

Menton

Nov. 25. 87.

Dear Friend,

I do not wish friends in America to judge the matter hastily: they cannot know the ins and outs of the case. But I would have them believe that I would not have quitted our Baptist Union if I had not felt driven to do so.

It has never comprehended the more strongly Calvinistic brethren; but that is not my complaint. It has in it a few very pronounced "modern thought" men. These are by no means to be charged with reticence, and they have had sufficient opportunities to inflict their novelties upon us. I have protested and protested, but in vain.

Many do not believe that this "new theology" exists to any degree worthy of notice. I know that it does, and cannot but wonder that any should question it. Of course those who think all is well think me a needless alarmist.

Another section is first of all for peace and unity, and hopes that the erring ones will come right; and therefore they are grieved to see the matter ventilated.

Others hope to purge and save the Union. All my best desires go with these; but I have no hope of it. Essentially there is no doctrinal basis to begin with, and many believe this to be a great beauty. "Down with creeds," seems to be the watchword.

Protests failing, I left; and this has caused more enquiry than a thousand papers would have done. I do not see that I could have done else. Others might not be under such a compulsion till they have tried to mend matters, and have failed as I have done.

With no confession of faith, or avowal of principles, there is nothing to work upon; and I do not see the use of repairing a house which is built on the air.

Thank you much for your clippings. Send more, please, when you meet them.

Yours ever heartily,

C. H. Spurgeon.