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CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

The meeting of the Congregational Union of Canada is again at hand. We trust that a goodly number will assemble at BRANTFORD on Wednesday, the 8th of June, 1864. On former occasions we have pointed out the manifold advantages springing from our Union, and these need not here be repeated. Having comparatively few opportunities of intercourse with each other, these hallowed gatherings are anticipated with much pleasure by the brethren, and prove not only useful in carrying on the necessary work of the denomination, but are rich in associations of brotherly love and unity; while we have a strong conviction that they may become more and more the means of kindling and keeping alive the fire of fervour and love in prosecuting the great work of the world's conversion.

SCRIPTURE ILLUSTRATED.

It has been judiciously said by many pious and intelligent divines, that when man became a transgressor a change took place in the earth, man's destined habitation, which did not efface all vestiges of divine goodness, but adapted it to the circumstances of a guilty race. In consequence of this change, men are born to toil, to sorrow, and to die. The term of human existence is a term of gloom and trouble; and it speedily terminates in corruption and the grave.

But since the sentence of toil, sorrow, and death was passed upon our fallen race, the ills of human life have been increased by the follies and sinful doings of guilty men; and, as though the cup of misery was not sufficiently bitter, they have added to it the consequences of succeeding transgressions, and multiplied "the ills to which flesh is heir."

One of the evils thus brought upon us, is, the diversity of the languages of the babbling earth. This circumstance not only separates the nations of the earth, makes communication among them difficult, and proves embarrassing in their secular transactions, but what is of greater moment: it presents obstacles to the mind which is seeking after divine truth, and searching after heavenly wisdom as for hidden treasure. Everyone who engages in this pursuit is soon made to feel the unhappy consequences of the folly of those men who said "Go to, let us build us a city, and a tower whose top may reach unto heaven."

The sacred scriptures were written in languages which are no longer vernacular, and consequently they are generally read in versions and translations. For these we would not forget to be thankful to the giver of all good: at the