

be taken, that no partiality be used on account of natural relationship, wealth, learning or influence. See 1 Tim. 5. 21. James 2, 1, 6.

To enforce this duty, we may observe, that the neglect of it dishonours God, by giving occasion to the wicked to blaspheme; hurts the offender, by encouraging and hardening him in his offence; injures the church, by burdening the minds of the brethren, interrupting their fellowship, and hindering other pious persons from uniting with them, and has a pernicious effect upon sinners, casting a stumbling block before them and emboldening them in their sinful courses. Hence, it is obvious that the glory of God, the good of the offender, the prosperity of the church, and consequently the advancement of the cause of God, and the eternal welfare of sinners, require the prompt and faithful exercise of Church discipline. Let this duty be punctually performed, and there is reason to hope, that the cases requiring it will be greatly diminished. These considerations without adducing more, are surely sufficient to determine each church, and every individual member, to pursue a regular, consistent, and scriptural line of conduct relative to this matter.

Brethren, may the Lord preserve you and us from giving occasion for the exercise of discipline. If any cases occur, in our churches, in which it is necessary, may He enable and influence us to perform that duty with humility, tenderness, zeal, and faithfulness, so that we may cut off occasion from them which desire occasion, and shew forth the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his marvellous light. Amen.

CORRESPONDING LETTER,

The churches of Christ composing the Nova-Scotia Baptist Association to Corresponding Associations, send christian salutations.

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD,

Through Divine favour, we have been indulged with another Anniversary Meeting, in which the Lord hath been graciously pleased to manifest his presence and favour, in assisting his Ministers to preach the blessed Gospel of his Grace to the edification and comfort of his Body the Church. When we are enabled to realize the immutability of JEHOVAH, and attend to the plan of redemption, as exhibited in the Scriptures of truth, we are naturally led to the soul-cheering inference, that the weakest believers, in the Church below, are as near the heart of our exalted Redeemer as the glorified saints above; and, being justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that is in Him, and kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, they shall, without doubt, all appear at length in Zion before God and find acceptance in his presence. You will learn the state of our Churches from our Minutes. We regret the absence of your Messengers, and the failure of the Minutes of some of the Associations; but we impute it to some interposition of Divine Providence, and desire to be still. We always have valued, and still do your correspondence, and desire a continuation. And now, that the love of God, which passeth all understanding, may abundantly possess your souls henceforward forevermore, is the earnest desire, and fervent prayer of your brethren in the Lord.

By Order of the Association,

JOSEPH DIMOCK, Moderator,
CHARLES TUPPER, Clerk,
JAMES MUNRO, Assistant Clerk.

FINIS.