

Jesus Christ, its King and Head. Thus far of the independence of churches.

JAMES SILLARS.

The preceding is brief, and the subjoined in also brief :—

Each human government is to some extent unlike every other; and not one of them, either in legislative or executive powers, is like Christ's government. 1. Every saved man is constrained or drawn to Jesus by love; and any number thus constrained by divine affection, are, as a consequence, drawn together by HIM; hence they neither meet nor act on the voluntary (self-choosing) principle. 2. Each church being built upon, directed by, and subject to Jesus, all phrases like 'its own' officers, are, in a marked sense, inapplicable. Hear Peter: 'The elders that are *among* you.' And Paul: 'The saints at Philippi [the church with *its own* bishops?—no, but] with *THE* bishops.' 'The Holy Spirit *hath made* you overseers.' 3. The acts of churches, if illegitimate, are to be reprov'd by authority on earth—the authority of the college of apostles, now found where it has always been, in their word. As one believer has no authority, and as a hundred times nothing is no more than nothing, so a church of a hundred members has the same authority as one believer; hence there is no power in a church, except that of rebellion, to resist the apostles' word. Inspired authority corrected churches in Europe and Asia: the like authority, through any teacher skilled in it, or without a teacher as a living instrument, should correct churches in British and Republican America. Fearful doctrine to all despots, rude or genteel, great or small, whether of the one-man order or of the democratic class! The Lord knows that none of us know enough to rule ourselves.

D. O.

#### RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Our zealous friend, brother A. Clendenan, writing from Jordan, Sept. 25th, says:—

The two welcome Heralds proclaiming the glad tidings of peace have been sojourning here a few days. Brethren Kilgour and Lister in their peregrinations raised the standard of the cross in this village, during which all the region round about Jordan came to hear the gospel announced in primitive style, and were immersed a few of them in the