

## PART I.

*Influence of Evangelical Truth.—Prevalent Error in Religion.—Separation from the Establishment.—Church Discipline.—Baptism.—Correspondence to obtain a Minister.*

IF the histories of nations and the biography of distinguished individuals merit the place they occupy in the studious attention of mankind; the dealings of God in his Providence must, certainly, present a theme of no less interest and importance. This, perhaps, is generally felt to be true, with reference to the varied course of human events, as leading merely to temporary results; but how vastly magnified is the claim made on our earnest consideration, when the effects of these events are not limited to the narrow confines of time, but swell the spreading circles of their influence through the boundless extent of an infinite existence.

In this view the attention of the Public is invited to the following Sketch, the object of which is, briefly and with simplicity, to take a review of some of the most striking particulars connected with the recent establishment of a Baptist Church in Halifax. The friends of this little Society will not be unwilling to receive a more detailed and correct narrative of its formation than common rumour is likely to convey; and, if any important instruction should fail to be communicated, yet, as a portion of the Religious History of this rising Colony, and of the Community of Halifax, a memoir of this sort may be not altogether devoid of general interest.

Some years have now elapsed since several instances occurred, among the members of the Church of England in these Colonies, of the influence of those views of divine Truth which have, in modern times, been sometimes designated by the epithet "Evangelical." These views may be portrayed in a few words. They comprise a conviction of the mind and heart, that, as sinners in the sight of God, we, by nature, lie under a just sentence of eternal wrath; that salvation from this state is to be found only in the righteousness and death of Jesus Christ, by faith in him; that this faith is the "gift of God," who, by the influence of his Spirit,