

in the incidents of Elijah and the prophets of Baal. Elijah said to the people, "How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word." No wonder the people answered him not a word. Their halting between two opinions did not consist in an effort to decide which one they would serve to the exclusion of the other. But they were trying to serve both, and the object of Elijah was to bring them to a final decision in behalf of one. They must make up their minds to love and serve God alone, or else to take Baal alone.

This lesson is also taught in the New Testament. When the rich young man came to the Savior inquiring what he must do to inherit eternal life and was told he must sell what he had, give it to the poor and take up the cross and follow the Master, he went away sorrowful because he had great possessions. He was willing to follow the Savior provided it did not interfere with his riches. But rather than devote these to the proper use, he was willing to give up Christ altogether. This brethren, is the decision of too many Christians.

THE PHRASE "CHRISTIAN CHURCH" A MISNOMER.

We would be glad if our scribes, and the brethren generally, would drop the use of the phrase "Christian Church" when speaking of the churches of Christ in any given county, district or State. Indeed, so far as we are concerned we would be glad if it were completely erased from our theological vocabulary. The phrase, either in the English or in the Greek, is not found once in all the Bible. The apostles never wrote letters to the Christian Church, but when speaking of the congregation of any given district or country, they called them the churches of Christ, churches of God, etc. If it be said this is used merely as a synonym of churches of Christ or of God, then we answer:

1. It is not a literal translation of the original phrase, and hence, cannot be its true synonym. Neither is it a true synonym in the English; and to the extent of its defect, it fails to express the scriptural idea.
2. If it should turn out to be a proper synonym, it is just as easy to use the proper translation of the phrase itself as to use its syn-

onym. Then when we are asked the name of the body to which we belong, we can turn to the New Testament and find the exact wording, which is an end of all controversy, and hence, we are not necessitated to the double task of first finding the phrase itself and then going to work and proving that the phrase Christian Church is its true synonym. Besides, when we have departed from strict biblical phraseology in so important a matter as this, we have laid the foundation for a second departure and so on *ad infinitum*. It is a very easy matter to run down grade. The phrase Christian Church is becoming altogether too common. In many places it is used exclusively. We meet it in our papers and pamphlets. It is found on our cards and circulars. It is written on our Sunday-school books. It is seen over the doors of our houses of worship. It is daily on the lips of thousands of our church members. It is used by the denominations around us in a mere sectarian sense, and that too by our sanction.

In view of these facts, we think a little conformity to Bible names would prevent much confusion and greatly facilitate our work as a people.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

On the 2nd inst. we were driven from Springfield to Eugene by our kind Bro. T. O. Maxwell, one of the elders of the church at Springfield. At Eugene we always feel perfectly at home among such kind brethren as G. M. Whitney, Dr. Gill, Churchill, the Callisons, Fenton and many others too numerous to mention. They nobly stood by us in our trials that came upon us last summer, when we were so far away from home and friends, and we will not soon forget them.

We made our home, while in Eugene this time, with Bro. and Sister Beckwith, who keep the Home Hotel, and we can say by experience that they know how to make their guests feel at home. If any of our readers should have occasion to pass through Eugene and desire a place to stop where they can get the worth of their money and be made happy, they will find the Home Hotel to be such a place.

On Saturday morning, the 3rd inst., we took the train for Junction City, where we were met by Bro.

Ferguson, who lives near the Liberty School-house, some seven miles west of Junction City, where we had our next appointment to preach over Sunday and a part of the week. We found, however, after reaching the neighborhood, that the farmers were very busy, and that the people were somewhat frightened over a few cases of scarlet fever, quite near, and concluded that it would be almost impossible to get an audience of evenings, and closed our meeting on Lord's day evening. Liberty is where Bro. E. Mays, one of our aged preachers lives. We had the great pleasure of spending a part of the Lord's day with him, in his pleasant home. He preaches for the little band of brethren at Liberty when his health will permit. His dear companion has "passed on before," and he is now waiting until the Master says it is enough, and then he will be ready to give up this world for one where parting is unknown.

On Monday morning Bro. Ferguson kindly consented to bring us to Junction City again, where we took the train for Albany, *en route* for this place, where we had an appointment to hold a meeting. At the station at Albany, after leaving the train, we had the pleasure of meeting several of our brethren, and among the rest Neal Cheetham, our State Evangelist, J. E. Roberts, one of our veteran preachers of Lane county, Dr. Cole, a member of the church at Albany, and last, but not least, H. M. Waller, of this place, who is one of the pioneer preachers of Oregon, and a man whose praise is in all the churches in the State. He came here in the earliest settlement of the country, and from what we can learn he knows as much about the Christian church in Oregon as any man now living. He commenced preaching in Illinois when but a boy, and came here when quite young, and has been in the field evangelizing almost ever since. We had his genial company all the way from Albany to Monmouth, and after reaching Monmouth were most hospitably entertained in his pleasant home.

We found, while in Albany, that the State Evangelist had been there about a week, working up matters as well as he could, to make sure the putting of a suitable preacher in that field. After a half hour's rest and dinner with the kind family of Bro. Hays at Albany we,

in company with Bro. Waller, took the stage for Corvallis, where we had to remain all night, in order to take the morning train for this place. While in Corvallis we hunted up several of the brethren and sisters there, and formed their acquaintance. Our people once had an organization there, but by some means it has gone down. We were told that there are some thirty members living there now, and that they own a good lot on which to build a house of worship, and that there is also considerable money in the hands of some one to be used for that purpose. Corvallis is one of the most important towns in the valley where we have no church already established, and it seems to us, with the number of members, and the means they now have with which to build a church, that no time should be lost in undertaking the work their again. If our State Evangelist, or some other good man, could go there and remain for a month or two, or for six months, it seems to us that a church house could be built there and the brethren gathered together in such a way that there would be little doubts respecting the outcome of the work.

We left Corvallis on the morning train and reached Independence about ten o'clock, and after a ride of about two miles, in a hack, we found ourself at the home of Bro. Waller. We had long heard of Monmouth, but now, for the first time, we have the pleasure of looking upon it. It has long been considered the head quarters of our brotherhood in Oregon. Here is where Christian College is located, which has been so well and favorably known, not only to our brotherhood on this coast, but throughout the East. Here is where T. F. Campbell, its president for so many years, lived and labored; and also where the CHRISTIAN HERALD is published. It is also the home of Peter Burnett, one of our true and tried preachers of the word, who is so well and favorably known throughout Oregon.

We are indeed much pleased with what we have seen of Monmouth and its surroundings. We consider the country second to none we have seen anywhere in the valley. The scenery is very fine, and we have no doubt but that it is a very healthy place in which to live. The town is small, likely numbering less than six hundred of a population. There is no church in