

For the Journal and Luminary.

WHY I TAKE A RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPER.

I had rather dispense with the luxuries of tea and coffee, and take my morning and evening beverage from the running stream, than do without a *religious newspaper*. Let me say why.

1. Because, I believe with Solomon, that knowledge is better than choice gold. The cost of such a paper is nothing compared with the information I glean from it. I learn more about the geography, the manners, and customs of different and distant nations, than I can get from any other source. And the information I thus get, I know to be true, as I am personally acquainted with many of those who communicate it, and know them to be men of veracity. Besides the knowledge I thus gain of my own country, of its laws, institutions, domestic and foreign intercourse, internal improvements, &c., is great. But more than all, I thus learn about the prosperity of Zion throughout the world.

2. Because, I cannot repeat the Lord's prayer in-

telligently without information. How can I pray, "thy kingdom come," when I know very little, or nothing about that kingdom!

3. Because, I am unwilling to lose the enjoyment, I thus obtain. Neither corn nor wine; neither the smiles of my wife, nor the prattle of my children, make me more glad, than the weekly visit of a neat richly laden newspaper.

4. Because of its benefit to my family. My children read, and converse about what they have read. Thus they acquire a facility in reading, become intelligent, and at the same time receive a good moral, and religious impression. In a pecuniary view, I had better pay \$20 a year than not take such a paper; and in a moral view, it is richer than rubies.

5. Because of its influence on the heart. I take up my paper, and read a stirring sketch on practical godliness—on revivals in progress, or in prospect—on the conversion of the world,—and my heart is softened. It beats quicker with sympathy for the perishing; and warmer with love to God and man.

6. Because of its influence on the community.—Who can estimate the influence of a well conducted religious newspaper on 3000 subscribers, and on five times that number of readers! It is "as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for these the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore."

7. Because, while a religious paper contains tenfold more important matter to me than a paper exclusively secular, it is tenfold more difficult to sustain it.

Secular papers are principally sustained by their advertising patronage. Religious papers publish few advertisements, and consequently derive little revenue from this source. With all the economy they can practice, not more than half a dozen religious papers in the land, do any thing more than just live. While many have died with starvation, many more have the symptoms of premature death.

For these, and many more reasons, I take a religious newspaper, deeming it neither just, nor generous to myself, to my family, to the public, or the publisher, that he should be left to bear the pecuniary burden alone.

SENIOR.