

I could not tell them that we were willing that they should be one. Yet, when I saw them all united in worship, I could not but wish that we were indeed and in truth, one. Beside, the Word of God thundered it in my ears, that the Lord broke down the middle wall of partition between the Jews and Gentiles, and of the two made one new man, so making peace—that there is one body or one church, one Lord, one faith and one baptism. I thought of the holy prayer of Jesus, for the oneness of believers; and the command of the apostles to be of the same mind; and, as Peter once said, “What was I, that I should withstand God?”

*Pres.* They have converted you then! and I suppose you will join Mr. C., and uphold them, in their repudiation of ministerial authority!

*Bap.* I have not said what I shall do; I do not know that I can, at present, say what I shall do; I desire to do right! What would you, sir, have replied, had you been in my place, when our brethren showed that the authority of Christ required them to unite, and that our authority required them to remain divided?

*Pres.* What would I have done? Why, sir, I should—I—I should have shown that Christ did not mean that.

*Bap.* That he did not mean what?

*Pres.* That we should be one in that sense.

*Bap.* But he prayed that we should be one, as he and his Father are one. The union is the same as that existing between him and his Father. How could you get over it?

*Pres.* The passage does not mean that.

*Bap.* What does it mean?

*Pres.* It means—the Greek—I am not to be caught in the “gull traps of Discipleship;” the fact is—

*Meth.* Brethren, I do not know why it is, but this subject is a very exciting one. I feel, much of the time, almost afraid to speak, lest I should say something wrong. On the one hand, I agree with Brother P. that it is intolerable that our ministerial authority should be so trampled under foot; but on the other hand, when I have attended the meetings of our brethren, witnessed the love that prevails among them, the ardor, the zeal, the piety, and the large numbers that attend, I can not but feel the conviction almost like a revelation from God, that the work is of God and that we can not withstand it. And I confess with brother B., that when I have heard these plain passages of Scrip-