

THE
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"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God."
"This is love, that we walk after his commandments."

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DEACONS—ELDERS—EVANGELISTS.

ARTICLE THIRD.

Before entering farther into the details of duty rightfully appertaining to the elders of Christian Churches, let us candidly hear brother Sillars again:—

DEAR BROTHER OLIPHANT:—I am glad that you admit (page 136, present volume) that my article published in November as a whole is most excellent. I see however from your remarks on my answers to your two queries, pages 133 and 139, that you are not quite satisfied. I think I understand you. But I could have wished that you had defined the difference between us more clearly, as I think some of the readers of the Christian Banner, especially those who may not have seen last year's volume, may be at a loss to know wherein we differ. My intention in taking up my pen at present, is not so much to oppose what you have said, for your remarks are very modest, as to show my views more clearly, as some of your remarks seem to be intended to prove what I never denied.

It has been said that the labors of a man wholly devoted to study and teaching is as necessary in every numerous church as the labors of a schoolmaster. See "The Christian," vol 4. No. 11:—I quote from memory. As no attempt was made to prove the above assertion from scripture, and, as my experience whilst among the Scotch Baptists seemed to contradict it, I was lead to suspect its accuracy. I examined the subject with some care, and the result of my inquiries was, that the above assertion required proof. We know that if a schoolmaster is not employed in a community, that at least most of the young generation will grow up in ignorance of the common branches of education. Now, if the above assertion be correct, all those who do not enjoy the labors of a man *wholly devoted to study and teaching*, will be as ignorant about religion as the children of a schoolmaster are of the common branches of education. (This is re-