

MEMORIAL.

TO THE MINISTERS AND 'DELEGATES COMPOSING THE CENTRAL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA:

Dear Brethren,—

I present in the following pages, and in the papers I refer to, charges which I make on behalf of myself, and others, against the Baptist Church in Granville Street, in the city of Halifax, that, should these charges be adequately sustained, the Association may require from that Church such an acknowledgment of its misdeeds as may vindicate its late members who recently withdrew from its fellowship; and, which is of far more importance, may vindicate the Baptist cause, and the system of Independent Church government, from the dishonor reflected on both, by the outrages on justice, truth, and charity, perpetrated by that body, under the pretext of exercising the authority of an Independent Church.

It is my purpose to connect my printed Letter, addressed to Granville Street Church, with this memorial, as part of my communication to the Association, that so I may avoid much repetition. I need not, therefore, repeat the sentiments I there expressed concerning Independent Churches; of deference and affection when they are under the influence of Christian principles; of repugnance when they are blinded and driven by evil passions.

Nor is it necessary that I should here make any comment on the independence of the Churches. It will be sufficient introduction to my subject to remark, that if a particular Church, in the exercise of its powers, scorns the responsibility it owes to its Divine Master,—a responsibility which is the only foundation of its authority:—if, despising that responsibility, it tramples on His laws in its dealings with its pastor, or with members, and arrogantly makes its independence the excuse for breaking away from restraints of inviolate obligation, then will the like power of independent action warrant the Churches associated with a body thus abusing its independence, in excluding it from their connection and fellowship; and their duty will demand the inflexible exercise of that power, until the guilty and erring Church shall be brought to a humbler and better mind, and have made all the atonement in its power for its wrongs against individuals, the Denomination, and religion.

In my Letter to the Church the conduct of that body during its prosecution of its late pastor, is stated and commented upon. What I