

Resolved, that we invite Brother Oliphant to remove the "Witness" to Syracuse, and that we will use our best influence to sustain it at that point, and introduce it into general circulation:—It was *unanimously* adopted.

Our next general meeting is to be held at Cicero commencing on Friday preceding the first Lord's day in Sept.; our annual meeting at Tully commencing in the week preceding the third Lord's day; and our state meeting at Pompey commencing on Thursday preceding the fourth Lord's day of Sept.; which will give an excellent opportunity to make arrangements for sustaining the "Witness" should you conclude to come: you will hence see the necessity for giving a final answer, that we may know what we are to do as relates to the establishment and sustenance of a press among us.

Hoping to receive a favourable response, I am as ever,

Yours in christian love,

J. M. SHEPARD.

RESPONSE.

To J. M. Shepard, Dr. Benton, Wm. W. White, H. A. Chase, and all those brethren in New York desirous of establishing a periodical in the city of Syracuse:

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:—When a circular was got up and signed among you last year, inviting me to make my abode in your state for the purpose of publishing a paper, the project was viewed by me with more than a little favour, and nothing prevented any immediate compliance with your request but a sense of duty growing out of obligations to the brethren in Canada—obligations fairly embraced in what the brethren had done and were then doing for the continuance of my labours for the furtherance of the cause of the Lord in this section. It was frankly stated, in reply to that circular, that I could not then prudently remove, but it was intimated that removal was both possible and probable at some future time. In making a visit to a number of congregations in your state last April and May, in conversation with several brethren on the subject of my leaving Canada and locating in New York, I designed it to be understood, when solicited to remove, that my obligations to remain in this province were lessened, and that if no unforeseen obstacle prevented, I could, were it desired, take up my abode in the empire state and proceed in the business of a religious publisher. This judgment was based upon the following premises expressed or understood:—

1st. That the brethren generally among you, and more especially all the proclaiming brethren, were unanimous in the desire to establish a paper in New York. 2nd. That Syracuse was a most suitable field for evangelical labours, and a very appropriate point for a Press to serve the brethren and the cause of truth. 3d. That my labours in Canada, now that our co-operation had been fairly tested and found to work so successfully, could be spared without any great injury.

But in forming a judgment upon the preceding grounds, I was not conscious of the compound mistake which was then made. For, in the first place, while there was a very general desire on the part of the