

INTRODUCTION.

At the request of several valued friends I venture on this publication. The subjects treated of, confessedly of great interest and importance, may in themselves commend the undertaking to a kind consideration. The "London Guardian," for which these letters were written, with a very wide circulation in Great Britain and its immediate dependencies, is not so generally known in the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

In the hope of conveying more general information with reference to the Church in the United States, its Institutions and Missionary work, these letters are now re-published in their present form.

Among the members of the American Church there is little want of information on the subjects referred to. They are fully alive to the value of the Press, and in many instances it is made use of in the interest of the Church with great ability. Still, those who are earnestly engaged in any undertaking, naturally regard with interest the opinions of others—of those not so engaged as themselves. In some respects, it may be considered, that a more correct view is gained by an impartial looker on. Churchmen in the United States may wish to know how a deeply interested observer regarded the proceedings of their late Convention, and all those subjects connected therewith. His own opinion on those questions by which the Church at the present time is agitated, the writer has endeavoured to keep out of sight in his account of the late discussions at the General Convention. He would deeply regret it, if, in any instance, he has inadvertently made a misrepresentation. American Churchmen will not regard the writer with less approval for his allusion to improvements required in connection with the great work of the Church, and "the supply of things that are wanting."

Should it be thought that, in the following pages, too high a coloring is given in the description of what he observed,—or a view too hopeful,—for this the writer alone is responsible. This idea was not gained from an elated feeling on the part of those with whom he associated. They who