

To the Baptist Association in Nova Scotia.

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Reverend, and Dear Brethren,

Since my return from Britain, I have often recollected the obligations under which your brotherly kindness had laid me; and influenced by those feelings, which it has excited, I beg leave to return to the several members of your Association, my grateful acknowledgments. Should it, at any time be in my power to be of service to your Society, or to any of yourselves individually, it will gratify me to be intrusted with your requests.

My visit to Britain, as subservient to the religion, and education of these provinces, by the will of an overruling Providence, occurred at an unfortunate time. That country had never before experienced such a state of depression; and of course, the disposition to patronise any plan of public utility, and particularly, in remote parts, was proportionably lessened. The sudden, and unexpected reverses experienced by multitudes who had conceived themselves to be in affluent circumstances, spread such a general gloom over the mercantile part of the community, that even those who had suffered no losses, from a dread of the future, felt as if they had been in the situation of those who had nothing at their disposal. My visit however, was not altogether without beneficial results. Whichever, I had occasion to be, I was received with affectionate kindness, by every denomination of christians, and by their assistance was enabled to do a little in behalf of our institution, and also to make such arrangements, as well, at a subsequent period, prove subservient to the interests of learning, and evangelical doctrine, among, both the Baptists, and Presbyterians of these provinces. Though in some points, these parties differ in opinion. Their general views of the gospel are the same. On this account, I should be sorry to see, the influence of either diminished. I would much rather see the increase of religious

knowledge in both. This will produce an assimilation of views, and when they
 see eye to eye, there will be, neither disunion, nor jarring, they will form one party
 for Christ, and sing together with the voice, - wishing, when in Britain, to con-
 tribute, to the occurrence of such a desirable event. I published, a little circular,
 in behalf of my Baptist brethren, stating their difficulties, and soliciting their
 friends to assist them, by a donation of books. Owing to the depression of the
 times however, this measure did not succeed according to my expectations.
 Still, a considerable number were collected, of which the principal part, are, I
 trust now in your possession. A few, which were sent out by the way of Pitou,
 are still here, and will be delivered to any person whom you may appoint,
 to receive them. For the greater part, you are indebted to the Reverend Chris-
 topher Anderson, and the Reverend Mr. Innes both Baptist clergymen in
 Edinburgh. Perhaps your Association, may judge it proper to acknowledge
 their kindness. If so, I shall be happy to forward your communications.
 When in Britain, I received a quantity of magazines in numbers, which
 I afterward bound, and mindful of your situation, I put the one half,
 being twenty four volumes, into the collection, which I had made for
 you. I have also to observe, that a number of the books received from Mr.
 Innes, were in numbers, and Mr Anderson's donation, was not bought from
 a bookseller, but from the printer, at first cost, and of course unbound. Both of
 these, I judged it best, to put into such binding, as might render them most useful.
 For the expense of printing the circular, binding, carriage &c. I employed the
 funds of our institution, for which, of course, I am accountable to the Trustees. But
 as in incurring this cost, in behalf of your Association, without their consent, I felt af-
 fected of their approbation. I was equally satisfied, that those among whom you la-
 -bour, would not allow my attempt to promote their respectability, and influence to di-
 -minish the funds of the seminary under my charge. Upon this subject, I would only
 justly remark, that my last letters from Britain, encourage me to hope, that when
 trade revives, my friends there, will not forget the interests of your Association, and

I pledge myself, that should you, either as a body, or individually, find my assistance useful, it shall be cheerfully given.

Tho' the cause of my addressing your Association at present is merely personal, I would take the liberty of making a few remarks upon the general affairs of the Baptists, and Presbyterians. You are already aware that in our conjoint application to Government, we have not succeeded, and I think it may be added, that without conjoint, and energetic measures, we will never succeed. I would therefore suggest, that it might be advisable, for delegates, from both bodies, to meet in the course of the summer, at some convenient place, and form such arrangements as might be subservient to general interests. Should you judge this scheme advisable, I shall take care at the ensuing meeting of our Synod, that some of the most intelligent, and active of our clergy, be appointed to meet, and consult, with such gentlemen as you may appoint. From such occasional intercourse, much good to both bodies will result. Wishing your Association the presence of our common Lord, and all the direction and comfort which those who dwell in his presence enjoy.

I am Most Sincerely, and affectionately
your Most Obedient Servant.

Thomas M. Cullloch.

Pictou May 10, 1827.