

A VOICE TO CHRISTIANS.

["If these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out!" In the following exhortation we have almost a literal fulfilment of the Saviour's words! The writer has not yet obeyed the gospel: he is "sorry," he says, "that he does not enjoy the privilege of calling us brethren." Is it possible that Christians are so unconformed to the example of the Lord and the teachings of the Holy Spirit, that they need such admonitions! It is to be feared that it is the case. Will not some of them take such a position that they can say "who convinceth me of sin?" and from that noble height return the compliment in as good temper as friend N., and with the same weapons? Let us hear from some of our young christian brethren. The writer of the following is a very young man; and however much he may be mistaken on some points, he is doubtless very sincere.—W. W. E.]

"Be ye, therefore perfect, even as your Father who is in heaven is perfect." (Matt. v. 48.) It may be questioned whether this should be applied to all who profess to be his disciples or not; but his last and great command to the same was, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, * * teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" &c. (Matt. xxviii. 19, 20.) I do not mean to teach or controvert any point of doctrine; but merely wish to drop a few hints to the christian readers of *The Christian*.

I presume that it will be admitted, and perhaps generally understood, that the whole work of God's creation and the laws of his kingdom, both temporal and spiritual, are one harmonious whole, and that every state, kingdom or dispensation through which God intended man should pass, and every physical and organic law under which we are constituted and governed, are all necessary to bring us into the enjoyment of the everlasting kingdom. And most certainly, it is an unquestionable fact that the violation of any law of our nature brings its penalty; and just in proportion to the infringement will be the punishment. Under these considerations, I should infer that until Christians live in perfect obedience to the laws of the kingdom of Grace, they will come short of the perfect enjoyment of that kingdom; and not only so, but they will fail to possess that influence on which the spread of the gospel depends. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." (Matt. v. 16.) But in the command of Jesus Christ, that is preached as the door into the kingdom, there is teaching expressed first. "Go ye therefore and teach all nations," or in other words, Preach the gospel to every creature; he that believeth &c. Believes what? what they teach or preach. This then brings us to the Apostles' teaching, and what is this? Why, as these are hints to Christians or professors, I may use Paul's language: "Leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on to perfection." (Heb. vi. 1.) It may be asked what is perfection? or can we be perfect? and how are we to be perfect? I think it will be admitted that to be perfect and be in the perfect enjoyment of the gospel, will be to live in perfect obedience to its laws. It appears to be the object of the apostle Paul to place Christians in this state, from his words: "Warning and teaching every