

"Twelve or thirteen families or heads of families, belonging to the Latin and Greek churches, formally proposed a few days ago to unite with us, if I would only allow them the house-rent which all denominations [ourselves alone excepted] grant to their members. And the Romanist has become enlightened and wishes very much to be baptized, and unite with us—declaring that he wants no house, nor anything else but pure religion; and yet the fear of starvation makes him unwilling to abandon a lucrative, but unlawful trade, and resort to something else for a livelihood. He is now driving a thrifty business by painting images of the Virgin Mary and other Saints for the purpose of being worshipped; and declares that he knows no other avocation by which he can eke out the most scanty support. But although he has 'confessed and showed his deeds,' he cannot yet bring himself to imitate the example of the Ephesian converts, who 'burnt their books' when the iniquity of their curious arts was exposed. Were our place of refuge in operation, it would probably be a suitable trial of his faith. Poor fellow! if he is saved, it will cost a mighty struggle; for both the flesh and the Devil are strongly urging his continuance in this shrine making business, by which he and a few other craftsmen of like occupation 'have their wealth'."

The "place of refuge" referred to by Dr. Barclay, is to be a kind of manual labor school, which the Board has decided to get in operation as soon as possible, in order to have a home and the means of subsistence for those who give good evidence of their sincere attachment to the Lord and his cause, and who may need such an asylum in consequence of their obedience to the faith.

The expenses, therefore, of the mission, this year, will be double that of last. Our subscriptions must be proportionably increased.—  
"God loves a cheerful giver."

In conclusion, we may add that brother Barclay now proclaims the gospel every other Lord's Day at Artos (Bethlehem) to a company, at the head of which is the distinguished Mussulman, who is endeavoring to teach the Jews who return, or are residents of the Holy Land, to gain a subsistence by the cultivation of the soil. Thus far, they have been quite successful. Let us pray that his labors and theirs may prove a blessing to the sons of Ishmael and Israel, as they have already to many of the sons of Japheth.

W. W. E.

## PREACHERS—PEOPLE.

### NUMBER ONE.

Upon no topic have the people who glory in being called Disciples given greater emphasis, than that relating to the undue power, omissions, and commissions of preachers. The swelling pretensions, erroneous influence, and proud bearing of the ministers of our times have been pointed out, commented on, and severely rebuked by almost all our pensmen and spokesmen. A faithful and impartial witness, one who could look at us without prejudice, either in our favor or