

is (1) to make money, (2) to advertise the ability and learning of its writers, (3) or to popularize itself and the cause with an ungodly world, and with the denominations, then, I imagine one should not look much to Providence for guidance or aid. But if the purpose is to please God; and if, in this effort, the Bible is made the real and unvarying guide, then may they "trust in the Lord and do good, and verily thou shalt be fed."

Only yesterday I read, in a new church paper, of a certain conference, or assembly of preachers, ordaining, and authorizing certain persons to ordain preachers and others; and I was led to think of Charles Wesley's couplet, viz:

"Our John laid hands on de cake,
But who laid hands on John?"

It is quite possible for us, while claiming to follow the Bible, to assume authority never given to us, and to teach ordinances, etc., not ordered in the Guide Book.

Some men—whether for lack of manhood or good-hood—I know not, seem not able to stand squarely up for that which is unpopular with men. But some can, and a noble class are they! Such were the beginners of this Reformation. Such were the apostles and the first Christians. A paper that can do this is worthy of support, and will be supported by the intelligent and God fearing all around.

We used to say: "Hew to the line, if the chips do fly in your neighbor's eyes." That is his business. This is ours.

To do a good (?) work, and to do it in God's way, are not always exactly the same. If God has pointed out no way, then "let every one be fully persuaded in his own mind." But when the way is pointed out in the Divine Guide, we have no alternative but to follow it, even if it is over mountains and on troubled seas. Can we follow the guide, and trust in God?

Affectionately,
C. KENDRICK.

Letter from Sister Merriman.

—CHENEY, W. T.,
Dec. 17, 1882.

J. F. Floyd:

DEAR BRO.—Please find enclosed my subscription for the CHRISTIAN HERALD for the past year; I hope to send it on for the coming year before long. Would be glad to work for the paper if I could, but our brethren are so few in this, and adjacent vicinities, that it is very

seldom that I see a Disciple. I have prayed and hoped long that God would send some successful preaching brother up into this new but inviting field to labor. Cheney is a growing, thriving town of a thousand inhabitants, but only of two years and a third in age. Four churches are already built, but our brethren, from poverty, timidity, or perhaps both, are so slow to go out and possess the lands. New countries are just the

place in which to go and get a strong hold. The lines are being drawn more sharply in this country than I ever knew them to be before. Infidelity is assuming positive proportions, which I am hoping will drive Christians together.

Allow me to welcome you and yours to our coast as Christian workers. May our kind Father make your stay pleasant and profitable and enable you to pursue with success the great work which Bro. Stanley has so nobly extended the past year. I would sooner do without most anything else than the CHRISTIAN HERALD.

Yours with Christian courtesy,

MRS. J. MERRIMAN.

[Many thanks, Sister Merriman. Glad to know you appreciate the HERALD, and we hope it may do great good for the Master. Who will heed the Macedonian cry, and go over and help our good sister?—ED.]

Letter from Washington Territory.

PALOUSE CITY, W. T.,
Dec. 21, 1882.

I have long desired to express a few ideas on things concerning the church, your paper, our situation, and other circumstances.

We have had several organizations formed north of Snake river of no very ancient date, yet, I fear, the growth in grace is rather slow. This country, being newly settled, has its common hindrances with others in like condition. Many came here nearly penniless, for this with some, and other things with others, makes our supply of preaching very small when but monthly, and frequent omissions at the stated times adds to our destitution. The congregation of Disciples here is small and poor; we paid up in full our obligations, but have not secured an Evangelist for the coming year. Crops failing about half makes it difficult to raise funds to employ an Evangelist. We had a young

brother commencing to preach who was rather a promising speaker, but his health has so failed that he is not able to do much, either carnal or spiritual labor, and he is in low circumstances, not improvement enough to give support to his family, consisting of a wife and two children.

We have been rather unfortunate too. We came here in '78, and took a claim, but being old and weakly, and want of team, made but little improvement; there are but two of us. I am nearly 72 years old, and wife about 62; she has had pretty good health lately. We were burned out in October, '81, and consequently are having a pretty hard time. We got a little last year, perhaps about the value of \$75, mostly in trade. We hope to so improve our place as to make it sustain us; but for want of strength or funds get along very slowly. We feel desirous of being able to live and assist others.

I had some correspondence with a brother in Colorado, who has written a work on the Prophecies, in which he can reconcile Geology with the Bible; also to correct some errors in Astronomy. I am not scienced enough to know or comprehend it all. I guess he is not able to get it printed, unless lately. His address is Richard Bard, Sugarloaf, Boulder Co., Col.

I have desired to learn of the lineage of Bro. T. F. Campbell, he may be kin to us, and I crave his likeness or picture. If I could get a few names for your paper would do so.

Your brother in Christ,
J. F. CAMPBELL.

Letter from Bro. Hodges.

GLENCOE, OR., Dec. 16, 1882.

Dear Bro. Stanley:

I have not forgotten my promise to help you in the spread of your excellent paper. The only excuses I can offer for the long delay are: 1st. I have not been permanently settled. 2nd. The want of means I now can offer neither of these excuses. I therefore forward you five dollars with a "God speed." You can send me the paper for one year from Jan. 1, 1883, also a copy to some poor brother, and use the other dollar as you see fit.

I will try and write an occasional article for the paper, and thus help on the noble work.

Your brother in Christ,
C. H. HODGES.

Letter from Bro. Gerking.

CENTERVILLE, OR.,
Dec 27, 1882.

Dear Bro. Stanley:

I have, after a perilous ride from the valley through the Cascades to The Dalles and over the bunch grass hill, from thence to Centerville, have reached home safe, and feel thankful that through the mercies of the Allwise Creator, that I am permitted to write you.

I have missed the good society of Monmouth very much; and the absence from Christian association a few weeks is sufficient time for one to see the blessings of good society and to realize the great need of Christian worship. I have not had the privilege of being at meeting but once since I left Monmouth, except while in the Dalles, that was Baptist prayer-meeting, and of the poorest I ever attended. I do not wonder at so many people not professing religion when the principles of Christianity are so poorly set before the people. I have not seen but few of the brethren yet. Bro. Moss is holding a meeting at Centerville. I think some of going there to-night, though the weather is tolerably cold, but not severe.

I will support the cause of the paper the best I can. I will write again and will send you the numbers of some land.

I remain your brother,
S. I. GERKING.

Answer to Question of Bro. Propst of Farmington, W. T.

It appears that this question was put the editor of the HERALD, but as I am not at all satisfied with the answer given I desire to offer what I accept as the solution of this seeming contradiction. "He went and hanged himself." It is known that some of our best scholars and commentators render these words, "Strangled" or "choked with anguish;" and refer to the case of Aristobulus, whose very bowels were torn in pieces by intolerable grief thus harmonizing with "He fell headlong" &c. In preference to this I accept of the statement of Jesephus, which is that Judas was walking on the wall of Jerusalem and that either he jumped or fell from the wall and that in falling he caught on a hook in the wall and tore his bowels out. I have not given the language of the narrator and cannot refer to the book and section, because my volume is ab-