

can legally claim exemption from that species of military duty instituted by king Jesus.

We have resolved, and re-resolved, and resolved again, to travel less and labor more within our own borders. Importunities from abroad have hitherto been successful in keeping us almost a stranger to the place we have chosen for a residence, and still the wonder grows, in many places, among brethren who solicit assistance, why brother Oliphant cannot come and make them a visit. Sincerely as we desire to be in a number of localities at the same time, and sympathizingly as we feel toward many who anxiously call for help, and who really require it, we must endeavour, more than in times past, to resist the appeals which have so often taken us from the place where the *Witness* is issued. If any brother, or any number of brethren, doubting the wisdom or the benevolence of this purpose, ask a reason or solicit an explanation, we shall be forthcoming with more than half a score of whys and wherefores.

Almost three months have transpired since leaving Oshawa. After making some two or three brief calls at various places, subsequent to the Jordan debate, and spending nearly a week in Rainham, we crossed over to Erie county, New York state, and renewed our acquaintance with some of the brethren in that section. Brother A. P. Jones, having removed from Bennington, is now in Lancaster, and as an evangelist "esteemed very highly in love for his work's sake." He is growing rich: not in goods, chattles, dollars and cents; but in the good things of the kingdom. While laboring to add to the number of the saved, his teaching and influence, we doubt not, will greatly assist the brethren in attaining a correct knowledge of the gospel in all its parts, and in leading them to add to their faith all the virtues which a scheme so perfect implies.

The disciples in Lancaster are entitled to much credit for their zeal in erecting a neat and commodious Meeting House toward the close of last year. Indeed the brethren composing the churches in all these parts have more faith in Houses for their meetings than is to be found among some of our Christian Israel. The brethren in Williamsville have a Meeting House, and also the brethren in Clarence, which, with the one in Lancaster, make three places of meeting within a few miles.

We spent little time in this vicinity, but hasted forward to Cayuga and Onondaga counties. South Butler, Troopsville, Clarksville, Cato Corners, Ira, Syracuse, Tully, Pompey, Dewitt, Brewerton, and Cicero were severally and rapidly visited—where acquaintances were