

The Message of the Disciples of Christ

IN giving the message of the Disciples, I hope that I shall not drop into the error of giving the message of the men who lived a hundred years ago, or even of the men who lived in the last decade, for to be true to my Lord Jesus and my fellows, it must be borne in mind that our widening experiences change the horizon of our belief. Were I to be otherwise, I would dishonour the memory of my father and my grandfather, both of whom were ministers among the Disciples, the latter pleading for a united Church by a return to the Scriptures in association with the Haldanes in Scotland, the year that Campbell wrote his Declaration and Address. To be otherwise I would dishonour both the fundamental principles of the Disciples and the memory of Alexander Campbell himself, who said: "I have endeavoured to read the Scriptures as though no one had read them before me; and I am as much on my guard against reading them to-day, through the medium of my own views yesterday, or a week ago, as I am against being influenced by any foreign name, authority or systems whatsoever."

This marked distinctly Campbell's conception