

" church representative, and if four of them had done it, it had
 " been a church act; when this comes to the congregation with
 " much ado he got five more to himself, and then they were 12
 " and we 11; then they owned themselves to be the church,
 " and so began to deal with me for saying they had abused the
 " church and had taken from their power, whereupon I told
 " them I should renounce them and not have any more fellow-
 " ship with them, till either they saw their sin or I further
 " light. After that divers others to the number of seven or
 " eight fell off from them, and we met once a week and every
 " first day, and so continued for a long space of time; ye, and
 " the day was known when we intended to be baptized, and
 " there were many witnesses observing our faith and order;
 " and yet not one man or woman of Mr. Newman's company
 " ever came to deal with me for evil either in judgment or
 " practice, until a long time after that appointment of our Lord
 " was dispensed. Thus I say, when I had separated from them,
 " and a long time after, I understood by their messenger that
 " they intended to proceed against me. So I desired the mes-
 " senger to tell me for what evil? He told me I should know
 " when I came there. So I sent one of their own brethren to
 " tell them from me, though I owned them not as brethren, yet
 " if any man or woman had ought against me I would come
 " to them, although they had not dealt with me according to
 " any rule. But none came to me, nor charged me with any
 " evil. And when upon occasion I came before all the con-
 " gregation and strangers, I demanded for what cause it was
 " that they proceeded against me, seeing I had sent them be-
 " fore, and no man accused me? Mr. Newman told me it was
 " for non-appearance. And now judge of the evil in your own
 " way, and that for my ex-communication (as you call it), I
 " am by you rendered that wicked person. As for the sus-
 " picion of that most abominable evil of uncleanness and adul-
 " tery (which many think I am guilty of by reason of some
 " persons' speeches), I desire to bless my Lord God who hath
 " caused me to deny all uncleanness and wickedness, and God
 " forbid that I should take the members of Christ and make