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WHOLE NO. 1227

# Religious and Literary Paper:

THE LAW OF NEWSPAPERS.

If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their pa-from the office to which they are directed, they

The courts have decided that refusing to take a or periodical from the office, or removing and git mealled for, is "prima facie" evidence of faithfully by further sustaining him as our mis-

### China Mission.

copy from the Western Recorder the corres mce between the For. Mis. Board and brother I pherts of Canton. We are sorry that bro. R. not at once yield to the wishes of the Board return to this country.

### MISSIONS-REV. I. J. ROBERTS-RICHMOND

We have been carnestly inquired of by many bential and intelligent brethren respecting the ses for the dismission and recall of the Rev. Roberts, Missionary to China, by the Riched Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. all recently we have not had it in our power n never came to hand; and we now obtain We will let these documents speak for for our readers. We intend to forbear makany comments if we can.

#### RICHMOND, July, 1851. Rev. I. J. Boberts, Canton, China:

on time to time, the Board have found occasion to the Uettung property, I will say that the be dissatisfied with your course. Notwith- Board lay no claims to it. They adopted, in uding the oft repeated wish of the Board, that reference to the subject, the following resolution: and to it. The Board have never been par- to do with it as you please.

ut, a brother beloved. You can hardly have his heavenly kingdom. our record, and we are sorry you should have wards you as a friend and brother. ken advantage of this fact. It was with de- On behalf of the Board. ence to your own feelings, that no official acn was taken, and especially as other unpleast matters affecting yourself were necessarily to gage their attention, and to demand a notice

In reference to the subject introduced to our tention by brother Whilden, and in regard to hich you made solemn written confession of sin, are sorry to find, since your return, that you e centinually writing in terms of self-justifica-

painful circumstances of his condition, which atterly inconsistent with the character of the mionary, and the Christian. And then the use pursued toward Miss Baker, with the unlingness to make reparation until forced by strong demand of popular sentiment among

Board; by falling into difficulties, more or less complaint, I consider, therefore, entirely remov- his devoted lady, he has shown me your letter, and other grave divines of the Methodist Epis- and as usual, we must lock for hope and help to ed, and had the Board waited a month or two informing me of that step, and asking that coun- copal church. It is well known that this church that power which will never disappoint us—to sionary or native, who has labored in connection longer, it would never have been made.

sel and assistance with him; by statements which could only be re-

came near arresting his return even at that stage be considered as fully and finally settled. of affairs. But confessions of error and solemn promises of amendment, together with his recent marriage to an estimable lady, led the Board to hope that he would indeed profit by his experience and perform those promises. Since his re- ing certificate and testimony will be fully satisturn to China, his general course seems in no factory :- "As regards Mr. Bridgman, the memwise to improve. Admonitions have proven ap- bers of his mission and others, we have felt our parently fruitless. His conduct to the Rev. selves perfectly satisfied with the explanations Mr. Bridgman and to Miss Baker, which we which Mr. Roberts has given with regard to the forbear to characterize, has at last brought us affair, and we wish no censure to be cast on him If subscribers remove to other places without into the issue, to which matters have been for some on that account. time tending. As trustees of the missionary fund of our brethren, we conceive that we should not be expending them judiciously or

> sionary in China. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions: 1. Resolved, That the connection between this Board and Rev. I. J. Roberts be, and is nereby dissolved.

2. That the salary of himself and wife be continued up to the time of his receiving notice of this action; and that he be informed that the expenses of their return to their home in this country will be paid in New York, on his ar-

3. That he is instructed to hand over to Rev. remaining in his hands, together with all papers, accounts, and other property of the Board.

arded to us from China, more than a year structed to make such arrangements, and give without conferring with me, or sending such directions to the native preachers and con- copy of their report. I did think when I heard verts in Canton as may seem best to them." melves. We publish only a part of them this to procure your passage in the first good vessel brethren! Little supposing that the Board et, and will continue them until all are laid coming direct to this country, which will at would take up and act upon such a one-sided reonce be paid upon your arrival. Though the time intervening between the receipt of this and your sailing, will not be considered as officially belonging to the Board, yet your necessary ex- of the whole matter; but I earnestly dissuaded penses will be borne. I will say, too, that no DEAR BROTHER:- It is made my painful duty publication of this report in the papers will be communicate to you the action of the Board made, unless it should be found necessary, and their last meeting, by which the connection then all the documentary evidence in our possesiting between them and yourself, will be dis- sion will be presented. This I suppose will not wed. You are aware that almost from the ear. be required. You can quietly return home, and factorily, and as to the other minor matters rest period of your missionary service, it has somewhere, in a quiet way, can prosecute a en difficult to preserve those relations of amity course of labor, which we hope may be useful. ween yourself and the Board which are so es- I shall send a copy of our proceedings to Rev. atial to success in such an enterprise. In look- Mr. French, in order that he may receive whatever our correspondence it will be seen that ever rightfully belongs to the Board. In regard

missionary should have connection with other "That the order of this Board requiring Rev. ed as mission property, and although they have shall bring his mission premises under the dim, or disconnect yourself from them altogeth- was contributed by benevolent persons for misand although you gave them a solemn pro- sionary purposes, and though we have approprise that the desired arrangement should be ated largely toward them, yet it has been

marly desirous of owning these premises, they You will perceive that the Board have not asuply desired you to be disconnected from them cribed the course pursued by you, to an utter continual difficulty which they have occa- they do not decide. They leave it with the se of Chun, the Board "found nothing worthy the most painful acts which they have been callconsideration, and that they would not notice | ed upon to perform, yet they have been shut up on their records." Now, the Board cannot re- to the necessity of requiring your return. And scile this statement "with truthfulness, only on now, my brother, I may be permitted to express supposition of gross inattention or forgetful- on my own behalf and of the Board, the sincere "They were deeply humbled and grieved wish that you may share in the Divine blessing, the whole manner and bearing of their mis- and though you will retire from the field you mary towards the young convert, who sustain- have occupied, we trust you may so spend the to him, indeed, the relation of a servant, but short remnant of life, that you may experience to ought to have been accounted above a ser- the approbation of God, and at length enter into

tall, as individuals, and in the Board, expres- to be able to say, that I have endeavored, in our disapproval of your conduct to him, and conducting the correspondence of the Board, to written and verbal concessions of wrong treat you with becoming courtesy and kindness. sich you made to us. No minute was made I have desired your welfare, and have felt to-

I remain yours fraternally. JAS. B. TAYLOR,

Cor. Sec. F. M. B. S. B. C.

REV. JAMES B. TAYLOR, Cor. Sec.

By a letter just received from you under date of dent trust that you may, as the result, see fit to We are also deeply affected in being ad- the 15th of July last, I have received the pain- rescind the resolutions dissolving our connection, si from different reliable sources of your treat- ful intelligence of your resolutions by which our and I may be permitted to live, and at length to ant of an afflicted missionary of another de-connection has been temporarily dissolved. I die your humble and devoted missionary in China.

CANTON, Oct. 11th, 1851. 3. In reference to Mr. Bridgman, the follow-

> J. B. FRENCH. A. P. HAPPER, S. W. BONNEY.

CANTON, Oct. 11th, 1851."

The Rev. Dr. Parker says :- "In the case of the lamented Bridgman, being his physician, I know there was no want of sympathy and fraternal selicitude, for most of the night previous his fatal act, Mr. Roberts was with him, uniting with him and for him at the throne of grace.

Now, brethren, you do not take up matters in your churches which have been settled between the parties concerned according to the Saviour's direction, (Matthew xviii: 15, 16) and try them over again !! And were you to do so, surely . B. French the balance of funds of this Board you would give each an opportunity of making his own defense. But the brethren of the Shanghai mission-Pearcy, Shuck and others-4. That it is important to send other mission- did me great injustice in taking up these mataries as soon as practicable to Canton, and that ters and reporting them to the Board, and that in the mean time the Shanghai mission be in- merely upon exparte evidence, and that too of it, that it was among the most unkind treat-Permit me to say that the Board desire you ment I had ever received at the band of any port without giving us the opportunity of explaining! Mrs. Roberts wished most earnestly, long since, to give the Board a detailed account her, considering these things are settled among ourselves, and supposing that if the Board wished details they would call for them.

> Now, dear Brethren, I consider these three items of complaint disposed of, and I hope satisferred to in your letter, I bardly find them tangible, or at least the recollection of my corressufficiently serve me to discuss them.

Permit me to say, that the idea of returning meets with the greatest repugnance in my own mind. The sense of duty, arising from the command of Christ, that induced me to come at first, requires my continuance at Canton. My work meiations in the ownership of property, to be I. J. Roberts to make such arrangements as is here. My greatest usefulness, the qualifications for which have been attained by much toil, and again, urged that you should either rection of this, or lead to their entire relinquish- is here. My predilections, my home, my earthare the transfer of the Uettung premises to ment, be rescinded." Although this property ly all, are here. The demand for a great increase of laborers has been reiterated again and again by myself, from here; and how can I abandon the work while the prospect for the widest

toils, have been more than usual for the time, the praise may be given to God alone of con-sound as that of the whites. amid which I may have erred, for "to err is hu- verting the heathen and destroying idolatry. deavor I have not dared to fail seeking or maand wound my own conscience!

Dear Brother and Brethren of the Board :- whole matter, with the earnest hope and confi- few.

porarily, for I can but trust and pray You say in relation to the Uettung chapel

devotion to Christ, or manifested a more uniform to make any sacrifice rather than lose a mem- them from Heaven, where would they look ? desire to bring Chinese idolators to the knowledge ber. and love of the gospel.

(and who may not?) is apparent—in part attri-butable to his not having enjoyed all these early during his sojourn in Georgia, he in one instance advantages of education and acquaintance with refused to baptize in any other way. In his notes the world which others have. To the score of he admits immersion to have been the primitive the recording of the deed should probably be mony; and we presume after having permitted and the hour of affliction it will lift up the voice credited. And in the case of the lamented his adherents to select any one of the three modes, Bridgman, being his physician, I know there was he would, if he could now appear on earth, be no want of sympathy and fraternal solicitude, for no little astonished at the inconsistency and want most of the night previous to his fatal act, Mr. of propriety of some of his followers. Despite of life, and bring you safely to the immertal Roberts was with him, uniting with him and for the insinuation the practice is increasing in the shores. It is the only star that leads the wanrecated his act and came up; and the apologies lieving the Saviour to have been immersed, and explanations he subsequently made were con- many have tull confidence, he would not sanc. satisfy the hungerings of the soul; it presents us sidered satisfactory to them who heard them. In tion by his example an improper practice. Hunregard to the Chinese youth, I am not fully in- dreds of refined females have been immersed, selves white and be clean; it alone tells us of formed, but from my experience and acquain- and they cannot entertain the thought for a motance with Chinese character, can easily under- ment, that they feel less delicacy, less sensitivestand it, and that even duty to him might require a course on the part of Mr. Roberts, which persons less acquainted with Chinese character might not approve. But I do not write so much in the formed—in a neighboring county, quite a num glories of immortality.—Robert Pollok. testimeny to the preponderance of the gold over exchanges, South and West, hundreds of cases. the dross in the character of Mr. Roberts.

the most difficult of languages, and a long resi- ald. dence with the Chinese have given him, will be of no longer avail; and other years must elapse involving no small expenditure of money before from which he now advances.

once more to its patronage and confidence.

the great Head of the Church, that his will in in their beds." Richmond despatch. the matter may be ascertained and done, I am in Christian bonds,

#### Yours affectionately, PETER PARKER.

WHAMPOA, October 25th, 1851.

Yours in Christian love,

S. W. BONNEY.

## The Indecency of Baptism.

The Boston Olive Branch, a Methodist art in your neglect of him, under the peculiar- that when the grounds on which that act was property—" the whole matter is left with me to Protestant paper, says: "The thought that nevfounded shall be impartially reviewed, and the do as I please." Your wishes in respect to this er entered into the heart of the most carping, necessary explanations are made, God in his property have already been complied with; I only that it (immersion) was an indecent ceremony." mercy may so overrule, that that step may be retraced, and your missionary restored to your
confidence, and during the "remnant" of his life
enjoy your prayers, sympathics and support.

The church of the limit story was an indecent coremony.

ANCE MOVEMENT IN IRELAND.—It is grievous
desire, the Lord helping me, to occupy it in the
during the sere very different affairs. But I find it condischarge of my missionary duties during life,
notions of decency as many of his Pedobaptist
to see one new feature of Irish life disappearing,
duces to my mental health and happiness, to find
to see one new feature of Irish life disappearing,
duces to my mental health and happiness, to find
to see one new feature of the cohor of the world's admiration had
before the coho of the world's admiration had
out all I can which is amiable and loveable in
those I come in contact with, and to make the
tismal controversy. We knew of some D. D.'s strong demand of popular sentiment among other missionaries. All these things have of the most of it. It may fall very short of what I was picuous in its mituation, and meant to be so for once went to dream of; it may not supply the the principal items upon which your resolutions of the principal items upon which your resolutions of the principal items upon which your resolutions of the principal items upon modesty! The Olive Branch might its beauty—Father Matthew's chapel—built as a place of what I have known, felt and tasted; but are stated to be based.

sel and assistance which none but a Christian permits those seeking admission to its fellow- education and the gospel. Of all the new feawith him; by statements which could only be reparated with truthfulness on the supposition of payable in all cases in advance.

All letters on business should be directed to combine the truthfulness on the supposition of payable in all cases in advance.

All letters on business should be directed to combine the truthfulness on the supposition of payable in all cases in advance.

All letters on the supposition of forgetfulness, and by numering out of the subscribers who were the witnesses in the distincterestedness of my motives of make up a course so generally erratic as very ficulty that the unfortunate difference to the Recorder, Private letters to the Editor of the rest in the confidence in his judgment of the subscribers who were the witnesses in the distincterestedness of my motives of the subscribers who were the witnesses in the confident that the disinterestedness of my motives of confident that the disinterestedness of my motives of the subscribers who were the witnesses in the confidence in his judgment of the subscribers who were the witnesses in the subscribers who were the witnesses in the confidence in the subscribers who were the witnesses in the describers who were the witnesses in the confidence in the subscribers who were the witnesses in the subscribers who were the witnesses in the describers who were the witnesses in the describers who were the witnesses in the subscribers who were the witnesses in the describers who were the witnesses in the describers who were the witnesses in the describers who were the witnesses in the subscribers who were the witnesses in the describers who were the witnesses in the subscribers who ship, to select their own mode of baptism. In tures of Irish life, this is the most important. ceeded the quartz" that I have been compelled the sanction and blessing of Father, Son, and to regard him as a useful, laborious and self-denying servant of Christ. Few of the missionaries credit their own allegations, they admit to be an with whom it has been my happiness to be ac- indecent thing. Does not this look like profun-quainted, have breathed more of the spirit of ity—nay, blasphemy—and exhibits a willingness

> At the time Wesley entered on his ministry, That he has sometimes erred in judgment, the English Episcopal Prayer Book still enjoinnim at a throne of grace. There was want of Methodist church. The opinions of even D. reflection in the note addressed to Mrs. Roberts, D.'s and other prominent leaders, cannot arrest is manifest, but so soon as he did reflect he dep- this growing, as they would term it, evil. Be-

spirit of an advocate as with a desire to bear my ber have been thus baptized. We notice in our An Old School Presbyterian, who refuses to im-Mr. and Mrs. Roberts feel no desire to quit merse, might be tolerated in thus decrying the the service to which they have devoted their mode: - A Methodist, whose church sanctions faithfully laboring at the West, writes, " Permit lives, and were he to return home, the qualifica- it, in thus railing against it places himself in an me to say, that four years' experience and obtions for usefulness here which years of study of inconsistent and awkward position. - Rel. Her-servation has increased, in my estimation, the

## From the Religious Herald.

bis successor can reach the point of usefulness slave population, that it may almost be pro- in the field. I often find myself so worn down, nounced universal, which teaches that when a that I have to go home and recruit my strength. It is moreover to be expected that he will learn person has been baptized (not merely immersed, If I was able to travel all the time, my salary, wisdom from the experience of the pust, and aided but baptized according to the form of the church with the ordinary income of my farm, would make by the prayers, sympathies and counsels of his he may happen to fancy,) no matter what crimes my family comfortable. But as it is, we are pious and excellent lady, his future course may he may afterwards commit, he cannot ultimately under the necessity of learning the necessity of meet the approbation of an approving Board, be lost. By far the larger part of them regard self-denial. But why should I name this? My and the great object of their missionary enter- the ordinance of baptism as no more than a blessed Master was rich, and became poor for pondence (not having retained copies) does not prise in China be advanced by their restoring him licenso to commit any act, however heinous it me. Oh, my soul, get thee to Jesus' feet and may be. . . . These devils, (i. e., John and wash them with thy tears. With these observations, commending the case Jane Williams,) consider it perfectly consistent "When I began this letter, I expected to close of Mr. Roberts to the Christian reconsideration with the creed to murder the innocent infant in by asking a discharge, on account of not having of your Board, and with devout aspirations to its cradle—the sleeping and unsuspecting parents strength enough to do the work that ought to be

From S. W. Bonney, Missionary of the Am. Board. the result of that interesting communion has the cars, where in an hour he sold more books been the conviction which he has above express- than he had in any one day. This gave him the DEAR BROTHER ROBERTS :- It is with deep ed. For ourself, we can truthfully deelare that idea that he might be useful as a colporteur on egret I hear that you have received a notifica- never have we heard sentiments of that kind ut- thoroughfares- the conductor of the train apale, no measures as yet, have been taken in thought best to leave the whole matter with you extent of usefulness lies open before me here; tion from your directors (Board) to close your tered by any body, white or black. So far from proved the suggestion, and he accordingly appli-The vows of God are on me, and I should feel operations at Canton. I cannot but hope that it, the prevalent conviction of the colored mem- ed for a commission to labor in that direction. myself recreant to my Saviour to return without their resolutions will be rescinded, or at least so bers of our denomination is identical with that some better reason than any of which I am modified as to allow you to continue as our fel- of the white-that the baptismal rite lays them your separate ownership—in consequence of want of Christian character. Concerning this aware. I dare not return, nor have I made any low-laborer. I have been an eye-witness of your under more solemn obligations to discharge their provision for such an exigency! I gave up my labors for three or four years at Canton, and Christian duties aright, and in accordance with searcher of hearts. But they consider you as home, country and friends; and as it were crossed must say that the gospel has been faithfully this conviction, the regimen which they adminis-We have received from brother Gale, a letter, wanting in many of the essential qualifications the river and broke up the bridge. And having preached almost daily on your premises. I dare ter in their church organization is as strict, if not you to him, in which you state, that in the of a good missionary. Although it is one of unfurled Immanuel's banner, I now resolve, by say that many more thousands have heard the stricter, than that adopted by the whites. We the grace of God, to persevere unto the end of first principles of revealed religion from you and know the remark is sometimes flippantly made, your assistants, than from any other Society's that the colored portion of the Baptist church I have striven with all earnestness, diligence, Agent in Canton. In the distribution of books regard immersion as a complete washing off of watchfulcess, and prayer, particularly since my we all know that you have been unwearied. I all impurities, and thenceforth consider themreturn to China, to do my duty as a missionary, would not say that you have been perfect in all selves as incapable of committing sin. This is and to maintain a good conscience towards God your labors. But who is? We are all of us totally untrue. The creed of the blacks on this and man. My responsibilities, my trials and my only earthen vessels, used by our Master that point, so far as our acquaintance extends, is as gation and children, and made some exceedingly

We have been surprised, aye mere-we have man"-but when perceived, with Christian en- I hope you will make a full statement of your been mortified to find these loose remarks made case to your directors (Board) that there may in common conversation, without due consideragotten the plain and earnest manner in which In looking back upon the past, I am happy king amends. And whatever may have been my be no exparte decision. Justice requires that a tion, transferred to print. Of what avail will errors, I am altogether unwilling to add this one, hearing be granted you. Although we differ as they be? What good will they work? The tle." How imposing must have been the cerethe greatest of all—to abandon my work, diso- to the mode of water baptism, we agree in lov- writer whom we have quoted makes them to subbey my Saviour, destroy my usefulness forever, ing one God, maintaining one faith, and praying stantiate the position, that the blacks should refor the same baptism of the Holy Spirit. " Trust ceive better instruction than they new receive. To find chapter and verse in the Bible for such Dear Brethren, I love you, and should deeply in the Lord and do good, so shalt thou dwell in We grant it. It is right that they should. A a service, Dr Young must be rather nonpluseed regret a separation between us. You are the the land, and verily thou shalt be fed." Con- very large portion receive but very little. Those We presume our friend, the editor of the Tenlink that unites us to our friends in Kentucky and sidering your acquaintance with the Chinese lan- of our city who wait upon the ministry of the nessee Baptist, would offer a large reward to the elsewhere. Often has Mrs. Roberts wept since guage and customs of the Chinese, I know of no Rev. Robert Ryland, have peculiar advantages, man who succeeds in finding a scriptural precept your letter arrived, and said, how desolate we land where your labors seem to be more needed and if they fail to receive proper teachings it is or example for baptizing children with Bottles feel, thus separated from home-friends! But I for helping in the cause of Christ than this land. their fault-not his. We challenge the State to Jordan water. - Watch. and Reflector. forbear. The subject is too painful to dwell up- I earnestly desire that your life may be prolong- furnish a purer man or one better adapted to fill ed for many years, and that you may be permit- his post. His knowledge is correct—his manner With the above explanations and facts, let me ted, with God's help, to gather many sheaves in of ispeaking plain—his style simple. - All the commend to the Board the reconsideration of the this great harvest field, where the laborers are so truths he utters are presented in the most perspicuous manner-and though we have not been constant attendants on his ministry, from our knowledge of the man, we can safely affirm that in his pulpit ministrations he declares the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Fermit no now, dear brethron, to advert to make this standard to bring the Board to the conclusion, at the conclusion of the conclusion, at the conclusion, at the conclusion, at the conclusion, at the conclusion of the conclusion, at the conclusion of the conclusion, at the conclusion, at the conclusion of the

is neglected by sinful men. The votaries of taste and fashion will spend their days and nights poring over the morbid pages of sensual and fictitious narrative ; yet if their God were to ask them if they had read the book which He sent How could they say that they had never read the precious book throughout? Wherever you go, learn not of those. Take your Bible in your hand; make it the companion of your way. In the thirsty desert of this world it will supply you with the water of life; in the darkness of doubt and apprehension it will cast a gleam of heaven of warning, encouragement and comfort. Nev-er let the Bible be by you unperused. It is the only helm that can guide you through the ocean dering scaman by the rocks, and breakers, and hery tempests of utter destruction, and points him away to the heights of everlasting blessedness. The Bible contains the only food that can with the only lava in which we can wash ourthe garments that are worn in the courts of heaven; it is from the Bible alone that we learn to

A colporteur who for four years has been importance of this instrumentality. If eircumstances permitted, I should be more than willing to spend my days in the colporteur harness. But "There is a creed so prevalent among the it is hard work. I am not able to fill my time

done. But how can I do it?" Having come Our acquaintance with the class of which the to this point, and not being able to decide what writer above quoted speaks may not be as fami- was duty, he went out on a colporteur tour. The liar as his. He may have had intimate friend- roads were very bad. He left his horse and ships and conversations with them for years, and | walked about afteen miles. Returning, he took

> INTERESTING BAPTISMAL CEREMONY .- " The ordinance of baptism was administered Sunday forenoon, by Rev. Dr. Young, at his church in Summer street. The Herald states that seven children were baptized, and what added much to the interest of the ceremony, was the fact that the water used by the rastor was sent to him from the river Jordan, by the late lamented Lieut. Dale, of the U. S. exploring expedition. Dr. Young opened the seal of the bottle conappropriate and interesting remarks on the occa-

The foregoing record is passing the round of the dailies and other papers. A "new thing under the sum" this of baptizing from a " bot-

KEEP THE HEART ALIVE .- These words of Bernard Barton are good. Often good and wise men in other things, have rendered their old age cheerless and unloving, from a want of attention

The longer I live, the more expedient I find it to extend my sympathies and affections. The natural tendencies of advancing years is to narrow and contract these feelings. I do not mean that I wish to form a new and sworn friendship FAILURE OF FATHER MATTHEW'S TEMPER. every day, to increase my circle of intimates-