

the payment of the expenses of one of its members, as one of a committee upon this business.

The church has always been a Strict Communion church. It has always believed and taught that they only were entitled to the privilege of the Lord's table, who had been immersed on profession of faith, and were living upright and consistent lives. Our fathers were uncompromising in their tenacious adherence to this principle. Not only would they refuse to commune with an unbaptised person, but the minutes record instances in which their own members were "Set by," and refused the Lord's Supper until they had acknowledged some fault, or repented of some sin, or indiscretion of which they had been guilty. No officer of this church would ever have been elected, or held his position long, if he had been at all wavering or uncertain upon the communion question. So, too, of the doctrines of the church. They have always been unequivocally stated and implicitly believed. The Bible has ever been our only rule of faith and practice. While the church adopted the Philadelphia Confession of Faith, yet it has never conformed to any creed as such, but always tried every summary of doctrine, by the word of God and endorsed that which would bear the test of its teachings. We have reason to rejoice that our fathers laid the foundations of our Zion deep and strong, and that hitherto the superstructure has been erected upon that foundation.

The church has been pecuniarily self-sustaining from its organization. It has never received any help or assistance from Home Mission Society, State Convention, nor any other benevolent organization of our denomination; while it has always