

## CIRCULAR LETTER.

*THE NEW-BRUNSWICK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION Met at SAINT JOHN, July 7, 1828, send Christian Salutation to the respective Churches they represent.*

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN—

NEXT to the declarative glory of our adorable Redeemer, your growth in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, together with the advancement of his cause in general, and particularly within the limits of the Churches over which the Holy Ghost has made us overseers, is that exalted motive which calls into exercise the finest feelings and most earnest desires of our souls.

For this we preach, for this we pray,  
And wear the toilsome hours away.

And as it hath pleased the all-wise and most beneficent Jehovah to unite the promotion of his declarative and eternal glory, with the salvation of poor lost and helpless sinners, we feel it our indispensable duty, in this our Annual Address, to call your attention, and to stir up your pure minds, to the careful, prayerful, and unremitted use of the Holy Scriptures as the only direct and efficient means, in the hand of the Holy Spirit, of promoting and establishing the spiritual comfort of the children of God, and preparing their minds for usefulness both in the Church of Christ, and in the World. The word of God, and especially that part of it which is revealed in the New Covenant, or New Testament, contains not only the Gospel of the Son of God, but also the Laws of his Kingdom. How infinitely necessary then, that we who are his professed Children, and Subjects, and who are so immediately engaged in the momentous concerns of his Kingdom, should be particular in searching the Scriptures; for in them we know we have Eternal Life, and these are they that testify of Jesus Christ, who is the head over all things to his Church which is his Body, prepared and given him by Election of the Father before the world was. From which Elect Body not one member can possibly be taken away; for none shall pluck them out of his hands, since he hath redeemed them unto God by his blood; in consequence of which every chosen Member of Christ shall in due time be actually united to him by effectual calling, and by partaking of his divine Nature, and by his Almighty Power they shall be kept through faith unto Salvation. Suffer us, Dear Brethren, to repeat the all-important injunction, *Search the Scriptures*, both for principle and practice. For as children will naturally bear the image of their parents, so will our practical duties bear the image of those principles which begat them. If a man is legal in prin-

ciple his religious self, while on the earth, his soul is united by faith in the Lord. He discovers that Salvation. Here is the first step—here he discovers the signs of nature and of Infinite Purity and enjoyment and with wonder and to Redeem his soul might be put in the Inhabitants shall through which the land of God which it is impossible taken up in reading truths?—Perhaps often as opportunity as our Neighbour wish to chide; but explore that has been growing in the Gospel there not be some attention to the world some errors fostered the light that shines eradicate? in short not yet attained, the junction of Heaven behind and press as if it was the first carefully, and prayed by the help of joined upon us. A fitable for Doctrine Righteousness. A God is neglected or then put that last consequence; for God trampled upon, or not but by taking heed when delivering his precepts his word to the thing that although it be healthy and vigorous every grace of the armour for defence,