

Albany Matters

Several articles will be found in our columns this week, in relation to matters in Albany. We insert them, we confess, with great reluctance, and yet we do not feel authorized to withhold them.—We regret the appearance of Br. Mayo's letter, in which there are passages we cannot approbate. It is painful, also, to continue publishing conflicting statements from the Trustees of the Albany Society, which tend to drive brethren farther apart, who should be earnestly seeking to remove every unfortunate cause of disunion in their midst, and to restore the harmony on which the prosperity of our Zion in that locality so greatly depends. It is entirely against our judgment that these troubles have found their way into the papers at all. It can do no possible good to any party, while it pains and mortifies every true friend of our cause, to see such local difficulties spread before the world, instead of more wisely allowing them to be settled by private and amicable adjustment.

We do not believe our brethren, the editors of our denominational journals, intended injury or injustice to any party, in the course they have taken on this subject. But at the same time, it is our decided conviction, that the steps which several of them have taken—the severity of their denunciations, and the general tenor of their reflections—have tended rather to kindle to a flame the embers of a discord which might and should have been quenched by moderate counsels, and patient and forbearing endeavors in behalf of unity and harmony.

We earnestly entreat all parties, far and near, to allow these difficulties now to rest, so far as newspaper publication is concerned. It is our confident belief that our Albany brethren can much more readily, and at a far earlier day, adjust all points of difference between them, and bring back peace, union and prosperity, by withdrawing the subject from the public prints, and seeking earnestly and prayerfully to come to a friendly understanding among themselves, than by any disputations and contests before the world. The longer the latter course is pursued, the wider will be the breach which separates them, and the more difficult the task of harmonizing their differences, until the result will be the entire overthrow of Gospel truth in Albany. But if, instead of indulging in crimination and recrimination, and the uttering of complaints and charges pro and con, all parties will cultivate a forbearing spirit, and unite in an energetic attempt at reconciliation, and a healing up of every disturbing question in their midst, such efforts, we are confident, will be crowned with success, and the cause of Impartial Grace again rest on a permanent foundation in the Capital of the State.

Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, Sat. 23 Feb 1856

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