

a man born blind. The means used were spreading clay upon the eyes of the blind man, and washing in the Pool of Siloam. To spread clay upon the eyes, in man's estimation, would seem more calculated to take away sight from one that had it than to restore sight to one that was blind. We do not read that the blind man objected to the clay being spread upon his eyes. He had confidence in Jesus and was willing to be cured in Jesus' own way; but if he had refused to submit and follow his instruction, we have no reason to believe he would receive his sight. From all this we may learn an important lesson, namely: to *obey* whatever God *commands*: for his ways are not as our ways, neither his thoughts as our thoughts — "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice; and to hearken than the fat of rams."

JAMES SILLARS.

*River John, Pictou, N. S. July 24. 1852.*

### OUR SAVIOUR'S SECOND COMING.

Brother Dunphy of Gardiner, Maine, whose zeal and intelligence give him a good recommendation, is desirous that more should be spoken and written on the above subject. At the close of a recent epistle, he thus speaks—

"Brother Oliphant, will you permit me to ask one question? Do your ministers and publications say as much about the second coming of Christ, and the Resurrection as they should? These are soul cheering themes and why not speak out freely on the subjects? Would not several essays on the above topics add to the interest of the Banner? Mark this: I do not find fault. I prize the Banner above any publication which I place my eye upon, but I should like to see some strong articles on the above subjects."

Our brother, who has been long and doubtless happily connected with the Baptists, is aware that the first coming of Christ was the coming dwelt on by the apostles and evangelists in their efforts to convert and reform the world. The character, object, influence, and fruits of Christ's teaching when he became a Teacher, and the death that he died, and the meaning and power of that death, all connected with his first coming, were made by his chosen heralds the groundwork of their labours in reforming men. It was, *Christ has come* rather than *Christ will come* that they sounded in the ears of the Jew and Gentile for their reformation.

True, they taught believers to look for Christ returning with his magnificent train of angelic attendants, compassed with a halo of glory, to smite all enemies and give salvation to all saints. "To these who look for him," says brother Paul, "shall he appear the second time." Of himself he says, after developing events which should previously transpire, "Then shall the Son of man be seen coming in the clouds of heaven with great power and glory." So spake Jesus and his