

faith; and to advocate and to point out, what it bids men to believe and to do—that they may obtain peace and holiness in life, a good hope in death, and at last eternal life—and who in consequence are more impartial witnesses of these things than others (however pious or learned) can be, who from the circumstances in which they are each differently placed, are obliged necessarily more or less to modify, and to identify the truths of scripture, with the views, practices and interest of that party they determine to support, and prejudge to be scriptural. The arguments of those writers, however scriptural, acute, interesting or edifying, they may be, (from want of party support and from causes connected with this; from that experience, which teaches, that discussion is fatal to mere human opinions and practices,) have little chance of being impartially noticed in any religious periodical, which has for one of its objects to sustain the interests of a human creed or party. The Gleaner contributes in these provinces to their investigation, as to what they deem truth? and to obtain for them, what they are claiming and gradually obtaining in other parts of the world—a hearing. Why almost all who have become leaders or influential in their respective denominations discourage as far as they can, writings whose object is professedly so single, and, which openly appeal to the Bible as the test by which their consistency may be easily proved; we will not now attempt to explain. We have no motive but what we avow in thus aiding free investigation in the way we do, it exposes us to a good deal of trouble, to the risk of being misconceived or misrepresented, and to some pecuniary loss. But we are encouraged by some beneficial results from our labours, and by solicitation and promises of assistance of some friendly to the cause of Christian unity for the truth's sake, and for the Bible alone, as their articles of creed---to persevere. We propose, God willing, to make preparations for the regular monthly appearing of another volume, the first number of which to be by the 1st of June next. We have various fields within our reach, from which we trust we may glean enough to satisfy any healthy appetite, or taste.

All we ask is, hear, before you judge, and what you hear, judge “by the law and the testimony,” by this alone, “prove all things that you may hold fast that which is good.”—*Ed.*

Who is my mother, or my brethren?
 Christ spake, and looked on them that sat around,
 With a meek smile, of pity bent with love
 More melting than e'er gleamed from human face,
 As when a sun beam, through a summer shower,
 Shines mildly on a little hill side flock;
 And with that look of love he said, behold
 My mother and my brethren; for I say,
 That whoso'er shall do the will of God
 He is my brother, sister, mother, all.

ERRATUM.—Page 260, 2nd line from top, for “it is said,” read, “is it said?”