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(Not a part that did not die) rise not - then they that have fallen asleep in Christ are perished!" How so if they have, "all of the man proper" i.e. the mind (immortal one! I mean) that has gone to Heaven as you would have me believe?"

"(Nov. 4th '50.)" Having a few spare moments this morning, I will write a few words upon "the Restitution" about which you have said so much! (You will pardon me for thus leaving the subject - I was upon last evening, and I will take up that again.) On the 2nd page of your epistle, you say, "I perceive you challenge me to a written discussion of of of what? aye, that's the rub. But as near as I can infer, you wish us to consider some points of your theological opinions;"

You then declare yourself to be "no theologian" and to be "a whig, and nothing (but a whig! &c)" - I do not intend to rail or speak diminutively of you or your "all" which "as near as I can infer" is anything but Religion of New Testament kind, - it being your own written declaration, and signed also in your own hand writing that you "are nothing, but a whig!" I shall not in this feel bound to refuse to discuss any political question, - because I well know it to be my place to wait until I have been requested, before I refuse, or deny. But I will throw in one word. - I am nearly 26 (now nearly 27) years old - have no mind for any thing of a political nature. Have never visited, to vote, the polls!! No, Sir. I have taken myself out of all earthly combinations, and associations, so far as I found it required of me in the scriptures. But Sir I cannot enter into a written discussion upon this point.

I shall be glad if we may ever meet, to talk and in quietness reason upon this or any other subject which we may know how to discuss "Pro and Con". But I promised to look at the "Restitution"!!! I quote from your 2nd coming of Christ. "It appears you believe in the stand fast upon it, and, second: When he there will be a restitution of all things, you say, so say I."

(See page 5. th of this letter.)

Please understand
our Post-Office address
is - Thomaston
Me.
We have lived here
since Sept. 17-1851.

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Thomaston, Lincoln Co. Me. Nov 2nd 1851

My Dear Bro. A. S.

It is now about one year since I recd an answer to my letter which I wrote to you "Sept. 24th A.D. 1848" more than three years since! The answer I recd "Nov. 6-1850" and the same evening I sat down and wrote a few lines, as an answer to yours, and the next morning finished the letter; but as you did not see fit to send me yours until two yrs. after you recd mine, I of course must conclude that you did not wish to be taxed often with such and so I laid my ans. by until now. I should have rather sent it long since and would not did not know (but you might be sorry, consequently I deferred doing so for a year. As to the future, I expect to write to you as soon after you may ^{be recd,} as you do after you receive this. -

Since I wrote you, "we" have been called to pass through afflictions & sorrows but do not mourn as others who have no hope 1st Thessalonians chap 4.

My Mother Died in Oct. 1848 - Sister Lois in Jan. 1849. Your Mother in March 1851. Many other deaths have occurred; some of them I will mention as you may not have heard of all. viz Mrs. Sally Wash, Miss Charlotte Wadsworth - Wm. Hatcher Esq. Mr Lewis Robbins and one of his sons! Eld. Jones - and, a son of Abner Milliken &c &c. But I must hasten. I want to give you a few words in answer to your letter. But first let me say, We live in Thomaston, Me. and are all well. We number 4 in family.

Our Eldest is a boy, and will be two yrs. old Dec. 29-1851. Our next and youngest is a girl and was born June 19, 1851. Their names are Joel David Greenleaf Richards, and Lydia Jane Richards. } I will now proceed to notice some of your "objections" - "difficulties" &c

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You said in June 1850! "In order that this letter may be just what I want it to be, I shall copy, word for word, what I previously wrote," &c. &c. and then begin back nearly two years - to, "Oct-22nd 1848"!!

Well I will work by the same rule; "In order that this ^{letter} may be just what I want it to be, I shall copy, word for word," &c. &c.
"Lincolnville Nov. 6 - 1850"

"Dear Mrs A. S."

I am pleased to acknowledge the receipt of "three sheets" which are now before me. They are here - but if "figures don't lie" they were in the P.O. in "Hort Fairfield, Me Oct. 26, 1850." Now that we have become somewhat intimately associated, through the medium of "Uncle Sam's" arrangements, &c. I trust you will excuse me for indulging a little in innocently grumbling because of having to wait from "Sept. 29 A.D. 1848" till Nov. 6 - 1850 for an answer to what you received, from my poor brain, through the medium of the Mail, - But there, you must have an hard - yea, the hardest - time, after all; for you say you "justly owe" me "ten thousand apologies." What a debt! But that is only as a drop compared with an "Old oaken bucket" full; - it don't begin with what you will "owe", if you ever again keep me anxiously waiting for more ^{2 or 3} than two long, long years for so trifling - no! But so serious and so long - long - studied and (some of it) so long written a reply to what I had very hastily written with hardly ^{did} time to read it over ~~again~~ see whether I had written as I intended when I sat down to write. But I forbear. I have something of more importance to write about, and must not be intemperate in such indulgences as above.

"Since I wrote to you, we have passed through some afflictions - we have suffered - we have been called to bury some that were dear, and near."

"After I wrote to you, I lost my Mother. She died for Oct. 15th day, 1850 - of Typhus fever. - And next was Sister Lois - she was a sister in more than one sense of the word."

"How little did you, my Bro. think when you last saw her blooming countenance, that your next meeting with her would be at the Bar of God. But so it will be. May you be prepared to meet her inside of the City described in Rev. XXI. which is to be the Metropolis of the Kingdom of God, (in the New Earth) as old Jerusalem was the Capitol of David's Kingdom."

"You and I must seek for immortality!" How? By patient continuance in well doing." Rom. 2:7. But, you exclaim, I will not seek for what I have! Sir, you have not got immortality unless you are God!! or else Paul was mistaken. How so? What does Paul say? He said that God "only hath immortality" 1 Tim. VI-16. and as Paul said, so I believe. But you will, as in the letter I have from you, say "The Spirit is immortal." If so, then the learned and probably inspired St. Paul made another mistake for he said, speaking of the resurrection, that "this Mortal shall put on immortality" 1 Cor. XV. Now if it read "This immortal Spirit shall put on immortality" I should have to believe it or do as you have done, viz. Believe my own or any theory although it conflict with the word which is "truth" John 17-17."

"Now sir I take no offense - and cannot and be a Christian, for "great peace have they which love thy law and nothing shall offend them", Psa. 119-165. I say no offense - although I am by you charged with "infidelity," - "Semi-Deism", &c. &c. - But I wish you to take down your old family Bible and look in it and then tell me of the verse (its whereabouts) that mentions (the by-you-supposed-to-be fact.) that man has anything immortal about him. If we are true and daily worshipers of God, our life does not consist in (or of) anything we have within us. Reason. "Our life is hid with Christ in God" again "Christ is our life" Colossians III: 3 & 4. Yes, and "Jesus Christ - hath brong ^{at} life and immortality to light." How? I answer, "Through the gospells" But, Almon S. Please believe me, Paul said that "if the dead."

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all men". 1st Tim IV:10 for the good reason all men would remain in Hades where Christ was while in that "Hell" which is the grave.

But He is a "Special" savior "of those that believe." They will, with all mankind, after they are raised, be judged and disposed of by the "law of faith," - they that have believed the gospel and had a living faith which is always accompanied by good works, will receive the Kingdom, Matt. 25. And the others will not be permitted to enter it, but will die the 2nd death. Rev. 21:8. - By fire Matt. 25:46. and XIII:40 to 43. - This will not be "Hades", but it will be "Gehenna" a greek word which always means a burning place - and you will well understand more about it ere long, than I have room to write, if you procrastinate the day of "repentance and faith" until a certain period not far distant.

I will just mention a few places where the word Gehenna occurs in the New Testament. In Matt. 7 times Mark 3. Luke 1st & James 1st viz. Matt. V: 22, 29, 30. X:28. XVII:9. XXIII: 15, 33^d verses Mark IX: 43, 45, 47. Luke 12:5. James 3:6.

"Hades" is a greek word which occurs eleven times in the N. Testament. It is translated 10 times Hell! - It is correctly translated grave in 1 Cor. XV:55; "Sheol" is an hebrew word (of the same import as Hades) used in the Old Testament. It is translated Hell 31 times! It is correctly translated grave in some places, as in Gen. 37:35. Eccl. 9:10. Sheol is the word used in Psa. 16:10. and in Acts 2nd: 31 - Hades is used, &c, &c, &c, &c, &c, &c, &c!!

Had I time, I would give you more particulars as to Gehenna but I must hasten along. Suffice it to say the destruction of the wicked is made as certain in the bible, as is the salvation of all true believers! - It is not my business to make truth; but it is my work to preach and to defend it. I love truth, and am at any time willing to swap away as many errors as I can for a single truth.

"Search the scriptures," I hope you do. I know I do; and I shall continue so to do until I am deprived of the blessed and glorious privilege.

I still believe in two resurrections - the 1st at the coming of Christ - the 2nd at the close of the 1000 years. As to the saints "being in the air" during the whole of the "day of the Lord," I admit there al-

Now mark. I do not believe you wilfully misrepresent me - but I think you "infer" wrong this once. My memory does not serve me so well as it did "two years" since - as I have twice been prostrated by the Typhus fever, since I wrote to you - but you read again and see if I said anything about, or if I gave any references to any passage, or more than one, of the scriptures, that look ~~like~~ like limiting or qualifying that expression so as to have it ~~read~~ confined to the "all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets, since" &c Acts III: 21. Now you proceed to say:

"Thus it seems, you are a believer in that most beautiful doctrine the salvation of the whole human family! How bright. How glorious, how cheering that hope, - "The restitution of all things!" Then you ask, - "Does not such a glorious faith make your heart warm towards all of Adam's fallen race?"

Now it is my turn. I understand that the "Southerners" call human souls, sometimes, "Chetels and Things!" But I have yet to learn that the Bibles we may have read, call human beings by either of the two names mentioned.

I will now carry your mind back nearly 6,000 years. What is seen? The (then) New Earth - No sinners upon it. Passing down, or, take a panoramic view, and what do we soon see? Man loses his dominion. It goes into the hands of the devil, and he had the Kingdoms of the world a little more than 1800 years since, and I should like to know if he has not kept them in some way until the present.

What does the Bible say? - To the law & to the

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testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because - "!!" Isa. VIII. 20.

What do we hear God say by the mouth of Moses, (one of the holy prophets?) "As truly as I live, ~~the~~ All the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord." Numbers XIV: 21. Now God is alive, and I believe, if He does not die, - that will be fulfilled when the times of the restitution shall come along, &c. I have only time to quote from a few of the many holy prophets. I will next quote from David Psa 72: 8 & 19 vsq. Psa 67: 6 also 85: 12 - See also 37 Psa all of it & especially 34th verse. Psa 2: 8 & 9th verses. Then shall the 9th verse of the VIII Psa. "begin" to be fulfilled, Also XXIX: 8 & XXV: 13 - XXVII: 13 XXXIII: 5th. XLI: 2. XCVI: 10. CIV: 30. CXV: 16. CXVI: 9 (Matt 5: 5. Psa. CXXXVIII. 4. (also Rev. 5: 9, 10. Psa CXLV: 8 to 13. Prov. 2: 21, 22. Matt XIII. 40 to 43rd verses. Prov. X: 30. XI: 31. Isaiah 1: 19. IX: 6, 7. Jer. 23: 5, 6. Luke 1: 32, 33. Isa. XI: 1 to 9. XXV: 6 to 9. XXIX: 17. XXX: 25, 26. XXXII: 1. XXXIII: 17 & 24, Rev. XXI: 4. Isa XXXV. chap. XLV. 18, LI: 3rd. LXII: 6, 7. (Jer. XXXI: 17. "border") Eze. XXI: 29. XXXIV: 29. XXXVIII: 14. Daniel 2: 44. VII: 27. XII: 13. Micah IV: 8. This brings us down to ~~the~~ that we can see that when the "Seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head" - The "second Adam" will have the territory lost by the first! He came to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke XIX: 10. Then he will be prepared to give the "purchased possession" to "them on his right hand" symbolized by "the sheep." Matt. XXV: 34. Ephesians 1: 14. Habakkuk 2: 14. Yech. 14: 9.

These, with hundreds more I can quote, refer and belong to the "restitution" which I hope you may look for and love!

Then shall be no more curse". Where? Where

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there had been one previous to the time when "there shall be no more curse". See Gen. III: 17 and Rev. 22: 3.

My Dear Friend, does not such a glorious faith make your heart warm towards all of Adam's fallen Race? (??) It does mine, and hence you perceive the reason why I spend my efforts and time (some of the same) to convince one and as many as I can of the "truth" I find all the distance between Genesis 13th and Rev. 22nd. "We", - Bible-ites, "according to his promise, look for New Heavens and a New Earth", where in dwelleth righteousness! 2nd Peter III: 13.

But it will be seen after the fires of the last day (at the expiration of the 1000 yrs.) have caused the wicked to die (not live (!) but die) the 2nd death! not endless misery, but that punishment which will be eternal, because from that death (?) no one will have any thing like a resurrection!!

The death of Adam and of all his posterity would leave them in an eternal sleep if Christ had not died to bring them up again. As in Adam all die, ^{even} so in Christ shall all be made alive! (all have a resurrection!) 1st Cor. XV. 22 (Query - Is Adam's death actually eternal? Then, if not so, those who are made alive may arise, if other scriptures teach so, and arise to life, be "made alive" and yet the life not be eternal! I do believe we must "seek for immortality" or never have it. And if we never have it, we must die the 2nd Death! See Romans chap. 2: 7th verse & also Rev. 20: 6 & 21: 8.)

He (Christ) may well be termed "the Saviour of

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And what did Stephen understand? I ans. - that they sinned. -
What did he do? "He knelt down, and cried with a loud voice,
Lord lay not this sin to their charge!" And when he had
said this, he "went up as fast as he could fly! No! He
fell asleep." and I believe it.

You can find (apparently) greater and more weighty objections
to a mind which has never investigated these subjects - especially this
last point, but I hope you are anxious to know the facts let them
be what they may. May the blessings of the gospel be yours
is my desire & prayer. (Thus far I have copied from the old letter,
except what I have placed within this kind of a parenthesis (-) as you
may notice.)

If I have written any thing which may seem severe, I hope you
will believe me when I say, I mean no harm, and am, I trust,
a true friend to you and have no other than the best of feelings
towards you. I am in hopes you will write to me as soon as you
can, let us know of your prosperity or, and if you will, I am
willing to continue to discuss the "theological points" for a while
unless you think it unprofitable for us. Since "Uncle Sam" has
reduced the postage, it will not cost more to send a single sheet
from your place here, than it would cost to smoke a single Spanish
cigar. I think that arrangement is worth patronizing, at
any rate my postage bill (if you could see it) for one year would
convince you I tell the truth - but I do not ^{complain} it much.

This evening is Monday - Nov. 2nd 1851. I commenced copying on Sunday
2nd Inst. - Aunt Cousin Nancy - (your sister) called on us, and so I laid this
off until she left for home again. She is well. Said all the folks
were well a few days since. She told us the News (!) from "up
East" is success to you. We wish you much joy, and if I had room
I might congratulate you a little upon the birth of - of - of what
Nancy told us that old Mr. Child, at the head of the "turnpike", is
dead! She said that Bro. Barnham has had a slow fever
but is getting better now. &c. &c.

"Sister Phoebe" sends her respects & love to you and your wife, and
hopes to see you & yours up here this winter. We will be glad to
entertain you as well as we can, if you can come and see us.

Little David & Lydia are wide awake this moment. They are
two uncommonly interesting children. I think I never saw so in-
teresting a boy as is David - he is uncommonly active and forward in
all respects, except keeping his talk to himself! Respectfully, Yours, &c.
J. S. Richards.

- ways have been a large body of Bible students which be-
lieve that the most of the 1,000 yrs. will be spent by the
Saints upon the earth. Some believe that the fires will
purify the earth at the time immediately after the coming
of the Lord, - that the ashes of the wicked (all of them) will
out side of the City upon the surface of the earth, and that
at the close of the 1,000 yrs. those ashes will be raised
to life as before, and be destroyed by the "second death."

I am not fully satisfied that my old view is in cor-
rect. It may be; but if it is I must believe the one
above mentioned. One of the two views must (I think)
be correct. - However, either require the "coming of the
Lord." Amen.

I must now return to the subject I hinted
at last evening, and notice a few "of - of - of what?"
- "Age, that's the rub." - "But as near as I can infer"
I must notice something (or nothing! pardon me) that will
weigh about as much in the scales of truth as a
"thistle blow in an hurricane" would do towards caus-
ing the raging, foaming, and spluttering "briny blue
Ocean" to become as still and silently motionless as a
calm and serene Evening in Summer.

I have no doubt but that you will think of my manner of
disposing of your mountains - in the form of objections - which rear their
heads before you, and by so doing, hide from your view a part of the
beauties which may be seen by the mind's eye when you shall
have arisen sufficiently high "in the Book" to find the mountains
far beneath your feet, and seeing such beauties as you will then
plainly discern, you will "rejoice in the truth" and be glad

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to find yourself where no person can make you admit that darkness, error and superstition are preferable to the "light that shineth more and more, to the perfect day!" If we want to "do well", we shall by taking heed unto the "more sure word" (see 2nd Peter, 1st part of verse 19.) Now the objections! - Being them on. - Well I find one on page 4th of your Epistle.

What? An assumption! "I assume and believe that there exists an immortal Spirit, mind, or memory in man, &c" (see Psal. 146-9.) Now for "the highest and most absolute authority!" - "Jesus said unto him", (the thief, &c) "What is meant by the word Paradise?" Webster says - Eden. Bible shows it to be the place where the "tree of life" is. Rev. 2:7. The tree of life was in Eden before and at the fall (!) and the next we shall see of it will be in the City of the New-Jerusalem, where all that do his commandments will "have right to" it. Rev. 22:14. What was the thief's request? Ans. "Lord remember me when thou comest into thy Kingdom." - Griesbach, one of the greatest critics of Languages, says, that the original, if translated as plain as it might be, would read like this - "Verily I say unto thee, in that day thou shalt be with me in Paradise." That don't mean the Spirit of the thief - with the Spirit of "me" i.e. Christ. - "Paradise" will be seen and enjoyed in the "restitution".

Your next objection is from Luke 24:37, 8, 9. "They supposed, ^{that} they had seen a spirit!" So does some persons who live in this town, suppose they have seen "ghosts!!" What does it prove to me? I answer, - that the doctrine of Plato and others, had been heard by them. (and also may have been and has been heard by many living now.) - Says Christ -

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"A Spirit hath not flesh and bones," &c. Well, say you, that proves that there are spirits. - I never doubted it. God is a Spirit. "His angels are Spirits." &c. &c. I never dis-believed that man had (or has) a Spirit; and I think one "Mary Magdalene" had Seven of a peculiar kind, but I do not know that either of them was immortal!!!

If the Spirit is to be proved, by "the highest" "authority," immortal - why not come to the work? Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit - &c. Hebrew, Ruach; a word which in several other places in the book of Eccl. is rendered "Breath"!

Some of your "caricature" I must pass over unnoticed more than this. (I mean, respecting the "sounding of the trumpet," &c)

You say, "But my friend, methinks you smile. At what I ask?" Well, I must confess I did, and do now, and I think it would make almost any one possessed of no more immortality than I, to read and endeavor to decypher some of the peculiar ideas here before me on the "3 sheets" I rec'd from you - but I ought to have known I should have rec'd a rich treat which was two years in being prepared!

You say that the savior said, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." - Do you know the various definitions or meanings of the Greek word 'Pneuche' there rendered by the translators - Spirit? Soul, Spirit, life wind, air, breath, &c, &c, &c, are some of the meanings.

And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God and saying (tauntingly) "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" When said those words? I believe that those that stoned Stephen, said those words