

beneficial, they have not by any means had all the benefits which might have been derived from a conference of churches. "In the multitude of counsellors there is safety", and far less likelihood of misinformation or partisanship. Not only does the formation of a new church and the recognition of a pastor affect the fellowship of the church thus acting, but it also affects the fellowship of the churches, and it is but right that their advice should be sought in the matter.

It is not for a moment assumed by any one that legislative or judicial authority is possessed by a Council. The utmost that can be done by them is to simply give their advice to the church, which advice may be received or rejected as it deems best. There are no individuals to be found in our body who would be more earnest in defending the liberties and privileges of the churches than the members of the Union who recently adopted the resolutions on Councils.

We would earnestly urge our churches to act upon the principles suggested, giving them at least a few years of fair trial. If there are Congregationalists who, like the Bourbons, never forget anything and never learn anything, then they must be contented to grow smaller and smaller and beautifully less. The application of the principles may be much wider than indicated in the resolutions, including all cases where it is needful for a church to receive advice from sister churches. It should always be borne in mind that a number of individuals invited to give advice, do not form a Council, and cannot call them-

selves such ; but they must in all cases be the representatives of churches, which churches have been asked to send their pastor and a delegate to form such a Council. The resolutions passed by the Union, and to which we have referred, may be found in the INDEPENDENT for July, page 6.

BISHOPS CRITICISED.

THE EDITOR ARRAIGNED.—MESSRS. MARLING, CLARKE AND OTHERS TAKEN TO TASK.—GONE UP HIGHER. — WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING. — BOARDING-HOUSE LIFE. — AN UNGRATEFUL PASTOR. — PRESBYTERIANISM AND ROMANISM IN THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES OF CANADA. — THE BISHOPS AT MONTREAL. — AN INTRODUCTION WANTED TO W. W. SMITH.—MONTREAL A BAD PLACE TO BE BORN AND EDUCATED IN.—PRIESTCRAFT IN OUR CHURCHES. — AN INSUBORDINATE CHURCH. — A REV. M.D.'S SUGAR-COATED PILLS REJECTED BY HIS PATIENTS. — THINGS SET RIGHT.

We have received a communication dated Toronto, August 21st, and signed "A Congregationalist," which we take the liberty of transferring to our editorial columns. It is a rule among Editors to take no notice of anonymous articles, and we confess our first impression was to pitch the thing into the waste paper basket. But on second thought we changed our mind ; for though its English is somewhat defective, it is racy, and had the writer signed his or her name, it would have been somewhat courageous. It also has the merit of coming from that side of the house which