

doctrines we believe. In a matter of such importance great care is necessary, as errors in doctrine are detrimental to character. When of a pernicious kind they infect and impoverish the mind, tend to pervert the life and destroy a person's usefulness in the Church. We are convinced that the principal teachings of "Brethrenism" are of this character, and will therefore consider some of them for the purpose of showing, by a plain, common-sense appeal to Scripture and reason, how erroneous, inconsistent, and pernicious they are.

I. WE SHALL NOTICE FIRST THEIR SYSTEM OF INTERPRETATION.

The "Brethren" have a way of their own by which they endeavour to evade the force of those portions of Scripture which convict them of error that is both unscriptural and unreasonable. They take upon themselves to allow, or disallow, as the case may require it, the application of certain passages. They often disallow the general application of a passage by saying: "It applies only to the Jews," or, "It was addressed only to believers," when it is evident from the scope of the passage, and the whole tenor of the Scriptures, that it is applicable to all. This subterfuge is frequently resorted to in support of their peculiar views, as Rev. Mr. Macintosh very pertinently describes: "If any passage contravenes their favourite dogmas, then they say it is Jewish and never designed for the Christian dispensation, and cast it aside; but if it