

will Mr. Howard be this way? I want to hear him again,"—"he has spoiled my ear for hearing sermonizing;" and many such like questions and sayings.

I hope you have obtained a sufficient amount of assurances to risk the second volume. Go on, my brother; and He who overrules all, and in whose service you are heartily engaged, will do more and better for you than all your fears. *

Is there any hope of Brother Alexander Campbell visiting these Provinces this season?*

I must bid you adieu for the present, and remain, yours in the bonds of peace.

WILLIAM BRYDEN.

* Not this season.—Ed.

From the Christian Messenger.

To the Rev W. W. Eaton, Editor of the *CHRISTIAN*, Saint John, N. B.

DEAR SIR—I have received the three last numbers of the *Christian*, and I have carefully read and examined the letters you address to me in them. Your object seems to be to expose what you consider the unscriptural practice of the Baptist Churches in these Provinces in requiring a Christian experience, or in examining the effects of faith and repentance on the hearts and lives of persons wishing to be baptized.

The joys, the sorrows, and the hopes of the young convert, you compare to the delusive feelings of the *Romanists*, the *Free-Thinker*, the *Mahomedan*, and the *Hindoo*, after they have performed their idolatrous worship. Godly sorrow for sin, with the love of God in the heart, and joy and peace in believing, and all the exercises of the christian's mind, you condemn as the workings of a deceitful heart. You say you are bold to assert, "that all who are trusting in these things are trusting in themselves," trusting in that for which we have neither precept nor example in God's word.

In my humble opinion, your censures and denunciations against the practices of others on this subject, arise from unscriptural and erroneous views of faith in yourself. Such indistinct views as deprive faith of all its scriptural properties, and make it no better than the influence of tradition and the effects of education.

The faith of the gospel is the same in every age. But it must be admitted that circumstances and time give weight and evidence to a profession of that faith, more at one period than at another. In the Apostolic age, when men professed the religion of Christ, they had to suffer the loss of all things, and often the loss of life itself. Trajan, the Roman Emperor, passed an edict condemning to death all who professed the religion of Christ. In giving directions to a Roman Governor how to proceed in prosecutions against christians, he said, "when brought to trial, if they desecrate Christ, and worship the gods, let nothing further be done, but if they openly profess Christ and will not worship the gods, let them be condemned as guilty of capital crime."