

THE ANTIDOTE

TO

DR. RYERSON'S "SCRIPTURAL RIGHTS, &c."

As many minds may not be familiar with the Pamphlet of Dr. Ryerson; or may not at present remember the positions he has taken in his late opposition to Wesleyan Methodism, I deem it proper to select such portions of his Pamphlet as clearly and fully express his views. On page 5 he says:—

"The question is, as to whether, on the Wesleyan Conference assuming the positions and functions of a distinct and independent church, a condition of membership has been imposed, which is a departure from the principles of Mr. Wesley, and the doctrine of the Apostolic Church—a condition which ignores the church relation, rights and privileges of the baptized children of the Wesleyan Body, and excludes thousands from its membership upon unscriptural and unwesleyan grounds."

On page 12:—

"I maintain that each child baptized by the church is thereby enfranchised with the rights and privileges of citizenship in it, until he forfeits them by personal misconduct and exclusion."

On page 28-9:—

"I urged, in behalf of both parents and children, the practical recognition of the rights and claims of children who were admitted and acknowledged as members of the church by Baptism, as implied in our Form of Baptism, and according to our Catechism, and according to what the Conference unanimously declared at Hamilton in 1853, our church holds to be among the privileges of baptized persons, viz., that 'they are made members of the visible church.' And 'Persons cannot of course be members of the 'visible' Church of Christ without being members of some visible branch or section of it.'"

Page 29:—

"To deny that the baptized children of our people are members of our