

PUBLIC LEGER.

COMMUNICATED FOR THE LEGER.

To C. M.

It was not the intention of Jonah, (when he commenced his sentiments upon some of the qualifications necessary for a christian,) to enter into religious disputation with any: nor does he wish C. M. to understand him as having now embarked in that service; but only to remove thy objections to some remarks of mine in No. 2 and 3 of the Leger. First, to this, that the active or natural mind of man must be chained down or driven out by a supernatural power, before one can possibly enter into the service of a minister of Christ, or before he can in any way worship the Almighty acceptably. In this sentiment I think I am well grounded, and I have never yet read or heard that argument, which has been able to remove it. We are assured that the carnal or natural minded man, knoweth not the things of God: this of itself is sufficient to settle this point, and to confute any contrary sentiment, were we not too much prepossessed. It is not reasonable to suppose that the carnal or active mind should or can know the things of God, for it is said, they are spiritually discerned. Are they then also carnally discerned? no! for we are hedged in on that side; the carnal mind knoweth not the things of God: Whither shall we turn? we must submit to this doctrine; we must acknowledge that the things of God cannot be discerned spiritually, whilst the mind of man is not spiritual, but carnal, and active with its carnalities. Believest thou this? I am persuaded thou believest &c.

Thou sayest "we discover the means which God hath ordained; the major one is the preaching of the Gospel."—To this I must unequivocally place the negative sentiment, believing that the Grace of God, which came by Jesus Christ is the major means of the salvation of all, who are saved: and that there are thousands and tens of thousands saved who never heard the Gospel vocally preached. By what means then were they saved? Wilt thou say they were not saved? I hope better things of thee; that thou wilt not only admit, but acknowledge the saving influence of the inward Teacher, the counselor for God: that whosoever obeys its calls, and walks in its ways, do and ever will experience the preserving and saving power thereof, without the aid of the activity of the natural mind; because, to know the calls of that still, small voice, requires, in my opinion the most profound introversion of soul, that is possible to be entered into. Hence the necessity of having this carnal, active mind of man, chained down by a power superior to that of man's, & there to wait for the anointing unction of the Holy One: then the spiritual (not the active, carnal mind) may be excercised in declaring Christ crucified, which ever was to the Jews a "stumbling block" and to the Greeks "foolishness."

I do not at all wonder at thy disbelief of any minister, who would sit nine times in congregations without preaching, when thou so strongly contendest for the exercise of the activity of the carnal mind of man. Paul, in judging of matters, exercises his natural mind; but when he gives the mind of Christ as revealed to him, he acknowledges it not his, but Christ's.

Thou sayest "the Apostles, who understood their mission, initiated all who embraced the gospel of Christ, by baptism." How lame this sentiment is, I hope C. M. will perceive, and how futile to argue, that after the converts had embraced the gospel of Christ, the Apostles (if they understood their mission) would have initiated such into the gospel by water baptism—thus bringing them into the gospel by water, after they had already embraced it by the teaching of the Holy Spirit. If the Apostle Paul was now among us, methinks he would not like the being charged with not understanding his mission, seeing he baptised with water so few, and even thanked God they were so small a number. If this elementary baptism was and remains to be a religious rite inseparably connected with the gospel, (as by thy assertion) the Apostle Paul, did not understand his mission, which, perhaps, "upon second consideration, thou wilt not insist on."

Can it be possible that a man of thy experience will contend for outward baptism, and quote Peter as a proof thereof, when he declares it is not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience towards God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ! Can C. M. believe that the figure of baptism will save from infidelity, from paganism; and that in the days of Balcarman, people made a profession of renouncing the world and the devil? that they were baptised? that a white garment was given them and they admitted to the Lord's Supper? Thou mayest believe this, because we may profess much,

and profess but little. But notwithstanding all this, many of them may have been infidel in heart; and because they professed to have renounced the world and the devil, it does not follow that they did so.

False weights and false balances were punishable under the law, by death, and is now in this our day to be punished by the judges: I find C. M. not to be clear in this matter, as he has attempted to give his argument false weight by mis-quotation of scripture. If thou wilt read the passage, I think thou wilt not find the command to go teach & baptise &c. but to go teach, baptising &c. the latter according to my conception of the text, makes it but one service, whilst thou dividest it into two, to suit thy argument: this is not proper.

I admit that men may teach vocally in the authority that God giveth, but, that he can baptise outwardly with water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, is inadmissible into my rule of faith. If I have a right conception of the true meaning of the name of the Father, it is a received sentiment with most, that his name is as his power; and his power as his name; that they are the same in virtue, in wisdom and authority; if so, water cannot be an essential requisite to the salvation of any: nor am I willing to admit, (for the good opinion I have of my correspondent) that he will contend, that the multitude of all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people, which could not be numbered,—who were clothed with white robes,—had been baptised with water, because it would at once throw him on the ground of bigotry. There are but two positions we can take in this case: the

First, is if we contend that water Baptism is essential to salvation, we must conclude that none have been or are saved but those that have been and are baptised with water: and the

Second is, that we may enjoy all the glories promised to the redeemed of God, without being baptised with water.

One of these positions thou must take, and judging from the good opinion I have of thee, it will be the latter; and if so thy argument will fall to the ground: but if the former, thou wilt be uncharitable.

To close my remarks on this subject, for which I am concerned on behalf of my professing brethren, and that we may try this subject somewhat more, let us query, Whether our dear Redeemer and author of the christian religion, was baptised, and if we find he was, was he not also circumcised? why leave the one and cleave to the other? The Apostles, perhaps, were baptised; so also were they circumcised.

I shall close with one conclusive sentiment not hastily begotten; that it is not essential to the salvation of a rational mind, to practice as a religious duty, that which Christ never did, nor ever commanded to be done. But He never baptised, nor did He ever direct any to baptise with water. ergo, it is not essential. Farewell.

JONAH.

[COMMUNICATED.]

A CARD.

"Have you such a thing, Sam, as a tenpence about you? Remember I only ask for information."

Jeremy Diddler.

SIMON MAGUS presents his compliments to the Editor of the "Western Emporium," and beg leave to ask him how much money was received at the exhibition of the DIALOGUE, (he advertised a few weeks ago,) on the 7th or 8th instant? (they were both wet days.)—As the Editor of the Emporium, is a Judge, and is supposed to know something of law, will he be kind enough to inform the public who has the power to declare martial law, as he has denied it to the President, and Congress. Simon Magus, would also take the liberty of asking the Editor, if any person would give him (the Editor) fifty mills for minding his own business the rest of his life, or whether he ought not to have applied to himself the circumstance related by him, (to the "Leger" man,) for my information?

Elkhorn, June 17, 1824.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Friend Buxton—Please inform the editor of the "Western Emporium," that I observed in his paper of the 12th inst. a fragment of a piece on Agriculture, which I wrote for the 3d No. of the Leger. I could not perceive that there was any remark or other sign by which one could tell whence friend Scott got it. Now I write but seldom, but when I do write, as it costs me a great deal of labor, I have no idea of having it pilfered. If it was not so wearisome to me, I might extend this complaint further, but I remember that "a word to the wise is sufficient."

X. Y.

POMP AND PARADE.—Sir John Malcom, in his late account of Central India, to give some idea of eastern magnificence, states that, according to respectable testimony, "seven hundred elephants, in velvet housings, walked at the coronation ceremony of a young prince, through the streets of Mandoo;" a city whose magnificent ruins may still be traced over an extent of ground thirty-seven miles in circumference.—Niles.

FOREIGN.

CONSTANTINOPLE.

Extract of a letter from an American Gentleman, Dated at Constantinople, 13th December, 1823.

[Boston Palladium.]

"Constantinople, the capital of the Ottoman Empire, and its suburbs, contain at least a million of inhabitants of all nations and various religions. Its public edifices are probably more numerous than those of any other city in the world. For instance it contains, besides the palaces of the Sultan and the grandees of the empire, fourteen Imperial mosques, i. e. vast and splendid temples for the worship of God, all of them richly endowed with ample revenues, derived from the rents of real property long ago devoted to their support.

For example, the revenue of the Grand mosque of Saint Sophia is more than a million of piastres per annum, equal to \$125,000;

that of the mosque of Sultan Selim is 200,000 piastres; that of Sultan Achmet 250,000, that of Sultan Bajazet 300,000;

and none of the other imperial mosques have less than 80,000, 100,000, or 120,000 piastres per annum.

As it is a principle of the Religion of those people that piety to God should always be accompanied with good works towards man, those mosques have attached to them; 1st, Colleges, called Medarses, devoted to teaching Theology and Jurisprudence; 2nd, Imareths, or Hotels, where the students are nourished gratis. The Imareths of Constantinople feed every day more than 30,000 souls; and 3dly, Hospitals for the sick and insane, of which the most considerable are those attached to the mosques of the Sultan Sulyman, Sultan Bajazet, and Sultan Selim.—In addition to these praiseworthy proofs of Imperial liberality devoted to the public good, there are at Constantinople over 200 other mosques and about 2050 schools, built and endowed by the great men of the Ottoman Empire. In these schools the children of the poor are instructed gratis, in reading, writing, grammar, and the principles of their religion—and a certain number are fed daily. In addition to this, many of the mosques have attached to them Public Libraries. There exists at present in Constantinople thirty-six. The most modern has been built by the reigning Emperor; it is a beautiful edifice of white marble, and stands opposite the Hippodrome. He has also in the Palace of the Seraglio a choice collection, amounting to 20,000, of the most valuable Oriental MSS.

The Public Libraries already mentioned contain each from 2000 to 6000 volumes all manuscripts of most exquisite execution, bound in Morocco, and each book enclosed in an etui or case of the same—the whole contained in cabinets fronted with a glass or trellis-work of gilt bronze. These libraries are open to the public every day in the week, except Tuesday and Fridays. Any body may go there and read, extract from, or transcribe any book he chooses to call for.

Constantinople also contains more than 300 baths, at many of which the poor are served gratis. Public fountains, I know not how many, probably several thousand, some of them magnificent edifices, adorned with variegated marbles and a profusion of gilding.

If you add to this the Barracks of the Janissaries, capable of accommodating 60,000 soldiers, some of them adorned with a luxury of architecture not only superfluous but misplaced—also the spacious and numerous Khans and Caravanserais for the accommodation of travellers; and the vast Bezestens for the sale of merchandise from all parts of the world, some of which Bezestens I have no doubt cover as much ground as the whole of Boston Common, and you will be satisfied that no city in the world contains so many edifices erected for the accommodation of the public as Constantinople."

GREECE AND TURKEY.—It appears by the latest accounts from the East, that the Turks and Greeks were on the eve of commencing the fourth campaign with renewed vigor. A fleet had sailed from Constantinople for the Dardanelles, where a squadron was assembling for the purpose, it was said, of landing 10,000 men on the coast of the Morea. Two Algerine vessels which accompanied the fleet from Constantinople were afterwards fallen in with, and captured by two English ships of war. It was reported that the Dey of Egypt had been intrusted by the Porte with an important command in the contest with Greece.—On the other hand the Patriots are stated to open the campaign with an imposing force. They were placing Missolonghi in a formidable state of defence; had fortified Samos at a very accessible point, and seemed fully apprised of all the movements of their inveterate enemy.—Lord Byron, who had completely recovered from his late indisposition, continued to take an active part in the affairs of the Greeks; and had written letters to London depicting

ting in the most glowing terms, the prospects of the cause of liberty, and inciting his friends against crediting some of the papers respecting the prize in which he was engaged, while the Turks were evincing the testation of the Greeks by fresh atrocities. Accounts from Smyrna of the 5th of April mention the massacre of not less than four of the inhabitants of the villa of Tiri, and detail circumstances connected with these murders, which show that the hand of the Barbarians against the oppressed is deep rooted as ever.

The British Government has decided to be in a state of blockade.

The Marquis of Lansdown brought a bill to enable the Catholics of England to vote at elections in the same manner as those of Ireland—read a first time. Marquis then referred to another bill meant to introduce, the object of which was to enable the Catholics of England hold offices upon the same principle as those of Ireland.

Mr. Huskisson obtained leave in the House of Commons on the 13th ult. to introduce his proposed bill to convert foreign grain into flour. Mr. Curwen expressed apprehensions that the ports would be closed on the 5th August for the importation of grain, which he conceived would be ruinous to the agricultural interest.

GREECE AND TURKEY.—It was reported on the 18th of March, that the Greeks under General Bazzaris had obtained possession of Arta, and that the Albanians had joined them and were proceeding to attack Ioannina. The patriots of Candia had compelled the Turks to take refuge in the fortresses, after making 2000 of them prisoners.—The fall of Patras was rumored on the 5th August. The letters received from London from that capital by an English Turkey merchant are stated to have confirmed, most unequivocally, the report of the declaration of independence issued by the Pacha of Egypt. The Sultan is said to be disposed to treat with the Greeks, but the Divan was opposed to this, and recently persecuted several of them Turkish dominions.

Intelligence has been received from a British squadron off Algiers. Admiral H. B. Neale was off that port in the Paphlagonia, with five frigates; the Dey had refused to treat, and was making preparations to sustain a bombardment. For this purpose he had dismantled the vessels which were in the bay, and had drawn them under the Mole. He has also commanded an immense number of troops from the interior to man the fortresses. This news was brought to Gibraltar, on the 19th ult. by the Pheasant frigate, which had been dispatched by the Admiral.

Letters from Gibraltar, of the 18th and 19th ult. communicate some particulars of the blockading squadron off Algiers, which are not without interest. It appears that the Dey has obstinately refused to accede to the terms proposed to him by the British Admiral; but that his own officers are in the greater part, determined to resist his authority, as they are by no means disposed to undergo the horrors of a bombardment. An attempt was even made upon his life on the 15th March, which very narrowly missed success. Up to the 17th no attack had been made by the British squadron, and it was still expected that the differences would be adjusted. These letters state that accounts had been received from the Morea of unfortunate differences between the Greek Chiefs; but we are happy in being able, from direct channels, to state that these have been removed.

The first object of Internal Improvement to which, under the beneficent act of the last session, the attention of the Executive has been directed, is, we understand, a Survey of the proposed route of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, to its termination on the Western waters, and thence to Lake Erie. We congratulate our readers that this highly important preliminary work is about to be undertaken, by a Board of Surveyors, whose capacity and experience afford the promise of almost mathematical accuracy to the result of their labors. General BERNARD, we believe, is at the head of the commission. Captain Poussin will accompany him. Mr. SHRIER, who has so much practical knowledge of the subject, is also engaged, and has gone on to Uniontown, to make the necessary arrangements for laborers, &c. for carrying on the Survey. Col. M'REE, and Mr. WRIGHT, of New York, have been invited to form a part of the Board, which it is understood, will commence operations next week. We have not heard whether they will accept the invitation, but will as soon as we can, furnish our readers with the authentic particulars of this first essay towards the encouragement of the General Government, of great national works of Internal Improvement.

Nat. Intel.