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LETTER NO. II.

Having sent THE HERALD containing letter No. 1 to Professor Shaw, I have waited some days hoping he might favor us with a few words by way of explanation, or reply, as we need more light on this very solemn and important subject. Not having heard from him, I proceed with a second letter, which I hope may not be without some degree of interest.

A TERRIFIC DOCTRINE.

The future destiny of the unsaved is now one of the most absorbing questions of the day, and but few pastors of churches would proclaim as in past times the doctrine that the glory of God will be, or is now being promoted, by keeping millions of souls in helpless and hopeless misery for ever. This is very rarely preached from our pulpits now, and may we not hope that it is not taught to the students in our colleges? An aged and godly Methodist woman of the old school remarked to me some days ago that "these dreadful things were not so often preached about in Methodist pulpits and churches now-a-days, and she was glad of it." The remark would also apply to the churches of other denominations. The pews may listen to an occasional and passing remark on the eternal damnation of the lost, but clergymen well know that there would soon be a quick thinning out process going on in their pews and churches were they to preach these doctrines now with the same positiveness and vehemence as formerly. I was glad to hear that Professor Shaw is somewhat milder and broader in his views than some other Professors, notwithstanding his belief in the eternal duration of the punishment of the unsaved.

AN INTERMEDIATE STATE.

He affirms that there is an *intermediate* state, by which, I suppose, we are to understand that the souls of the lost do not go directly to hell at death, but after the resurrection and judgment day. Even this is better, and I hope, more Scriptural, for if this be the correct view millions of souls have