



they had reproached as *irregular* Baptists, as being members, with them, of the same denomination, was to wound deeply that particular sentiment or feeling, which had prevented them from perceiving the folly of extolling themselves at the expense of their brethren,—while, to allow their names to follow in the wake, or even to fail without the circle of so comprehensive a name as the *Baptist Denomination*, was to throw away much more than their self-complacency had gained, by all the uses which they had been able to make of their peculiar name of "Regular Baptists." Under these circumstances what were they to do? what could they do? If these questions are unanswerable, it is well known what they, in the first place, did do—they allowed their names to appear in all Provincial records, along with the names of their reproached brethren, as though they remained, *with them*, members of the Baptist Denomination. And latterly, without duly considering the wrong involved, they, at least some of them, seem to have thought it desirable to dispossess the ministers of the Baptist Denomination of their name, in order that they might be enabled to use it in such Provincial Records as the Canadian Almanac, and be saved the acknowledgment of a denominational connection with those, whom they wished the world to regard as *Irregular* Baptists. This is considered, by the writer of this sketch, to be the cause why, several years ago, the experiment was tried of quietly excluding from Scobie's Almanac the names of the most practical Christian communionists; and I may remark, personally, that on discovering this, I called upon Mr. Scobie, and requested him to send me in future years a proof of his list of the Ministers of the Baptist Denomination before he sent the sheet to press. This Mr. Scobie did, so that I was furnished with the means of noting the progress of this scheme, and of frustrating the plans of its promoters from year to year. In 1852, however, the experiment appearing on a more extended scale than usual, I took the proof, personally, to the house of the Rev. Dr. Pyper, for the specific purpose of ascertaining if he had made himself a party to these wrongs; feeling satisfied that if he had done so, he would defend the course pursued, in my presence, and enable me to understand definitely what was their aim, and what course would be necessary to adopt. Instead, however, of attempting to justify the wrongs sought to be inflicted by the omission of the names to which I called his attention, he seemed as ignorant of their cause as though the subject had never given him one thought, and sat down pleasantly with me, and assisted me to replace every name that had been excluded from the list. This interview satisfied me, that the omission scheme had not been endorsed by the Pastor of the Regular Baptist Church in Toronto—that, in fact, the denomination as such knew nothing of the matter; and hence the wrong, in this instance, should not be charged to the Body, but to the manoeuvrings of a few unworthy men who have unfortunately found a place in the "Regular Baptist Denomination in Canada." Especially

may this view of the omission scheme of past years, be entertained, seeing the denomination has rebuked its abettors by officially authorising Maclear & Co., to announce to all whom it may concern, that their legal name is not The Baptist Denomination, but instead thereof "*The Regular Baptist Denomination in Canada*."

There being, then, no longer, any denominational connexion between the Baptists and the "Regular Baptists" in Canada; and the Baptists having allowed their Regular brethren ample time to settle down in the denominational limits of their own free and deliberate choice, wish now to have it fully understood by all, that they are fully convinced that it is now incumbent on the Baptist Denomination in Canada, to resume its own appropriate work and position, taking no other name than it has always borne, and proclaiming itself fully prepared *practically* to promote the fraternal alliance and intercommunion of all evangelical and truly devoted Christians, till all such become one through successive acts of visible incorporation, matured and consummated, from time to time, as circumstances render them practicable, and that, too, in such a manner as to make them all so truly and obviously one, as to force the fact upon the attention of unbelievers, so that, seeing it, "the world may believe."

In accordance with the convictions just stated, the writer is authorized to announce, that a meeting of the ministers and members of the Baptist Denomination, will be held in the City of Toronto, on Wednesday, the 13th of June next ensuing, for the purpose of deliberating on a variety of deeply-interesting propositions, now in readiness to be then submitted. At this proposed meeting, all the Baptists in Canada, who object to being classified with the "Regular Baptist Denomination," are invited to represent themselves by delegation, or otherwise, in order that the Baptist Denomination may resume its former activity, with all the unanimity that can possibly be secured. As the meeting will probably continue several days, the friends in Toronto have determined to provide a comfortable home for every one who shall, by letter, intimate his intention now, or by the 10th of June, of being present as a member of the proposed convention; such letters, and all communications intended to be laid before the meeting, to be addressed,  PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE, P. O. Box, 986, TORONTO. 

Let each one, invited as above, call at the Committee Room, Temperance Hall, immediately on reaching the city, where he will find parties in waiting, prepared to conduct him to a hospitable home, or to the place of meeting, as he may require.

Those interested in the meeting now announced, who may find it impracticable to represent that interest by a personal attendance, are cordially invited to do so by a written communication to be addressed as already specified.

That the knowledge now possessed by the Publishers of the *Canadian Almanac*, respecting the