

For in the interval separating the meeting, some have gone to join the silent majority; some have retired from active service through old age, accident or illness; and some have yielded to pressing invitations from over our Southern border. The ecclesiastical year on which we are now entering, will not differ materially in the depletion of our ranks. Some, in this Hamilton June gathering, will not appear again when the pastors and representatives of our churches meet for deliberation. Just who may disappear we know not. But let us, as long as we have the opportunity to work for Congregational Christianity, work earnestly, filled with the Divine Spirit, and God's truth; and the future shall not be without a forward movement. John Bright, addressing a meeting of a "Forward Club," at Birmingham, said that standing still in matters of public importance generally meant going backwards. Oliver Cromwell once wrote in his Bible: "He who ceases to be more good, ceases to be good." Hence, it is not a question of staying where we are, or holding what we have, but going on, and on, to larger and worthier things, or losing what we now possess! Our choice is made. God helping us, we shall advance!

"Be good, and let who will be clever;  
Do noble things, not dream them, all day long;  
And so make life, death, and the vast forever,  
One grand, sweet song."



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