

43

(PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.)

1.

HALIFAX, 28th Nov., 1870,  
No. 18 Morris Street.

SIR,—I have before me your letter to a Baptist minister in the western part of the province, dated Feb. 10th, 1870, from which I extract the following :

“You will see by the *Messenger* of this week, that our good Baptist brother, Mr. Rand, has been expelled from the office of Superintendent of Education. The real cause is his opposition to Roman Catholics. It was a plot in which Judge Johnston joined and helped remove Mr. Rand. Mr. Rand opposes Separate Schools. Mr. Hunt has declared himself in favor of Separate Schools. So he will be a good tool in the hands of the government in serving the Papists.”

I beg to enquire on what grounds you made the imputation respecting me, which is conveyed in the extract I have quoted above.

I am your obedient servant,

J. W. JOHNSTON.

To the Rev. E. M. SAUNDERS,  
(Granville St. Baptist Church,) Halifax.

2.

HALIFAX, Dec. 2nd, 1870.

SIR,—Your letter of the 28th ult., has been received. In reply I have only to say, that I do not consider that you have put yourself in a position consistently and legitimately to make the enquiry your letter contains.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. M. SAUNDERS.

To Hon. JUDGE JOHNSTON.

3.

HALIFAX, 18 Morris St., Tuesday morning,  
6th Dec., 1870.

SIR,—Last forenoon I received your letter of the 2nd inst.—in which after acknowledging the receipt of my letter to you of the 28th ult—you say :

“In reply I have only to say, that I do not consider that you have put yourself in a position consistently and legitimately to make the enquiry your letter contains.”

The position I am in is merely that in which you have placed me by disparaging me behind my back; the enquiry I made was founded on the right which every man has to demand the grounds on which an injurious imputation has been cast upon him; and the obligation rested on you to answer my enquiry, which rests on every man who undertakes to circulate what is injurious to the reputation