

numerous other calls and demands, it has been put off and pushed into the dormant corner of postponement until to procrastinate further would be a downright dereliction of duty.

Any one reading and believing the article in our last, written by Mr. T. L. Davidson, of the "Messenger" at Brantford, would unhesitatingly conclude that the Baptists in Canada stand upon the only true ground as a religious people, without one taint of the unction of sectary sentiment or sectary action, and that the Disciples, called by a nick-name, are a body of godless subtloists, dangerous as religious leprosy, and as far removed from perfect Baptist orthodoxy as Father Pius IX is unlike Dr. Simon Peter.

If indeed all Baptists were adorned with the same species of meekness, grace, and goodness as our friend Davidson and a few other rather tall dwarfs who could be named here if their names were worth recording, we should allow every one of them to snarl, bark, or bite exactly as it might suit their convenience, soothe their feelings, ease their conscience if they had any, or please their fraternity; never for a moment thinking they were out of place, so long as they bore their own stamp, in witnessing that there was the width of a world between us and them. In this case made and provided, the greater the difference they could 'show up' between their standing and our standing, and the further they made their doxy from our doxy, the more fully we should be relieved of the unpleasant task of exposing them if there should be the slightest ground for supposing that the community would class them and us together as brethren.

It so happens, however, that the Baptists as a people are on the whole to be loved and accounted brethren—not because of some of their "Baptist usages," for some of these might as well be given over to the dark ages, whence doubtless these usages came. But notwithstanding the list of things uncircumcised of God that we find among them, we view the Baptists, as a body, in a light very different from all other bodies; and if it be a sin in us to account them brethren, though they do not in very many instances account us so, then indeed this is a sin to be charged to us. And this is precisely the measure of criminality—the sin unpardonable—that such watchmen as the Brantford scribe find in us. Were we to esteem the Baptists less, were we to view and treat them as we view and treat Congregationalists, Presbyterians, or Wesleyans, it is morally certain that we should be viewed by Baptist scribes and orators as they