

this general rule should be applied in particular cases, is left un-  
 fined. In Ephesus Paul's hands ministered to his own wants and to  
 the wants of others. In Thessalonica he labored *night and day*, that  
 he might not be chargeable to the brethren. In Corinth he very em-  
 phatically asserted his right to support, "nevertheless he used not  
 this power," but boasted that he was chargeable to no one; and was  
 determined that no man should stop his boasting in all that region.  
 So strong indeed were his feelings on this subject, in that place, that  
 he said it was better for him to die than that any should make his  
 boasting void! On the other hand, he very gratefully received in  
 Thessalonica the supplies sent from Philippi, and spoke of them as a  
 fragrant odor—an acceptable sacrifice well pleasing to God. Hence,  
 "wisdom is profitable to direct."

5th. Matthew and Paul while employing their pens, were severally  
 doing the work of the Lord, according to the ability which God gave;  
 and an evangelist at this day may, by the proper use of his pen, accom-  
 plish much good. Yet as writing forms no special part of "the work  
 of an evangelist;" a brother may be, "in the scriptural sense of the  
 term, an evangelist," whether he "uses his pen in the work of the  
 ministry," or not.

6th. Perhaps Philip had his home in Cæsarea for twenty-five years,  
 and perhaps not. His home may have been there during all that time,  
 and himself might seldom have been found there. It is most prudent  
 not to build much on such inferences.

We are quite with you in thinking that "among the various methods  
 of advancing to perfection, the old way of question and answer has not  
 yet lost its efficacy." And we doubt not you will agree with us in  
 thinking that, when "godly edification, which is in faith," is the object  
 sought, as much depends on the judgment of the querist, as on that  
 of the person questioned. When a question relates to a subject which  
 the querist has matured in his own mind, it ought to be so framed that  
 a plain scripture truth can be brought to bear in answering it. All  
 matters of inference and doubtful disputation ought carefully to be  
 excluded. On reviewing your last queries, we have thought they  
 seemed to be framed rather for some special case than for general use.  
 In general we have no objection to state our opinions, when requested  
 to do so; but on opinions—whence-so-ever they come—we should  
 train ourselves to place but little reliance.

Our feelings in regard to the character of your present queries  
 may rest on imagination and not on reality. If so, or indeed in any