

remarks you made on a brother's letter from Nova Scotia, to ask the question, Why is brother Oliphant not in the field?"

Toward the close of the same communication, after sundry statements pertaining to the cause and the great necessity for laborers, this friend of truth adds :

"In view of these things, why cannot you take the field; not only for a few months or for a year, but to be constantly employed, and arrange your business affairs accordingly."

Others in divers forms have so inquired and so suggested, and therefore it is considered judicious to make a note, of these particulars and offer a remark or two. And 1st—I have long since "taken the field" and have not yet turned from nor deserted the field. 2nd—My labors 'in the Lord,' while not so considerable as I could desire, are nevertheless much more constant than many distant Christian friends are apprized of. A share of time is occupied each month in proclaiming, enforcing, and defending the truth through the pages of the Christian Banner. Appointments to discourse are made and filled within the circle of thirty miles, which, if counted for a whole season, would be ascertained to be not a few. And during the past eight or nine years, not one yearly period has elapsed without taking sundry extensive tours occupying weeks and more frequently months. 3rd—I should rejoice to comply with pressing requests to visit churches and sections, some of them visited already, and others of them not visited as yet, but I become increasingly doubtful if it be possible for me to set apart more time for travelling and proclaiming the word than I have been enabled to appropriate hitherto.

But the query is pushed back upon me, 'Why do you not, brother O., arrange your matters so that no business at home will hinder your undivided labours in the evangelical field?' And an endorsing brother steps up and enquires, 'Is not this precisely what you want some others to do?' I respond frankly and with decision: Let the friends of reform take this periodical off my hands, either by saying they do not want it or by putting it under some other supervision, and I will at once devote the major portion of my days, weeks, and months, health permitting, to preaching and teaching the gospel by the living voice. But I have always been a sincere and I trust consistent advocate of a monthly publication in these regions to plead the Lord's truth. My conviction is, that, directly and indirectly, the Christian Banner, allowing a large margin for its imperfections, does