

The Testimony of leaders of various religious denominations in regard to Baptist Antiquity.

Mr. Alexander Campbell, in his debate with McCalla, on page 65, says:

We can show, that from earliest times, there has existed a people, whom no man can number, that have earnestly and consistently contended for the true faith once delivered to the saints." On page 378 he says: from the Apostolic Age to the present time, the sentiments of Baptists and their practice of baptism have had a continued chain of advocates and public monuments of their existence in every century can be produced.

Mr. Campbell, in his debate with Walker, page 262, says: "The Baptists can trace their origin to the apostolic times, and produce unequivocal testimony of their existence in every century down to the present time."

Mosheim declares that these Baptists existed "before the rise of Luther and Calvin, " and before the dawn of the reformation," and hence the idea that the Baptists originated with either Roger Williams or John Smith, is forever exploded by the testimony of this great Lutheran.

Professor John Clark Ridpath (Methodist), says: "I should not readily admit that there was a Baptist Church as far back as A. D. 100, though without doubt there were Baptists then, as all Christians were Baptists then.

Edinburg Encyclopedia (Presbyterian) says: "It must have already occurred to our readers that the Baptists are the same sect of Christians that were described as Anabaptist. Indeed this seems to have been their leading principles from the time of Tertullian to

the present time." Tertullian was born just fifty years after the death of the Apostle John.

THE SOUTHERN MESSENGER, the Catholic paper of Texas replying to a query of THE BAPTIST STANDARD, it said, in its issue of July 1, 1897: "If we speak of Baptist, we mean that sect known nowadays as Papists with their present teachings and practices. But if by Baptist are understood all those sects of past ages which have, under various names, been opposed to the Catholic church, and which may have had one or the other teachings or practice in common with the present Baptists, then, of course, the Baptist sect may be traced back to Apostolic times, as sects there always have been."

Cardinal Hosius, a learned Catholic, who was chairman of the Council of Trent, speaking of the Baptists, says: "If the truth of religion were to be judged of by the readiness and cheerfulness which a man of any sect shows in suffering, then the opinions and persuasions of NO SECT CAN BE TRUER OR SURER THAN THOSE OF THE ANABAPTISTS, since there have been none for THESE TWELVE HUNDRED YEARS PAST that have been more grievously punished."

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