

species of policy which is calculated to win men to the Lord. How often are men driven from a good cause by a harsh spirit! How often are men drawn to a bad cause by a kindly and winning spirit! Christ, then, in the affairs of his kingdom, has instituted something like what we may call a gospel policy.

To belch out against "sectarians," and to suddenly knock the props from idols' temples, may be very bold and very masterly, speaking after the manner of men; but the wisdom of which we speak is wanting. To cut off a man's ears, or to strike off an enemy's head, cannot be considered so glorifying to the Redeemer as to win them both to the life, love, and light for which he expired on Calvary. There is the "meekness and gentleness of Christ," as well as the cogent and supreme power of truth; and could preachers always "speak the truth in love," very many would be drawn to the Saviour who are now only excited to opposition through combative influence.

Perhaps some may say we speak from experience. What if we grant it? If we have thundered, and used cannon, and scattered logical fire-brands, we have at least partially seen the impolicy of this manner, and, what is more, we not only confess but forsake the sin. Reformation—personal, social, general, universal reformation—is what we plead; and to preach one thing and practice another, whether ourselves or others, is intolerable.

We know some preachers, men of great knowledge, moral purity, and Christian worth, who nevertheless have apparently such a barbarian spirit that a stranger might almost set them down for second cousins of old Satan. And hence those whom they are the instruments of converting are seemingly driven rather than drawn to Jesus. Are we not therefore justified in calling loudly for reformation even among those who stand in reform ranks? If our years, indeed, were half a score more, we might use still greater plainness of speech!

Let no one hinder us from praying, pleading, talking, writing, working for a pure, vigorous, zealous, healthy, self-denying, God-fearing band of preachers. Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island, the United States, America, the world, solemnly call for a noble and honorable army to plead for King Jesus, who is blessed for ever.

D. OLIPHANT.

*Steamer "Bay of Quinte," 26th August, 1852.*

P. S. We have not searched after apologies for preachers in their delinquencies. Our work has been of another caste. They will themselves, at any time, (D. Oliphant included), furnish their own apologies.

D. O.