

Finally the minister left and the flock was without an under shepherd.

About this time brother Thomas V. Berry of Boston visited Robinsonston with his excellent sister wife, then in her last sickness, that she might die among her relatives and at the home of her nativity.

Although it became necessary for him to be near her most of the time, yet he frequently spoke in the vicinity. Being but about a dozen miles from Calais, and this church without a preacher, he was invited to visit them and to address them. They were so much interested in his efforts that they soon gave him a formal invitation to spend at least half of his time with them. He frequently addressed them during the last winter. Much against their wishes, and greatly to their disappointment, he left them last spring without any scriptural organization and with but a remote prospect of any permanent supply of a teacher to lead them in the ways of apostolic christianity.

Elder James B. Barnaby, of Deer Island, N. B. addressed them occasionally for some time, and immersed one—an excellent brother; but brother Barnaby felt himself embarrassed in his efforts when he learned that the people's hearts were placed on brother Berry. They finally sent a brother to Boston for him—but he had left for the "West;" that "great West" that eats up all our preachers. On his return I was honored by a visit from another brother seeking advice and assistance. I responded that I was not able to preach much, but the Lord willing, I would come and see them. This, then, was the design of my visit to Calais. I wished to see the brethren and to give them a word of exhortation, if not of advice and counsel. The next Lord's day morning and evening I addressed them on the Ancient order of truth and worship as taught in the Old and New Covenants, in contrast with the modern doctrines and commandments of men. In the afternoon some twenty or thirty of us broke the loaf in honor of our Divine Lord, and we listened to many interesting remarks from the brethren.

During the week I learned that a general desire prevailed among the brethren to be organized as a congregation of the disciples of Jesus Christ. I therefore, resolved to remain another Lord's day and render them all the assistance in my power. I obtained a list of names, determined to call on all, and question them particularly as to the state of their affections for their Saviour, towards each other, and the world. As there had been much strife and contention in the city, I deemed this step expedient. I had long since learned that the success of the cause of truth depends under God, more on the state of the disciples' affection for each other, than on great talents or splendid gifts. But my throat became so painful and my strength so exhausted that I had to give up ere my task was really begun. As a substitute, however, I drew up something like the following preamble and resolutions which were unanimously received, and to which all their names are affixed. Here is the document:

"WHEREAS divisions, strife, and contention not only characterize the world, but also too many of those who profess to be the followers