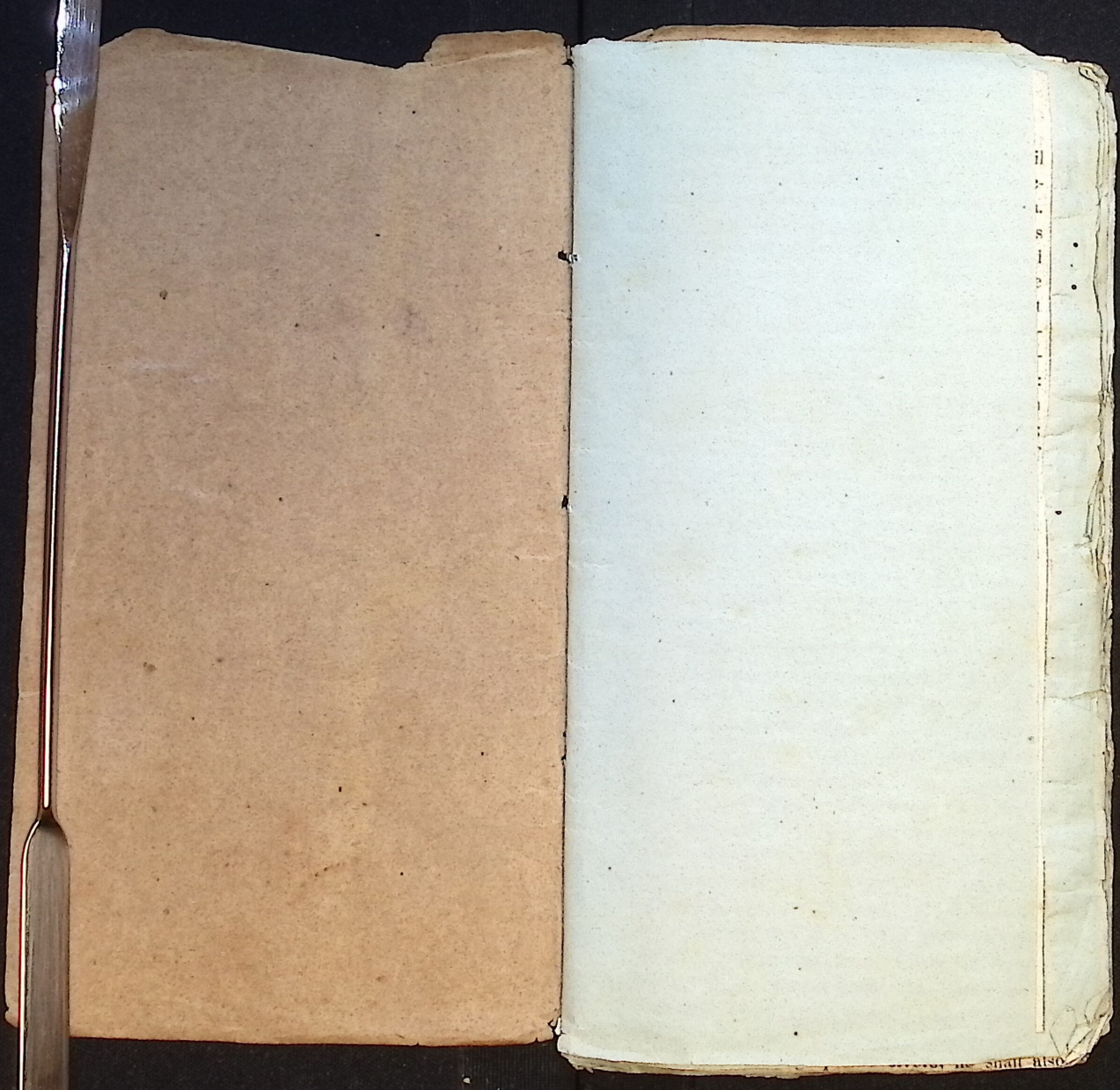


Rules on  
Printing

Ch. Times Dec 21/54





FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

SIBSAGOR, ASAN, Aug. 5, 1854.

MY DEAR BROTHER:—The last overland mail brought me a letter from a friend, giving an account of missionary meetings at Philadelphia. From this letter I learn that some statements of mine in reference to the restrictions placed upon the mission press in Burmah were read by the Rev. Dr. Babcock, and that "*both Dr. Bright and Mr. Granger denied that any such restrictions had been imposed.*" This I regret to hear for two reasons: first, it diverts attention from the consideration of great principles to mere questions of fact; and, secondly, imposes on me the necessity of bringing forward evidence to show that my assertions were correct. A missionary who should send home important statements, and afterwards remain silent when those statements were pronounced untrue, would be no longer worthy of the confidence of the churches by whom he is supported.

Had the officers of the Union above referred to merely stated that my communications were *inaccurate*, or that the writer had been *mis-taken in some respects*, they might have done ample justice, both to themselves and to me, by pointing out the particular errors into which I had fallen. This could have been done by producing the printed regulations which had been circulated among the missionaries, and of which a copy might no doubt have been found amongst the papers of the Deputation. It appears to me that such a course would have been much more satisfactory to all parties, than a simple denial that "*any such restrictions had been imposed.*" Having now



before me a rough draft of the letter I wrote to Dr. Babcock, and a copy of the "Regulations of the Maulmain Printing Establishment and Depository," signed by the deputation and printed by their direction, I will endeavor by a comparison of the two to show that my brief and hurried synopsis of these rules was a correct and fair one; and should the restrictions appear susceptible in any respect of a more agreeable coloring than I have given them, it will afford me pleasure to make the proper correction.

On examining my letter, I find, in the paragraph respecting the press, *five* specifications, which I will take up in their order. The first statement is, *that the deputation have taken the press out of the hands of the mission and placed it under the direct management of the Executive Committee.* In proof of this I will quote the preamble of the Regulations.

"The Maulmain Printing Establishment and Depository, being organized for the common use and benefit of all the missions in Burmah, and involving a heavy annual expenditure, are placed under a direction separate from and independent of any one of the missions, and immediately responsible to the Executive Committee. The Committee appoint a Publication Committee, and an Auditory Committee, whose duties, and the duties of the Printer and Depository, until otherwise directed, shall be as follows, on and after Oct. 1, 1853."

That this is not a mere nominal or general control, but that the action of the Executive Committee extends to the most minute details, a perusal of the Regulations, embracing no less than *thirty* articles, and five supplementary rules, will abundantly show. The 8th, 9th, 15th, and 16th, of the Regulations, will also



16th, 17th, all refer to the management of de-an  
tails; but they are too long to copy. One or b  
two of them will suffice as a specimen. /r

"8. It shall be the duty of the Printer, who  
shall also be the depository to take, annually,  
an *account of stock*, including presses, type,  
furniture, paper, ink, publications on hand, &c.,  
&c., with their appraised value; publications  
being rated at cost. Said account shall  
be taken, and a copy of the same audited,  
shall be given to the Publication  
Committee at least three months in advance of  
the time of their annual statement. and in all  
ordinary cases on or before the first day of July;  
and a duplicate copy, with the duplicate  
certificate of the Auditory Committee, shall be  
immediately forwarded by the Printer to the  
Executive Committee.

"9. Immediately on receiving a copy of the  
annual statement of the Publication Committee  
the Printer shall make on the *basis of said  
statement, an estimate of expenditures* and  
shall forward said estimate without delay to the  
Executive Committee. The estimate shall cover  
the *entire* (supposed) cost both of the printing  
establishment and the depository in the  
specified year, and shall designate the amount  
put to each; embracing cost of the materials,  
as paper, ink, &c., which will be used within the  
year; also the wages of workmen, and incidental  
expenses, together with the salary of the  
Printer. If materials are to be purchased  
within the year, the estimated cost of the same,  
included in the gross estimate shall be specified;  
also what part of the materials are required for  
job work. There shall be, in addition to the  
estimate, a memorandum of the supposed avails  
of job work during the said year."



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My letter goes on to say, *that nothing can be printed except by the sanction of a Publishing Committee, who are appointed directly by the Executive Committee. The missions have not even the privilege of nominating this Committee.*

The preamble above quoted shows that the appointment rests exclusively with the Executive Committee. It is evident that no recommendation, or action whatever on the part of the missions, was contemplated as a preliminary to the appointment of the Publication Committee. The only approach to an election by missionaries, is in case of a vacancy; and in filling this even, the missions, as such, have no voice, the appointment is strictly confined to the Committee itself.

"7. The Publication Committee shall appoint its own chairman and secretary, and fill its own vacancies, pending appointments by the Executive Committee; and all communications to or on behalf of the Publication Committee shall be made through or by said secretary."

The 6th and 10th articles restricting the Printer to such works as have been approved by this committee and by the Executive Committee are expressed in definite and unqualified terms.

"10. The Printer shall print for mission purposes and at the cost of the Union such works *only*, and in such form and style, and such number of copies of each, as shall have been approved by the Executive Committee, *according to the copy* given to him by the Publication Committee, who shall also determine in what order as to time such work shall be printed; he shall see that the printing is executed in a workman-like manner, without waste and free from typographical errors; he shall also



cause the books to be bound, and in such manner, or stitched, or retained in sheets, as directed by the Publication Committee."

"6. The Publication Committee shall promptly notify the Printer of all works approved by the Executive Committee for publication; they shall put into his hands copies of the same *as so approved*, and shall direct in what order as to time they shall be printed. They shall also direct in what style works printed shall be put up, as to binding and otherwise."

My letter further states that the Publishing Committee are not only appointed by the Executive, but that after they are appointed, they are *not allowed to act except as they are directed*. *Every work approved by the Publication Committee must be sent home twelve months beforehand with the reasons for printing it.*"

The following articles will show whether this assertion was correct:

"1. The Publication Committee shall report to the Executive Committee annually, and in all ordinary cases twelve months in advance of the operations of the Press, what books, tracts, periodicals, and other publications ought in their judgment to be printed for the Mission within the specified year, in what languages and whether they would be re-prints or new works; also the form, size and style, including the kind of style approved by them for each, and the number of copies of the publications respectively required. Immediately on completing said statement, they shall give a copy of the same to the Printer."

"2. The Publication Committee shall communicate to the Executive Committee, in connection with their annual statement aforesaid, the grounds of their judgment expressed there-  
and that the applica-



to vex and trample under foot. Most High; or shall this be to which the beast and the false prophet cast?"

The huge shadows of mighty things are ready playing before us, and their realization is soon to be realized. They are engaged will have no more terminating the results; and no Christian can excuse him in the conflict.

Now is the time for action. The battle is to be fought. The principles is daily becoming sound of the battle trumpet and the notes more definite. Diplomacy can avert this war. We are in them: possessing a spirit of earnestness, who will go forth to labor with a will, and devotion to the service of Christ in the case require, and of the times demand.

When was there ever, in such a theatre for the devils, for their unrestricted and the triumph of the right. The conflict last, and fearful but while we may not measure the heat and virulence, we know that the end will be ours—Satan's overthrow, the establishment, by Christ our universal empire of truth and a power in the gospel which shall due and bring under its command element; to make the Papist and Pagan; Mate

in, embracing their opinions as to the character and value of the works severally, and so far as practicable, and they shall judge it to be expedient, the opinions on the same of other members of the Missions using respectively the languages in which said works are written.—The members of the Committee are further at liberty, separately or together, and so far as they judge necessary or expedient, to consult competent natives on works presented for publication, particularly with regard to the adaptedness of said works to the people for whom intended, and their style of execution, whether grammatical, idiomatic, perspicuous and forcible or otherwise; and to report to the Executive Committee the opinions of said natives, when so obtained, and the respect to which they are entitled."

"It shall further be the duty of the Publication Committee to forward to the Executive Committee, with its annual statement, a faithful translation, or in place of this an accurate compend of the contents, of every original work recommended in said statement for publication, the translation or the compend to be furnished to the Publication Committee by the Author; and also, in regard to every translated work, a copy of the original, or a reference to it, with an account of all important retrenchments, additions or alterations, made in its translation; said copy and account to be furnished to the Publication Committee by the translator."

"4. In regard to every new work submitted for approval for publication, except periodicals, the Publication Committee shall withhold such approval until its author or translator shall have placed a fair copy of the same in their hands at their disposal, together with the written approval of the work by two ordained missionaries, and that the applica-



and Pantheist; Burman, Indian and Chinese, "all one

Let but the members of the Christians throughout this faithful to the great trust and our land will become Holiness." As a denomination blessed us with wealth, influence. He has given us grace to reject all human creaturely solely upon "the truth of truth." We have no mitigated Bishops to lord it over us. We preach "one Lord, one God, and baptize only professing

God has placed before us no man can shut; and under the crimson dye of love upon our skirts when God tions for blood. There are great, but only such as the march of divine truth. I word is not bound. The "is quick and powerful," of faith, ye shall be able to darts of the adversary."

Enter, then, upon this purpose, and a resolute determination of faith and fortitude of the clare:

"Here I stand, and  
God be my help! Amen."

### THE PROFITABLENESS

What saith the Apostle to the church?  
"All Scripture is profitable to the man of God, and is profitable for correction, for

missionaries, using the language in which the said work is written, beside its author or translator; *provided*, that in Peguan such written approval from both the Peguan missionaries shall be accepted by the Publication Committee. Having approved any work and forwarded their approval to the Executive Committee, the Publication Committee shall make and shall allow to be made, no alteration in said work before giving the same to the Printer, except as authorized expressly by the Executive Committee."

"5. In regard to re-prints recommended for publication, the Publication Committee shall state to the Executive Committee, the number of copies of said work on hand, as reported to them by the Depository, also the number on hand at the several stations, and the additional number required at said stations within the ensuing year, as reported to them by the Mission Secretaries. With regard to works, whether re-prints or new, of the demand for which the Publication Committee have doubts, they shall be at liberty to make further inquiry of any or of all the missions concerned, and they shall withhold their recommendation for the publication of said works until those doubts are removed; *provided*, nevertheless, that in the event of a diversity of opinions, the Publication Committee are at liberty to state the same, and the grounds thereof to the Executive Committee."

"25. It shall be the duties of the missionaries, and assistant missionaries, to communicate to the Publication Committee, whenever requested by said Committee, their opinions as to the character and usefulness of works printed for the Union in the language with which they are respectively acquainted, and of the demand for them; more particularly with respect to the application of the said works to the



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pose and his will to man,  
of the universe. It cont  
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fearful penalties. It desc  
and rebellion, and the me  
tion to his offended sove

It contains a system o

pect to the works proposed to be reprinted,  
and what alterations, if any, ought, in their  
judgment, to be made in the same.

"27. Of every new work proposed to be  
printed, the author or translator, shall present  
to the Publication Committee, a fair copy en-  
tire, together with the written approval of the  
same by two ordained missionaries, using the  
language in which said work is written, except  
that in the Peguan, the approval of both the  
Peguan missionaries shall be accepted by the  
Publication Committee; said work to be left  
exclusively to the disposal of said Committee.  
No alterations shall be made in said work after  
said approval is given, and prior to its delivery  
to the Publication Committee. Of every origi-  
nal work, the author shall also send to the  
Publication Committee a faithful translation,  
or in place of this, an accurate compend of its  
contents; and with respect to every translated  
work, the translator shall send to said Commit-  
tee a copy of the original, with an account of  
all important retrenchments, additions or alter-  
ations, made in said work *as translated*."

The next statement in my letter was, *that  
after a work had received the sanction of the  
Executive Committee, neither the author, nor  
the Publishing Committee could alter a word  
while it was passing through the Press.* I  
also added the opinion that no *Baptist* would  
consent to print even a tract, much less a por-  
tion of Scripture, without the privilege of cor-  
recting any error, or improving any expression  
that, after twelve months reflection and experi-  
ence in the language, might be found to require  
alteration. I should think it could hardly be  
denied, that the rules *do* preclude all amend-  
ments after the approval of the Executive; but  
if there is any doubt on this point, I would

and that the applica-

DESIGNED A



again call attention to the articles last quoted. By the 27th, the *author* is precluded from making any alteration, after the approval of two ordained missionaries is obtained, "prior to its delivery to the Publication Committee." By the 4th article the Publication Committee are equally prevented from making any alteration after they have forwarded the work to the Executive; "they shall make, and shall allow to be made, no alteration in said work, before giving the same to the printer, except as authorized expressly by the Executive Committee." Nor can the *printer* make any alteration; for the 10th article requires him to print "*according to the copy given to him by the Publication Committee*" I am sorry if I have mistaken the meaning of these rules; they certainly appear to have been made with great care, and guarded against even the possibility of misinterpretation.

My letter also stated that by the Maulmain Regulations, *a missionary could not even commence preparing a work without first writing to the Publishing Committee to get their approval.* The 28th article is as follows:

"28. It shall be the duty of every missionary or assistant missionary, designing the preparation of a new work, and before entering upon it, to consult with the Publication Committee, as to the need of such a work, and the probable demand for it; and whether any other member of the missions has undertaken or designed the same or a similar work."

No provision is made for dispensing with these rules in any case, except for the *first year* as stated in a note to the supplementary rules: "Some of the regulations taking effect ordinarily twelve or fifteen months in advance of the Press, they are modified for the *ensuing year*

and that the applica-



been constituted on a whole amount of service to the continued labor and three months. raised towards them and contributed \$30,000 for Foreign Missions.

It will be seen by that a decided advance in our former year in our labor perhaps as a demonstration, in part, we are God, to

without whose aid would be doubtful, time to come except Baptist Home Missions deep and abiding our churches; but necessity, be gradual tate fields. They help in the time this we owe them and a liberal share sending the gospel exploring agency, discontinued, and established for the churches.

The American has two colporters a German, whose his own country

Bro. W. E. Granting labors as among his German churches, into which have been baptized

only." These modifications do not extend to the preparation of books. The last rule is as follows:

"5. Art. 28 is extended to new works now in course of preparation.

"On behalf of the Executive Committee,  
SOLOMON PECK,  
JAMES N. ORANGER.  
"Rangoon, Sept., 1853."

Whatever injustice I may have done the Deputation in my hurried account of their proceedings, has now I hope been atoned for in these lengthened extracts, faithfully copied from their printed rules. I believe I have now noticed every statement contained in my letter, which refers to the restrictions imposed on the Press. Whether such restrictions have been imposed or not, the above quotations will decide. Having, as I trust, set myself right in regard to the facts, it is scarcely necessary for me to remark on the arguments or opinions advanced in my letter. These may have been correct or otherwise; my reasoning may have been inconclusive; my objections without foundation; but the *facts* remain as I have stated them. Even should there be found in my letter some slight inaccuracies, (of which however I have not the least apprehension) they can scarcely affect the broad general features of the case.

And what are those features? What is the transparent object of framing such restrictions for the government of missionaries? Is it not to bring them under a more efficient and complete control? Is it sufficient for missionaries to be assured that they have the "entire confidence" of the Deputation and the Executive Committee, when they have not the power of publishing such works as they deem adapted without a regular printer, and that the applica-



hoped that the way is opening for t  
with us in our Associations and org  
forts for the building up of the I  
Kingdom. The Rev. J. Eschman, w  
missioned by the Baptist Home Mis  
ty, to labor among the Germans of  
west, has located in our State and I  
collected a small congregation at Ra  
Bro. J. Bruce of Milwaukee, has rec  
ordained to preach among the Ho  
Sheboygan county; with these exce  
own missionary is the only Baptist i  
gaged among this numerous class o  
ulation.

It is to be hoped, that, as a de  
we are beginning to awake to the

#### NATURE AND EXTENT OF OUR V

The sad religious destitution exist  
portions of the State, was brought  
our last Annual report. It need  
peated here. By the grace of G  
have been made upon these moral  
few isolated cases. But we have s  
menced; a vast amount of addit  
must be put forth, and means ex  
our work shall be done. A good  
has been made, but the operations o  
should be greatly enlarged. We h  
ary ability to do so, an open field  
and our duty is plain.

#### OUR EDUCATIONAL MATTE

wear an encouraging aspect. In  
lieve, all are united. Beaver Dam  
selected for the location, has pledg  
and 20 acres of ground for a site. I  
denomination come up thus nobly  
and we shall soon have an institut  
ed in our midst that will do ample s  
cause and be, under God, a bless  
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ed to their several fields of labor? What will  
be the consequence of selecting three men—  
one for each language—from some twenty mis-  
sionaries, and giving them the exclusive right  
to veto any work that may be brought before  
them? What can be expected from such a  
system but mutual jealousies and heart-burn-  
ings? If it is necessary to have a Committee  
with such powers, who better qualified to  
select that Committee, than the missionaries  
themselves? Would not a Committee so chos-  
en more fully command the confidence of their  
brethren, and feel themselves in a much more  
agreeable position, than if they are looked up-  
on with distrust, as being merely the agents of  
the Executive? Why so fearful of giving mis-  
sionaries the largest liberty? The principle of  
republicanism is just as beautiful and just as  
safe, in religious affairs, as it is in the govern-  
ment of nations, and it is what Christ has  
emphatically enjoined among all his ministers;  
he has placed them on a perfect equality. Any  
one who considers how immense will be the  
power and influence of this Committee over  
the missions, and, on the other hand, how com-  
pletely subservient they must be to the Execu-  
tive, will scarcely blame me for having compar-  
ed this feature of the missionary organization  
to the government of Napoleon. Look also  
at the vast amount of precious time that must  
be consumed in carrying out these regulations  
in all their details. No one but a missionary  
who has had experience can appreciate the la-  
bor involved in the working of such a compli-  
cated system.

The Maulmain rules have not yet been ex-  
tended to Asam. Soon after my letter to Dr.  
Babcock was written, we had a visit from the  
Foreign Secretary. Finding that we were  
without a regular printer, and that the applica-



tion of these Regulations, under present circumstances, would be impossible, he has very considerably allowed us to remain under the the old rules, till a new printer comes out.— Should they then be applied to Asam, I trust it may be with very material modifications.

Yours fraternally, N. BROWN.

P. S. Aug. 18. Since writing the above I have received the Mace-donian for June, and have read with the utmost astonishment some of the statements made at the May meetings. No wonder that members arose and said "they had heard things fit to make their ears tingle." But why were not these charges—charges against some of our most faithful brethren in Burmah—charges that, if true, must cover these missionaries with ever enduring and well deserved disgrace—brought forward in the Maulmain Convention, where the parties could have defended themselves? How deeply is that excellent and devoted brother, who has been laboring for many years in the printing department at Maulmain, injured by these accusations. Hearing, a short time since, that he was reported to have printed works without any authority except that of himself and the authors, I wrote to ask him if such was the case. I have now received his answer. He feels surprised and grieved, and assures me that "the accusation is not true; that <sup>he</sup> ~~never~~ <sup>never</sup> printed a page for the mission that had not been according to the Rules of the Executive Committee." It will be impossible for missionaries to hold out long under these repeated and most injurious attacks, against which they have no adequate means of defending themselves. As to a missionary being heretofore allowed to print at the expense of the Union whatever he pleased, on his own authority, I can only say I never heard or dreamed of such a thing before.



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Dec 21. 1854

# The Christian Times.

LEROY CHURCH, } Proprietors.  
J. F. CHILDS }  
No. 16 La Salle St., between Lake and  
South Water.

FOR TERMS, SEE FOURTH PAGE.

HAYS & THOMPSON, PRINTERS, No. 53 LA SALLE ST.

## REMARKS ON DR. BROWN'S LETTER.

MISSIONARY ROOMS, BOSTON, }  
Nov 29, 1854. }

MESSRS EDITORS:—An article published in your paper of Nov. 1st, by Dr. Brown, of Assam, may claim some notice. He is surprised to learn, "from a friend," that Dr. Granger and the writer "denied that any such restrictions had been imposed on the mission press," as had been set forth in his letter to Dr. Babcock; and "I rightly understand Dr. Brown, he seems to suppose that the fact of *any* restriction having been imposed was denied. But no such denial could have been made, in any form; for a report, from the Executive Committee to the board of Managers, read on the first day of the meeting, distinctly stated that restrictions had been imposed, and, also, explained the nature and objects of those restrictions. (See the fortieth Annual Report of the American Baptist Missionary Union, pp. 44, 45.) What, then, was denied? And how was it denied?

Dr. Babcock read before the Union, the following extract from Dr. Brown's letter to him: "Every work, which this [Publication] Committee approve for publication, must be sent home *twelve months beforehand*, with the reasons for its being published, so that a Com-



mittee of Ministers in Boston may waste their precious time in saying whether it shall be printed. If thus sanctioned, neither the author nor the Publication Committee can alter a word as it is passing through the press!—Surely it is not the intention of such a rule to *regulate* printing? Its only object must be to *destroy*. Who that has the name of a Baptist would consent to print even a tract, much less a portion of Scripture, without the privilege of correcting any error, or improving an expression that, after twelve months' reflection and experience in the use of the language, he might find to be necessary? I should consider it treason to the word of God to print any portion of it under such restrictions as these."

After reading this extract, Dr. Babcock was understood to inquire whether such restrictions as here stated, had been actually imposed on the work of translating and printing the Scriptures? And to this inquiry, quoting from the report of the annual meetings in the Macedonian for June, "The Home Secretary replied, that he knew of nothing in the regulations, that, on fair construction, justified that statement. He was sure that nothing of the kind was intended, and it was the first suggestion from any quarter, that such restrictions were supposed to have been made. The rule against alterations in versions of Scripture, was intended to protect versions of admitted excellence, like Dr. Judson's or Dr. Mason's, from rash changes on individual responsibility." "Mr. Granger added, that the rules were framed on the most careful deliberations, from suggestions of missionaries at Maulmain, in a joint meeting and individually."

It will be seen that Dr. Brown's letter says "*every work*," approved for publication, must



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be sent home "*twelve months*" before it can  
be printed. Now do the regulations, fairly  
construed, justify this statement? The regula  
tions make it the duty of the Publishing Com  
mittee to "*report*" annually, and "*in all or  
dinary cases*, twelve months in advance of the  
operations of the press," what should be printed,  
"within the specified year;" and, also, in  
connection with this annual statement, to send  
home a "faithful translation, or, in place of  
this, an accurate compend of the contents of  
every original work, recommended in said state  
ment, for publication." The regulations also  
provide, in the case of every translated work,  
that a "copy of the original, or a reference to  
it," with an account of the "important" chan  
ges made, shall be given to the Executive Com  
mittee. So that, instead of a stringent regu  
lation, requiring "every work" to be sent  
home, "*twelve months beforehand*," no more  
is required than that, in ordinary cases, the  
statement shall be accompanied by such trans  
lation, compend or reference, as shall enable  
the executives to form an opinion for themselves  
as to the character of what it is proposed to  
print at the expense of the treasury.

But Dr. Brown would "consider it treason  
to the word of God to print any portion of it  
under such restrictions,"—restrictions that do  
not suffer the altering of "a word," the "cor  
recting of an error," or the "improving of an  
expression," as the work passes through the  
press. Such restrictions might, indeed, be pro  
perly so considered, if applied to the transla  
tion of the Word of God while yet in the  
hands of the translators; and it may be that,  
in regard to other works, the prohibition could  
be made, by severe pressure, to appear unrea  
sonably stringent. But the rule was not in



tended to deprive authors of the privilege of making merely verbal changes in their own productions; and it could have no reference whatever to translators of the Scriptures. The regulations have respect to a press in a country where the Word of God *had been already* translated; and the chief object of the prohibitory rule was to protect the versions made by Dr. Judson and Dr. Mason from unauthorized alteration. No such rule would have been applied to missions in which the translation of the Scriptures was in progress, without a special exemption of such translation from its operation. The executive of the Union avow, and would never swerve from, the principle that every translator must answer to his own conscience, before God, for the manner in which he renders His word into another language. Hence it is not to be inferred that a rule adopted for the protection of a translation *already made*, is intended to govern a translation *in progress*. Indeed, I suppose that Dr. Brown himself would not be unwilling to have his Assamese New Testament protected by the very rule of which he now complains.

I have thus aimed to give any of your readers, who may feel an interest in the question, the means of judging for themselves, whether a "fair construction" of the regulations, justifies the sweeping statement made in what I understood to be the extract read from Dr. Brown's letter at Philadelphia. But allusions may have been made, at that time, broad enough to cover all that was contained in the paragraph from which the extract previously quoted is taken. It is said, in that paragraph, of the deputation, that "they have taken the press out of the hands of the Missions, and placed it under the direct management of the Execu-



“tive Committee;” and without the sanction of a publishing committee, appointed by the Executive Committee, “nothing can be printed;” and that “a missionary cannot even commence preparing a work, without first applying to the publishing Committee for their approval.” It is possible that these additional statements were alluded to, if not read, at the annual meeting. Permit me to say, therefore, that because the Maulmain Press and depository, to use the words of the regulations, were “agencies for the common use and benefit of all the missions in Burmah, and involving a heavy annual expenditure,” they were placed under a direction separate from, and independent of, any one of the missions; and immediately responsible to the Executive Committee.” The revolution thus wrought, resolves itself practically into just this:—the Executive Committee, for what were deemed adequate reasons, have *changed the agency*, through which to conduct the Maulmain press, from the missions, severally to a publishing committee, consisting of Messrs Wade, Stevens, and Haswell—three of the oldest missionaries in Burmah, representing three of the missions, and three of the languages of the people; simply requiring that they make report of their doings, to await the sanction of the Executive Committee. Surely such change, including such men as constitute the publishing committee, ought not to awaken the apprehension of an attempt to injure the rightful liberties of the missions.

Then as to the “approval” of the publishing Committee being necessary, before a missionary can “commence preparing a work.” A reference to the rule, as published in your paper, will show that nothing more is required of a missionary, in such case, than that he “consult



with the publication committee as to the *need* of such a work, and the probable demand for it; and whether *any other* member of the mission has undertaken or designed the same or a similar work." Nothing is said in the rule of an *approval* being *necessary*; and it is manifest that a main object of the rule is to secure to the missionary such knowledge as would be important to any man who might think of writing a book in such circumstances. Indeed, I think it may be justly said of the regulations, as a whole, that they carry with them the evidence of having been framed with a careful desire to secure to the work of bookmaking, printing, and distribution, the three important advantages of a judicious appropriation of labor; improvement in the character of the publication; and economy in the expenditure of money.

I have no idea that Dr. Brown *intended* to interpret the regulations otherwise than justly, nor do I take it upon myself to say that the rules themselves are, in all respects, perfect. They have been modified in some particulars since they were first adopted by the Executive Committee; and I am sure that other modifications will be made when demanded by the interests of the work of evangelizing Burmah. If we had but one mission in the world, and an inexhaustible treasury, it might answer to dispense with all such things as regulations, and give to missionaries, as well as agents and secretaries, what Dr. Brown calls the "largest liberty." But so broad a dispensation, as to the use of what costs money, might not be quite expedient or safe, while many missions seek supplies from a treasury that is so much often empty than full.

E. B.



harge to the Church, by EL  
DANIEL M. S.

JOHN L. SMITH, Clerk.

The church recognized a  
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### REVIVALS IN SCOTT

DECEMBER

DEAR BR. SMITH:—I hav  
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Yours in Christ, G

SIGNATURE OF BR. KELL

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### DR. BRIGHT'S LETTER.

Our readers will find on the first page, a communication from the Home Secretary, occasioned by the letter from Dr. Brown, of Asam, which we published a few weeks since. We cheerfully give it an insertion, and invite attention to it. Upon the merits of the question raised in these letters we shall say nothing at present. Our high regard for Br. Brown, however, induces us to notice the matter, not as apologetically for him, but for the purpose of expressing our conviction that in declaring his sentiments so plainly and decidedly, he is actuated by the noblest motives. Of this, the Secretary would intimate no doubt, we are sure. The tone of his letter we regard as perfectly kind toward the absent missionary.

Br. Brown feels, as assured to him by his long experience and his opportunities for extended observation, the importance of leaving missionaries, in their work, free from the embarrassing influence of unnecessary rules and restrictions. In this we cordially sympathize with him, and for this reason, hope that the intimation of the Secretary of a probable modification of the Printing Regulations will be realized. He will feel, moreover, some solicitude as to the manner in which the frank and decided expression he has made of his sentiments will be received in this country. Twenty years have passed since he sailed for his field of missionary toil. During that long period he has never visited his native land. Infirm in health and suffering, with his wife, under the pain of



a necessary separation from their children, sustaining, besides at his post trials and burdens of no ordinary weight, he can ill afford to lack the evidence that the sympathy and confidence and prayers of his brethren at home are given to him. Let our readers then, fully examine his reasons given in the letter already published, for the position he takes, and let us deal kindly and justly by the absent.

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