

THE
CHRISTIAN BANNER.

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God."
"This is love, that we walk after his commandments."

VOL. VIII.

COBOURG, JUNE, 1854.

NO. 6

WHY DID YOU LEAVE THE BAPTISTS?

From the Christian Evangelist.

I am frequently asked the above question in different parts of the country, by different individuals. A man said to me a few days ago—"You split off from the Baptists—you left the Baptists." I wish the following statements distinctly understood and remembered: First, I write for the information of such as do not know the reasons of our separation from the Baptists, and not to provoke altercation with the Baptists, with whom we wish to cultivate and cherish a Christian spirit. I write for the rising generation, who do not know the reasons of our separation; and for posterity, who may ask, Why did these people leave the Baptists? Secondly, I write in behalf of my venerable uncle, Jacob Creath, son, now of Kentucky, nearly four score years old, and brother John Smith, brother Jehn T. Johnson, and the brethren who were associated with us at the time of our *excision* by the Baptists in Kentucky. I take this opportunity frankly to state, that I regard all the parties of Baptists to be constitutionally in the kingdom or Church of Jesus Christ, according to the New Testament, and am perfectly willing to fraternize with all of them, so far as their characters are moral and Christian, notwithstanding their peculiarities and their difference with us. And I furthermore state that I freely forgive them for all the injustice and injuries which they did me and my brethren. And I further state, that as I do not intend nor desire to provoke controversy with the Baptists, so neither do I wish to court their favor; nor do we fear them. We believe that the Baptists know by this time that we can keep house as well as they can—we can cook our own meat as well as they can—make as good coffee, and bake as good biscuit, and eat them as heartily as they can. I proceed to state that we were living in full fellowship with the Baptists, we were unimpeached in our moral character by them—we stood well with them, and we would have remained with them—we desired to do so—we strove to remain with them—but they would not permit us to do it.

At a *called* Association of the Franklin Extra Association in Frankfort, Kentucky, in July, 1830, there were certain allegations preferred by that Association against the Elkhorn Association, of which my uncle and myself were members, for retaining us. We were present and desired the liberty of replying to those charges, then and there.