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ECHOES OF THE ENGLISH CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

We are indebted to the *English Independent* for the extracts which we give below, from its very full reports of the Autumnal Session of the English Congregational Union, which was held in Horton-lane chapel, Bradford, early in October. The proceedings were opened with an address by the Rev. Dr. Aveling, the retiring chairman, in which, after a touching allusion to the loss of his son, who died recently at St. Catharines, Ont., and to the decease of the Rev. Dr. Halley, of New College, the Rev'ds John Kelly and David Thomas, and Mr. Alfred Rooker, Dr. Aveling announced that as he had, in May last, addressed them on matters "Without the Fold," he should now speak to them of things

"WITHOUT THE FOLD."

"We Congregationalists sometimes suffer reproach, because our old name of Independents seems to hint the idea of self-containedness—a disinclination to be interfered with—and indifference to others. But this would be an unfair interpretation, both of the word and of the people, whom the word only partially describes.

"It is the duty and privilege of each separate fold to realize its relationship with other folds, outside its enclosure. No Church in itself is so insignificant that it may neglect this duty. Each lamp, kindled by the breath of the Spirit of God, must offer its quota of illumination to dispel surrounding darkness. That which is said of the Church universal is true of every fragmentary portion of it; 'Ye are the light of the world.' The scintillation of each facet of the diamond may be trifling, but it has a real and visible lustre; and myriads of such sparks, commingling, become a 'Koh-i-noor—a mountain of light.' Each individual Church is the centre of a limited circumference, in which its first and most immediate action operates; but it has relations with a larger outer circle; comprising all Churches; and, besides that, has certain unavoidable relations to a world that lies between and around them, for which it is bound to care."

Dr. Aveling's first remark is, that we ought to understand better than we do

OUR DUTIES TO CHURCHES OF THE SAME FAITH AND ORDER WITH OURSELVES.

He thinks there is too little of communion among our Churches or of exchange of pulpits among the ministers? Our habits are loose and selfish on these points. More systematic and frequent intercourse would be wise policy. The larger Churches should feel that interest in others of their own communion, especially