

WORDS OF PEACE.

YOU know, brethren, that I have long felt an interest in your congregational affairs. By occasional intercourse, our acquaintance has grown into friendship ; and till this time, I have been always glad to meet you in the house of God, to join with you in acts of devotion, and to assist your preparation for the eternal state. When at a distance, also, your condition afforded me many pleasing reflections. I had seen you surmount those difficulties which new congregations usually experience ; and, by encrease of numbers, you seemed to have acquired a stability, which promised much good to yourselves and to the church at large. From these considerations I cherished a hope, that your comfort in the gospel would be proportioned to your exertions to secure its ordinances ; and, that, having one father of all and one common inheritance, you would live like brethren, and love like the children of God. Unfortunately for you all, however, you have let wild grapes grow where the grape should flourish ; and instead of the unity of the spirit, there are divisions among you.

THIS is not very honourable to a christian profession ; and, I dare say, you are able to add, that it has afforded you neither the profit nor pleasure of religious improvement. It must then be advisable to cease from contention ; and it oc-