

THE  
**CHRISTIAN BANNER.**

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God."  
"This is love, that we walk after his commandments."

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**THE MORALITY OF BARGAIN-MAKING.**

The following has been some time in our drawer, but it is not yet dead :—

*Cobourg, 16th Dec., 1852.*

TO THE COMMITTEE CONDUCTING THE PRESBYTERIAN, MONTREAL:

GENTLEMEN :—Your last Number contained an article entitled the "Morality of Bargain-Making" so highly valuable, that I am induced to offer you a voluntary testimony as having done a good work in giving it to the public. I could desire that every reader in the land would see the article in question, read it, ponder it, and honor it with that practical attention which it justly claims in times of such lax morality as society now presents.

I offer no apology for thus, unasked, recording my appreciation of the well written paper above mentioned. It is my intention to lay it before the readers of the *Christian Banner*, and thus give it a still wider commission.

Respectfully,

D. OLIPHANT.

The maxim, "It is my duty to buy in the cheapest market and to sell in the dearest," has a manifest basis of truth. It would be wrong for a merchant to go and buy an article at eightpence per pound when he knew another market where he could get the same article for fourteen. It would be wrong for him to neglect a market where the price was eighteen, and to sell in one where it was fourteen. In either of these cases, he would display a negligence which, if habitual, must end in ruin. But it is one thing, to go to the cheapest market, and another thing when there, to set your heart on buying so cheaply that you will wrench from the anxious seller every hope of an honest profit.

"But the buyer must not pretend to be judge of the seller's business; he knows at what price it will answer his purpose to buy; every man can take care of his own interests." This seems fair; and, when two men meet on equal ground, it is fair. The manufacturer ought