

DEC., 1882.

BRETHREN BELOVED IN THE LORD,

Grace unto you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. May He be pleased to give us to be of one heart and of one mind in the things of God.

Many brethren in town and country have had it on their hearts for some time back to unite in prayer and humiliation in His sight. It is now proposed that a day or two be set apart for this, with fasting. We feel sorrow continual for brethren torn one from another; we are ashamed of the spectacle of our condition before friends and adversaries; but, most of all, we deplore the dishonour done to His name Who for us died to gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad. We would spread before our God the laxity and the narrowness, the pride in leaders and the pride that despises them, the envy and the jealousy, the worldliness and the sectarianism, which have wrought far and wide among us, and closed in that most humbling division, which has rent us in Great Britain, and is now fast spreading wherever Brethren so called are found all over the world. Above all would we seek to judge ourselves before God for our own part in this bitter result of a bitter sowing while no less identifying ourselves with all that has wrought in others no less dear to the Lord. Ezra viii.—x., Neh. i. 4, Danl. ix., Ps. xxxv., Ps. lxix., Ps. cix., Joel i. 14, ii. 12, Matt. xxvii. 20, 21, Luke ii. 37, v. 35, 2 Cor. vi. 5, xi. 27, Jas. iv. 8—10. We propose Monday, Dec. 25th, and Monday, Jan. 1st, for united prayer, fasting, and humiliation before our God and Father, and remain affectionately yours in the Lord Jesus,

A. MILLER,	W. KELLY,
E. GILHOOLY,	G. RYMER,
S. WREFORD,	S. V. HENSLOW.