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"TO THE LAW AND TO THE TESTIMONY."

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Measure of the Devil's Foot.

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Brother Editor:—I send you the measure of the devil's foot for publication, if you see cause.

Among the many inventions of mankind, they have invented and settled a standard of weights and measures, which is acknowledged as the law and rule of the land, and by which all men have a right to try all weights and measures they suspect to be false. So has God in the New Testament given a standard weight and measure, to try all doctrines and ordinances and discipline by, when suspected by his church or people of being false. And they have a right to try all doctrines, &c., by this standard of truth and Christian measure, and if found false, to charge the owner with the same false measure, and prosecute him in the bargain for keeping a false measure. If all this be true, then I have a right to measure the devil's foot by this standard of God's own law, for the welfare of the Christian community; and I also have a right to measure and weigh by this standard, all doctrines of men that I may suspicion of being false, and charge them with the same.

When I was a boy, my father's negroes and the old women used to tell me many frightful things about the devil; and among the rest, that he might be known whenever I saw him by a cloven foot, which they pronounced clubben. So I formed my ideas of the devil in my youth, that he had a foot like a great maul or club; if this was the truth, I could tell his track wherever I saw it in the gospel field. But since I have become familiarly acquainted with old satan, I have found they beied their betters and that he has not got a foot like a club or maul; but that he has a cloven foot and not a clubben foot. A cloven foot, that is, a foot like a cow, or sheep, or hog; or you may call it a forked foot, or a two foot, or a parted foot like a cow, and not like a horse or jack—that is the meaning

of the scripture cloven foot, a parted hoof.

Now you know that under the ceremonial law all beasts that parted the hoof and chewed the cud, were said to be clean beasts; the swine parts the hoof but don't chew the cud, therefore unclean. You pass along and find a hog's track; you say, here went a sheep—how do you know? look, here is his forked foot. So you see some judgment and acquaintance with tracks is necessary, in order to know a sheep's foot from a hog's foot. So it requires some judgment and experience to know the devil's track from Christ's track, or a hypocrite's track from a saint's track, more than it does to know a sheep's or deer's from a goat's or hog's track. But I can tell them all apart. No wonder then that I should undertake to track the devil and measure his foot, and little will old satan thank me for that. However, he and I have been at loggerheads for many years, and if he or his agents get mad, we must fight it out. For I have set out to follow his track and give the measure of his foot to a hair's breadth, if I can in a short way.

So I must tell you that we must find his track before we measure his foot, and secondly, in order to find his track we must go into the paths or by-ways where he generally walks. Don't think it strange if I tell you, that I am well acquainted with many of his paths and by-ways; for we have been well acquainted for forty years, and have had many a hard brush and tug to see who shall be served, Christ or Beelzebub. And this is not all—I shall know his track as soon as I see it. But before we set out to look for his track, I will tell you some of the paths he used to walk, and you know old beaten roads are the easiest to travel, and the easiest to see his track in. One of his old paths, was directly across God's commands; secondly, prohibiting what God had allowed to men, and thereby crossing the path of God's permission; thirdly, to make

laws for God and enjoin them on men to observe to get to heaven, and thus yoke and burden the saints in their march along the king's highway of holiness heavenward; fourthly, zealous for trifles God never prohibited by his word, with persecution, fire and sword to all that did not come up and bow to his laws and rules of tradition, and doctrines of the devil and hypocritical men; fifthly, whenever you come on the devil's track it will smell of the commandments of men, tradition, money, persecution, blood and death, all under the cloak of religion and thus saith the Lord; sixthly, fiery zeal for God and his cause, zealous for works and self doings by law, and works for salvation, and envy, hatred and death for all who dare to go to heaven by any other turnpike road and not pay toll at their gate, with adding to God's laws for salvation. These used to be some of his old paths, where I think we can find his track; and if you will go with me in search, I will take the measure of his foot in short order. Of his by-paths I perhaps may tell you some few things as I go along. Thus we will leave further remarks and go and look in his first old paths for his track. But before we set out it is necessary to tell you that Christ compares the wicked to goats set on his left hand, and goats have cloven feet you know, as well as the sheep set on his right hand. And you know that Christ says to the pharisaical hypocrites, you are of your father the devil and the lust of your father ye will do. But yet if you will examine the bottom of a goat's foot and that of a sheep, you will find a difference between them.—But as I am under the necessity of being as short as I can, I will not detain you further by preparatory remarks. The cloven tongues of fire that set on the apostles, was to represent the gift given them to speak in different tongues, or the different languages of the nations. So the cloven feet of goats is to represent

hypocrites, two coat men, and go-betweeners of God and devil, and self-righteous men for gain by godliness when the wind blows most in favor for gain on that side. For goats in scripture are represented fierce, and again they are put as emblems of lustful men; and this is a true picture of all hypocrites. And again, a hypocrite is a cloven, or two-tongued man, and he is a two coated man, and also a bag man.—And this have I noticed for forty years, that whenever you find a man with a sweet tongue, or honey and pancake mouth, beware of that man; he will take you in if he can, and his sweet words is his craft to do it, from the preacher to the horse jockey.—These are take ins that I have observed. But if you find one of your old blunt, rough spoken fellows, don't be afraid of him; he won't hurt you, he has but one tongue, and not two.

You will recollect that I told you the old women were mistaken about the devil's foot, that since I had become acquainted with him I had found out he had not a club foot; if so, he might have a shoe made like some other club-footed folks, to hide his club foot—but that I told you he had a cloven foot, which I shall try to prove before I am done. But the great question perhaps with you is to know how he came by this cloven foot. This I could tell you if I had time and room, since I have the devil's genealogy before me; but then it would not be to my purpose, since it is his track and not his foot that we have set out to look for.—Remember I have told you two things—first, that one of the devil's old paths he used to walk lies directly across God's commands; and secondly, that I have to prove he has a cloven foot. These things I shall attempt to do, and while I am doing it, do you be looking for his track.

I now come to prove that one of the devil's old paths lies directly across God's commands. Genesis, ii. 17: "But of the tree of the know-