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THE OLD PATHS.

A LETTER TO A COUNTRY CONGREGATION FROM A MISSIONARY OF THE CHURCH.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH, MATILDA.

Brockville, April 6, 1843.

Dearly Beloved Brethren,

At the request of one highly esteemed, by you and by me, for his work's sake and his own sake,—your minister,—I address you on a subject which, on other grounds, could make no claim to special notice. I allude to a letter handed to me immediately after a funeral at Matilda, and written by a teacher of one of the subdivisions of one of those unhappy schisms which are weakening the influences of true religion, wasting the energies of Protestantism, bringing contempt on our holy faith, furnishing plausible arguments to the grand schism of schisms—Popery,—countenancing the sophistries of infidelity, and thus (albeit unintentionally, but still most surely and effectually) doing the will of the adversary.

The letter was directed to the "Rev. E. Denroche, Matilda," and runs thus :

"Matilda, March 13, 1843.

"Rev. and Dear Sir,

"The regular successors of the apostles are holding a protracted meeting in this vicinity, where souls are being converted to God. There is a prayer meeting at the house of George Brouse, Esq., this day, at two o'clock, P. M., to which meeting you are by this note cordially invited to attend to, for the purpose of getting your soul converted to God, if you had experienced that change, I have no doubt you would make an able minister of the New Testament, and become one of the regular successors in fact.

"I remain, Rev. and Dear Sir,

"Your's affectionately,

"DANIEL BERNEY, W. M. M."