in stating the difficulty, than happy furnishing the key to solve it. He melts down into a common crucible all the "human confessions and creeds," ever framed within or without the pale of Christianity, when lo, there comes forth the pure passport to the portals of bliss, eye, and beyond them too. In other words—his "Union" on Protestant principles is rank nonsense—his "Liberality" stark staring Atheism. Take for instance the following:

As Saint Paul "depreciated these contracted views of an exclusive religion"—in accordance with the true spirit of the Apostle, the Rev. Elipha White quotes him—(Ephes. iv, 4, 5, 6,) to establish the following view:—that there "is no religion in the forms, or peculiarities of any denomination—nor will it be necessary for salvation to have belonged to any particular denomination or visible church, p. 11."—He reasons thus:

"There is one body"—or church.—One church of those, in whose hearts Christ dwells by faith; that they may be able to comprehend with all saints, what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that they may be filled with all the fullness of God. All these are embraced in one body—the church of Christ. Whether they belong

to the number of those, who publicly avow an attachment to him or not—whether they are found among Christians, Jews, Mahometans or Pagans—whether they reside in this or any other land; they are members of his spiritual church—the only real church he has on earth. A church embracing every possessor of religion—every individual entitled to heaven."

We now bid a hearty defiance to Chalmers street. We have, eye that we have, lived to see the day when there is after all held out to us the hope of heaven. What! Idolaters as we are—worshippers of the beast—buried too in a most debasing superstition, still are we placed on a level with Pagans, Mahometans, Jews, and Christians—and all the church of Christ!!! But surely it becomes not us to be critical.

The author proceeds: "I am fully aware that this is a position many, who have assumed the name, and claimed to be the church of Christ, will deny. But, I am not less sure, it is the ground taken by him, who hath said, 'There is one body,—a church!!!'"

The Rev. Mr. White was right. He cannot become one of the philosophers of the Reformation without a struggle. The laurel of liberality is not so easily won, especially when there is another candidate of bolder pretensions in the field. We had not received the sermon, when we read the following on the Charleston Observer, nor did the editor enable us to know to whom allusion was made. We know better now.

"A NEW DISCOVERY.

The author of a sermon, very recently published under the title of 'Union and Liberty,' has made the novel and astounding discovery that Paul 'depreciated the contracted views of an exclusive religion, while he insists on the reality of religion.' From which it is fair to infer,

- 1st. That Paul was not a Christian, because christianity is an exclusive religion.
- 2d. That there was nothing exclusive in the religion which Paul taught; and, therefore, it must have been essentially different from Christianity.
- 3d. That the less exclusive a religion is, the better, in Paul's estimation, provided it be real.
- 4th. That such an exclusive religion as Christianity must be the offering of very contracted views, which the liberal soul of Paul depreciated. And
- 5th. That he earnestly prayed as well as labored for the subversion of Christianity, inasmuch as it is an exclusive religion.
- 6th. That Paul, in insisting upon the reality of religion, was prompted by the liberal desire of merging all religions into one, regardless of the difference between them.

These inferences are fair; from the sentiment advanced; though it is but just to say they are not sustained by other parts of the discourse, which however, is not altogether free from substantial objections, both theoretical and practical. But when a Clergyman will write and publish a sentiment so wide from the truth as the one noticed, he cannot complain of its exposure.<sup>23</sup>

Now it is quite immaterial to the public what the author of the sermon has "discovered" with regard to the Apostle; or whether the Apostle did in his liberality endeavor to merge all his religions into one, regardless of the differences between them," because, we are entitled to ask what difference can exist between the Protestant sects, since the "Observer" himself says that all of them cannot be true, and that all may be false, and Protestantism itself is not the revelation made by God!!! We leave the Reverend gentlemen to win their way according to the merits of their respective canons. Assuredly the "Observer" is entitled to lecture his Reverend Brethren on their orthodoxy! But he is querulous by instinct, and that explains his paradoxes.

MISCELLANY.

PHILOSOPHICAL FACTS.

Sound travels at the rate of 1142 feet per second in air, 4990 feet in water, 11090 in cast iron, 7000 in steel, 18900 in glass, and from 4626 to 17000 in wood.

Mercury freezes at 38 degrees, Fahrenheit, and becomes a solid mass, malleable under the hammer.

The greatest height at which visible Clouds ever exist, does not exceed ten miles.

Air is about 816 times lighter than water.

The pressure of the atmosphere upon every square foot of the earth amounts to 2160 pounds. An ordinary sized man, supposing his surface to be 14 square feet, sustains the enormous pressure of 30240 pounds.

Heat rarifies air to such an extent that it may be made to occupy 500 or 600 times the space it did before.

The violence of the expansion of Water when freezing, is sufficient to cleave a globe of copper of such thickness as to require a force of 28,000 pounds to produce the same effects.

During the conversion of Ice into water, 140 degrees of heat are absorbed.

Water when converted into steam, increases its bulk to 600 times.

One hundred pounds of water of the Dead Sea, contains 45 pounds of salt.

The mean annual depth of Rain that falls at the equator is 96 inches.

Assuming the temperature of the interior of the earth to increase uniformly as we descend at the rate of 1 degree in 46 feet, at the depth of 60 miles it will amount to 480,000 degrees Fahrenheit,—a degree of heat sufficient to fuse all known substances.

The explosive force of closely confined Gunpowder is six and half tons to the square inch.

Hailstones sometimes fall with a velocity of 113 feet in a second—Rain 34 feet in a second.

The greatest artificial Cold ever produced is 91 degrees Fahrenheit.

Electricity moves with a greater velocity than light, which traverses 200,000 miles of space in a second of time.

Thunder can be heard at a distance of thirty miles.

Lightning can be seen by reflection at a distance of 200 miles.

ANSURDITIES.—To attempt to borrow money on the plea of extreme poverty.—To make yourself generally disagreeable, and wonder why no one will visit you, unless they gain some palpable advantage by it.—To sit shivering in the cold because you won't have a fire till November.—To suppose the reviewers generally read more than the title-page of the works they praise or condemn.—To keep your clerks on miserable salaries, and wonder at them robbing you.—Not to go to bed when you are tired and sleepy, because "it is not bed time.—To make your servants tell lies for you, and afterwards be angry because they tell lies for themselves.—To tell your own secrets, and believe other people will keep them.—To render a man a service voluntarily, and expect him to be grateful for it.—To expect to make people honest by hardening them in gaol, and afterwards sending them adrift without the means of getting employment.—To fancy a thing is cheap because a low price is asked for it.—To say a man is charitable because he subscribes for an hospital.—To arrive at the age of fifty, and be surprised at any vice, folly or absurdity your fellow creatures may be guilty of.—To vote for a candidate at an election because he shakes hands with your wife and child, and admires the baby.

A MAGNIFICENT CURIOSITY.—The great iron steamer now being built at Bristol, will no doubt, when completed, be regarded as one of the most extraordinary mechanical wonders in the world. She will carry five masts, and her tonnage will reach the enormous extent of 3500. Her length on deck is 324 feet. She will have four engines of 300 horse power each, and she is expected to be completed by the 1st of May next. She is designed in the first place, for the Archimedes screw; but should that fail, she is so constructed that paddles may be readily resorted to. Her hull is divided into compartments, so that if one should become injured, the accident would not effect the safety of the vessel. Her workmanship throughout is described as of the very highest style of art. She will be filled with water before she is launched, and thus her tightness tested. The iron (all wrought) is more than half an inch thick. She will cost something like \$500,000, and, as is supposed, will be commanded by Captain Hosken.

Mr. Stutz, the celebrated London tailor, has contributed the sum of £5560, together with a large plot of ground, for the erection of a comfortable and permanent building for thirty-three pensioners (with their wives) of the institution for the relief of aged and decayed journeyman tailors.

A Magdeburg paper gives an account of a new mode for walking on the water. A pioneer of the garrison of that place, not only goes down with the stream in the river, but crosses it with ease and safety. He makes use of a balancing pole, which at times serves to steer with, but is not indispensable. He has several times descended the river with his uniform on, and his knapsack on his back, repeatedly charging and discharging his musket. It is added that the Prussian government intends next year to have the corps of pioneers exercised in this new discovery.