

Copy of Papers de "Disciples" fellowship, Newton Peshytery, April 20/76.

Is it in the opinion of this Peshytery proper to receive a member of the denomination styled "The Disciples of Christ" into fellowship with one of our churches upon a certificate of dismissal from that denomination? And is it in order for our ministers to have such ecclesiastical fellowship with ministers of that denomination as to exchange pulpits with them?

The Committee recommended that Peshytery reply in the negative to the overtures. To the 1<sup>st</sup> on the following ground: A letter of dismissal is a certificate of good & regular standing in the church from which the applicant comes, when that church as in the present instance belongs to a denomination which has no defined standards there is nothing in such a letter to show that the applicant possesses what our branch of the Church of Jesus Christ requires.



for church-membership. To the 2<sup>d</sup> On  
the ground that such ministerial fel-  
lowship is inconsistent with our loyalty  
to our Lord Jesus Christ, the adora-  
ble Head of the Church, Who is ~~God~~  
God over all ~~God~~ blessed forever.

Protest.

The undersigned would respectfully  
protest ag<sup>t</sup> the reason assigned by  
the Presbytery this morning for its  
answer to the overture concerning  
ecclesiastical fellowship with the denom-  
ination called Disciples of Christ.

While the protestants desire to  
have it distinctly understood that  
they thoroughly agree with the ans-  
wer given to the overture, they re-  
gard the reason assigned for it as  
implying that all of the preachers  
of that denomination deny the  
Godhead of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
which they believe to be a mistake,

& therefore a most serious injustice  
to some of the preachers of that de-  
nomination, who, as the protestants  
believe, do not make this denial.  
The protestants regard it as the true  
ground of declining such fellow-  
ship that this denomination refuse  
all definite statement of doctrinal  
view. The undersigned request  
that this protest be recorded on the  
minutes of Presbytery.

Signed by J. A. Priest, W.  
H. Belden, Jas<sup>r</sup> Maxwell, John B. Key-  
ler, L. H. S. Martin, J. B. Woodward.

Read to Session June 29/76.