

## Intelligencer.

For the Richmond Intelligencer.

Mr. Editor:

Sir—while my eye wandered over the 12th No. of your Intelligencer, I paused to view the features of a singular, and altogether proofless theory, which purported to weigh in the scales of a visionary imagination, the moral turpitude of the drunkard and the warrior. Unfortunate warrior! the scale preponderates against you; the drunkard ascends, his towering front is reared on the beam of imperious comparison, and he exultingly triumphs in his honestly earned exultation. I have no intention to argue this point with the author who calls himself "Subscriber," but I think that I am entitled to expect that he, in justice to himself, the warrior, and the public, will answer, in print, the following interrogatories.

Query 1st. Was Abraham guilty of moral evil, when he rescued Lot, as recorded Gen. 14th chap?

2 Was Melchisedek, king of Salem, and priest of the most high God, guilty of false ascriptions of honor to God, when he blessed him (God) for delivering Abraham's enemies into his hands, on that occasion, as recorded in the 20th v. of sd. chapter?

3. Was the Lord impeachable with moral evil, when he swore that he (the Lord) would have war with Amelek from generation to generation, as recorded xvii. 16. Exodus.

4. If Moses had been guilty of wickedness, in warring with, and cutting off Amelek, would God have answered the prayer of Moses, while in the very act of the supposed murderer of Amelek? Ex. xvii.

5. Did the Lord grant to Phineas, and his seed after him, the covenant of an everlasting priesthood, in consequence of, and as a reward for, his (Phineas) smiting to death with a javelin, the impious Zimri and Cozbi, in the camp of Israel? Num. xxv. 7, 8, 12, and 13.

6. Was the divine command given to Moses, and to the children of Israel, recorded Num. xxxiii. 51, 52, 53, authority sufficient to justify them in driving out the Canaanites, and possessing their land?

7. And would disobedience to the above enterprise (and in which war the blood of thousands of thousands must have stained the vestments of the war-like victors) have procured to Moses and his army the Divine dispensation, as it is intimated it would in the 55 and 56 verses of the said 33d chap. of Numbers?

8. Let our author read from the 23d to the 25th verse of the 2d chapter of Deut. and then tell me, must the mind of Moses, and his army, be necessarily depraved, as a consequence of their smiting Sihon the Amorite king of Heshbon, taking of his cities, and utterly destroying the men, women and little ones of every city?—Or,

9. Must their minds possess that depravation, as a necessary qualification to their performing the Divine mandate?

10. Is not that command which done but a necessarily depraved mind can render obedience to be itself necessarily immoral?

11. If the command be moral, must the mind be necessarily depraved, in order to surrender to its injunctions? In the iii. of Deut. you will see the fighting system, in all its blood and carnage, casting from his pinnacle the proud usurper, and enemy of God, Og king of Bashan: the story is replete with all the horrors and depopulation, which Sihon, his cities and people underwent—

12. Did Moses then speak the mind of God, or did he prevaricate when he encouraged Joshua, by telling him that as the Lord his God had done unto the two kings, viz. Sihon and Og, so would be the Lord his God, do unto all the kingdoms whither he (Joshua) should pass?

13. And was the 22nd verse of said chapter, intended to animate Joshua, and the soldiery? "ye shall not fear them; for the Lord your God he shall fight for you."

14. Would Moses had he been in one instance the "banditti," as they are called, were said to amount to 800 men.

15. Did the Lord threaten to punish the children of Israel, if they did not by war, cut off, drive out and destroy the nations of Canaan, as recorded in the 28th of Deuteronomy?

16. After our author has read the 13, 14 & 15 verses of the 5th chap.

of Joshua, then let him tell us, whether the Angel therein mentioned, and who said that "as captain of hosts of the Lord am I now come" believed

(with him) that those hosts of the Lord (whom the Angel intended leading to victory and renown) were a set of necessarily depraved wretches inferior to the demoralized thief and drunkard?

17. If the Angel should differ from him in opinion (as he most certainly does) is he able to fix a rational or scriptural negation thereon?

18. Was the angel who announced himself "captain of the hosts of the Lord," (and of course a warrior) necessarily depraved, and sunk below the level of the drunkard?

19. Did the miracle of the walls of the city of Jerico, falling at the blowing of seven trumpets of rams horns, and the shouting of the hosts of the Lord, who marched in, sacked and burnt the city, recorded Joshua 6th chapter, wear the appearance of a mob of infuriated drunkards? The 27th verse of said chapter reads thus "so the Lord was with Joshua, and his fame was noised throughout all the country."

20. Is our author now prepared to say, and will he insist upon it, that be the Lord's opinion of Joshua as it may, he is certain, that he (Joshua) in strict justice, merited no higher fame for moral rectitude, than the shameless, and abandoned thief and drunkard?

21. Let "Subscriber" read the history of the wars of Joshua, as recorded in the 10th chapter of his book, together with the other scriptures already cited, and then let him say, whether his publication has, or has not, implicated (and that necessarily too) the moral perfections of the most high God?

22. Was not the mind of the angel of the Lord, more than commonly depraved, who marched by night into the Assyrian camp, and slew of them, with his single war-like arm, 18,500 men? 2d Kings, 19th chapter, 35th verse, and 2d Chron. 32. 21.

23. Did the Lord command anything to be done under the Mosaic dispensation, which command, was in fact contrary to the Divine will?

24. Was the Divine will, at any time, or in any instance, hostile to, or contrary to the spirit of the gospel?

25. Is there anything in the gospel which secures the total destruction of the finally incorrigible enemies of the Lord?

26. Was Paul's invocation against Alexander the coppersmith, recorded 2d Timothy 4—5 contrary to the spirit of the gospel?

27. N. B. How many more assertions would it take to prove that the proofless opinions of the Subscriber are true?

Although "Subscriber" is so determinedly opposed to the fighting system, that he has indiscriminately unchristianized, and stigmatized in the lump; yet, strange as it may seem, I pledge myself for it, and seriously engage to prove that he himself has since, and in a very direct manner, proclaimed war against his fellow man, and is living in the daily habit of menacing hostilities against them; and this I am ready to do when "Subscriber" shall, through the medium of the press, require of me the favour?

### INQUISITIVE.

## Foreign News.

By an arrival at Charleston, we have extracts from Liverpool papers of the 3d of February. They give detailed accounts of several encounters between the king's forces and the people in Ireland, generally attended with the loss of some lives—in some cases there was pretty severe fighting between small parties, but

suggest that in a Congress does not act upon the subject at the present session, there should be "a congress of printers," convened during the recess, to take the subject into consideration. Although this suggestion is not intended as serious, it would not be a bad plan, provided they could receive eight dollars a day, and eight dollars for every twenty miles travel. By this they would be better enabled to carry into effect Mr. Meigs' project.

Mr. Messenger.

RELIGIOUS WAR! The quiet of Philadelphia has long been much disturbed by certain disputes between the Roman Catholic bishop, resident there, and his adherents, and the rev. Mr. Hogan, a priest of that church and the pastor of St. Mary's congregation, and his friends and followers; and a great deal has been said about these matters in the public papers. Mr. Hogan, it seems, was excommunicated in ample form, but the congregation stood by him, and the trustees of the church being favourable to him, he continued to preach and perform the religious services of it as before.

The election for trustees took place on Thursday last—the polls were advertised to be opened at 11 o'clock: but during the night preceding, or very early in the morning, one party took possession of the grave yard, in which stands the church—at 6 o'clock, A. M. the other party met in the street in front of the church—they were now separated by an iron railing. At about 9 o'clock, from the pressure of the crowd, the railing gave way, and then a general battle commenced with clubs and brickbats, previously prepared for the occasion, by which many were wretchedly mangled, though it is said that none were killed.

Road Fund.—From the same letter it appears that the Secretary has issued his check on the Branch Bank at Louisville, in favor of Christopher Harrison, for the amount of the three per cent. fund due to our State.—*Lancaster Oracle.*

GENERAL POST OFFICE. It appears that the expenditures, for the year 1821, amounted to the great sum of \$136,379 more than the receipts. The P. M. G. suggests some of the causes of this great deficiency and proposes certain means to reduce the expenditure and augment the receipts: but the idea of preventing passengers in public stages and steam boats from carrying letters, never can be submitted to by the people of the U. States, until a king, in name, as well as fact, shall reign over them.

If we were to speak of the opposition relative to newspapers, it might be thought to "smell of the shop"—but it is a little singular that at the moment when what must act as an obstruction to the circulation of intelligence is contemplated in the U. States, the public of Columbia should have passed a law provided for the gratuitous transport of those useful vehicles of information.

The deficiencies of the two last years have been supplied by collections of outstanding balances, and yet on the 1st of January last, still amounted to more than half a million of dollars! We should like to see a list of the names, and hear that every deputy had been dismissed who had suffered himself to be in arrears or refused or neglected to render his accounts. Punctuality and promptitude are essential to the welfare of the public, and the means to enforce them are so completely in the power of the heads of department, that we feel little disposed to excuse a want of them in persons retained in office. The people's money will never be well taken care of, until it shall be understood as a rule without exception, that every officer who fails to settle up and pay off his account at certain regular periods, will be dismissed. The nursing of such is culpable, and tempts men to become defaulters.

Resolved, That the senators from this county, be requested to use their best endeavors to induce the legislature to recommend an adoption of an amendment of the constitution of the U. States, disqualifying any member of the national legislature from re-