

not know that you had been so busy and so successful in Manchester. To what other circumstances you allude I know not. This I do know, that wherever I went I continually heard something of the sayings of Mr Shreve as to the invalidity of the baptisms &c. of Methodist ministers and others. A general impression was attempted to be made that we had no scriptural right to baptize &c. I was grieved that any person calling himself a Protestant clergyman should lend himself in any way to the propagation of such absurd statements, founded as they were on the fable of the uninterrupted succession. It was time to speak out—and I intend to speak still more plainly,—and hope to be able to make even you ashamed of this worthless conceit.

Letter II.

No positive command in Scripture in favour of Diocesan Episcopacy—Miscellaneous matters—The Christian Church formed after the model of the Jewish Synagogue—Miscellaneous.

REV. SIR,

HAVING replied fully to the statements contained in your preface, I now turn my attention to the contents of your Letters. I do not however think it necessary on this occasion to notice all the matters you have introduced, as some of these are totally irrelevant to the subject in debate; but those which are essential will receive consideration.

You certainly must feel as far as the decisions of scripture are concerned, that the ground on which you stand against the non-episcopal part of the religious world, is exceedingly slender. Hence in the commencement of your first letter, I find you asking this question, "Is a plain, positive, and direct command absolutely necessary, to decide the point in question?" (p. 1.) This is not a very flattering beginning, but the query itself deserves an answer. My reply is, if you make Diocesan Episcopacy essential to a true Church, as you are evidently striving to do, I think you ought to produce something positive by which this form of government is either enjoined, or the Church restricted to it. It is very reasonable that you should not presume to unchurch all non-episcopal denominations of christians without you can produce from the New Testament some precept, rule, or law, by which the the divine will evidently declares Diocesan Episcopacy to be necessary to constitute a true church: "For where no law is,