

prepared for any encounter with the adversaries of truth. And there is the more need of watchful care at the present crisis, since it is manifest, however the thing may be disguised, that a crusade against the Baptists has commenced in this Province. Stand to your arms, brethren! and prepare for the conflict. "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above, all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, watching thereunto with all perseverance," Ephes. vi. 14-18. Your distinctive principles are identified with the existence and prosperity of Christ's church. Scatter them abroad in every direction,—by the pulpit—by the press—by the bible class—by the Sunday School. It is not bigotry; it is not sectarianism; it is "fighting the good fight of faith;" it is the exercise of allegiance to the "King of Kings."

*Watchfulness.* We profess great regard for purity. We hold that none are qualified for membership in the church of Christ who have not been "born again," and that the maintenance of godly discipline is essential to safety and success. How needful that there should be a strict correspondence between our principles and our practice,—that the greatest care should be exercised in the admission of members,—and that all moral delinquency should be dealt with promptly and impartially! In some religious communities, laxity is unavoidable, and the pious mourn hopefully over it;—in Baptist churches it is suicide—it is ruin.

*Union.* Our enemies know our power, and that their best policy is to divide us. This is their cherished purpose. If they can set us against one another and induce us to spend our strength in bickering and strife, their object will be gained. This diversion of our energies will be well-pleasing to them.