

But here I am called away to discourse to an assembly, and must bid you adieu for the present.

Yours in the love of the gospel,
Cramahe, 23rd May. D. OLIPHANT.

THE NEW TESTAMENT STANDARD.

Raleigh, 13th March, 1853.

BROTHER OLIPHANT:—Though personally a stranger to you, yet having become acquainted through the medium of your valuable Monthly, I am encouraged to address you a few lines. In the first place I would observe that it is about eight years since I became a member of the Baptist Church in Montreal; at which time I, together with one of the leading members of that church, advocated the very principles which you have so ably contended for in the *Christian Banner*. I refer to your valuable articles on Position and Principles of Disciples, Preachers—People, &c., principles which if carried out in their bearing with revelation would effectually advance the cause of Christ. It is now five years since I settled in this region, during which I have had to contend with many of the vicissitudes of this life; and though unconnected with any church I still enjoy the consolation of the gospel. There is now a body of Baptists within three miles of my residence who associated as a church many years ago; but about the time I settled here they were entirely disorganized. About a year ago Elder Fitch came along and again associated them on the principle that old quarrels were not to be mentioned. He also on that occasion and on another baptized, I suppose, upward of twenty.

Mr. Fitch has made them another visit this winter. I happened to be present at a meeting lately, previously to which I had some conversation with Mr Fitch on such topics as Election, the inconsistency of Calvin's views, Faith or belief being voluntary, and preceded by the gift of the Holy Spirit—on which we seemed to agree. After the Elder's address, he wished to hear those present say something for God, as he termed it. All related something peculiar to themselves and their feelings. I also being looked for to speak, though not a member, read for instruction part of the second chapter of the Acts. We there found that the great characteristics of this mother church were that they continued steadfast in the apostles' doctrine, breaking of bread, fellowship, and prayers; and by reviewing Peter's memorable sermon throughout, we found that the prominent features were the Divinity, Death, Resurrection, and Exaltation of Jesus, inculcating on the men of Israel repentance, baptism, and offering remission of sins, and the gift of the Holy Spirit—that a church founded on the foundation of the apostles, however sequestered or few in number they may be, have the Lord's assurance that he will be with them;—that the influence of such may be great while others behold their order, their honorable walk, and their love for one another and exemplary lives, reporting that God is in them of a truth. That so far as I understood, the church had appointed Deacons, but were without Elders, and in this they were not followers of the primitive