

we had already arrived at the perfection of knowledge. The leading positions of Shepard's address last December are clearly and strongly stated. They are either true or not true, scriptural or anti-scriptural. In our judgment they are entitled to a fair and full investigation; and after the other scribes have emptied their ink bottles or drained their pond of thought upon the topic, we shall, though not among the aged, also show our stock of reflections. In the meantime those who differ upon the subject have the free use of these pages to argue and bring forth their power *for* and *against*. We do not say and dare not say that all articles sent to us will have utterance, for all have not the merit to edify, but we will give the fullest liberty to those who are pleased to take different sides to make their cause as strong and convincing as they are able.

As brother T. F., as he appears in an essay of last year, is greatly applauded by our brother Sillars, we trust he will not repudiate T. F. as he comes forth in the Gospel Advocate in a late Number, when he says:—

“Evangelists should have the general supervision of the churches. . . . The Evangelists planted the primitive churches, set in order what was wanting, ordained the older men or elders to oversee the respective flocks, and then these Evangelists traveled abroad again to plant and put into active service other churches. Whilst also they were the ministers or apostles of the churches, and were careful to report to the congregations that recommended them for the labor, they always not only felt that it was their duty to see that bishops and members acted well their part, but that it was a part of their labor to see that the churches were kept in order. Hence the Apostle Paul speaks “Of that which cometh upon him daily, the care of all the churches.” (2 Cor. xi, 28.) Evangelists should now feel that the care of the churches, to some considerable degree, rests upon them. Their eye should be over shepherds as well as flocks. The true Evangelist is one who has all the members to perform their appropriate labor, but he never thinks of taking the office from any one.”

—Let us review all these things calmly and patiently, and if we then dissent from one another, let us as brethren do it genteelly and with christian courtesy.

D. O.

. What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ: yea, doubtless, and I count all things loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord.—PAUL.