

Brother Moss is invited to speak in the Baptist House where the debate is held, and the prospects are good for more additions. But I must close, as I am one of the moderators and it is necessary for me to be there. All well at present. May the Lord bless you.

Adieu,

BENJ. SUMMY.

A WORD ON THE ABOVE.—It is to be regretted that the talented and somewhat singular Elder Moss has not in his long career become more descreet in the use of terms. "The baptism of a believer is essential to salvation" he says to all men; while he uses the three principal words in the Proposition, "baptism," "essential," and "salvation" in a sense wholly different from the current acceptation; thereby, to some extent, doing himself a manifest injustice, as well as all who fraternize with him. Besides, it is as pure a sectarian Proposition as ever was coined. It is not only calculated to fix the mind upon one thing pre-eminently and desproportionally, but it plainly recognizes the principle of essentials and non-essentials. a doctrine that has done more harm than the doctrine of purgatory. Baptism is essertial, the proposition says; other things may or not be!! Some Propositions are neither to be affirmed nor denied; for they are out of shape, distracted, and distorted. We wonder how any man in public debate could either affirm or deny the above Proposition. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" is a scriptural proposition, worthy of all acceptance—as unlike "Baptism to the penitent believer is essential to salvation" as sprinkling is unlike primitive baptism.

Not one ordinance and not one arrangement of the Lord's enactment and sanction can be overvalued if kept in its place, in harmony with the whole gospel. To make too much of baptism, when associated with the Lord Jesus and his authority, is not possible; any more than we can overrate the worth of any member of the human body when we view it in its adaptation and fitness as a part of the whole. Sectarianism is a system of distortions and disproportions. And any language or proposition which is calculated to distort and wrench out of shape the divine harmony and proportion of heaven's instrumentalities to save men from sin and give them everlasting salvation, is far from being profitable. In our judgment the Proposition on baptism (we judge not of the logic which sustained it) is of this injurious stamp.

We thank our cordial brother Summy for the above report and the news he has given to us all

D. O.

☞ "Mathetes" in our next; also our steadfast friend the First Senex. We desire to hear brother W. A. Stephens in some of his poetic strains shortly. An item of news also from brother Asher Holmes. At present we are crowded, but hope to do justice to all our correspondents. Origin of Westminster Confession No. VI. in our May Number

D. O.

☞ The June Meeting for the brethren in Canada West, let all remember, will be held this year in the village of Williamsville, south of Hamilton some twenty-five or twenty-eight miles. Particulars in our next.

D. O.