

da, its extent, resources, climate, population, educational advantages and religious needs, especially the needs of the North-West. I believe that my lectures, which are of a similar character, as well as these letters, will result in thousands seeking homes for themselves and their families in our great North-West and British Columbia. So be it! There is room for millions. Only we do not wish them to come to this country, and be destitute of religious teaching; nor do we desire to see our people drifting off to other denominations, as has been too often the case in the past, because there were no churches of their own. Hence we must labour to extend our missionary operations in the vast Provinces and Territories in the West and North-West. I am determined to do my utmost to forward the work. Will the friends who have written me from various parts of Canada be patient with me if I do not promptly reply to their welcome communications. Lecturing almost daily, and conducting a considerable correspondence arising out of my work here, together with the other writing referred to, leaves very little time for friendly correspondence. But of Canada I can truly say,

Where'er I go, whatever land I see,  
My heart untrammelled fondly turns to thee.

Very truly yours, THOS. HALL.  
*Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, London.*

MR. EDITOR,—The following resolution, which was adopted at a meeting of the Board held on December 16, has an historical interest and value, and hence I venture to ask you to give it a place in your next number, if convenient. Yours very truly,

GEORGE CORNISH.

The Board of Directors of the Congregational College of British North America, in recording the death on November 17, of their venerable colleague, Rev. Henry Wilkes, D.D., L.L.D., also desire to place on their minutes an outline of his services to the cause of ministerial education among the Canadian Congregational Churches. When Dr. Wilkes went to Glasgow in 1828, to prosecute his own studies, he had also in view the making of some provision for the education of other young men offering themselves for the work of the ministry, but who could not cross the sea. A Canada Education and Home Missionary Society had been formed in Montreal in 1826, by members of the Independent, Presbyterian and Baptist Churches, and he was one of its directors. While he was in Scotland, the Rev. John Smith, A.M., was engaged by him to come to Canada, and take charge of the educational work of this society, and Mr. Wilkes collected a number of valuable books for a library. The union society, however, did not continue long in existence; but the books, left in our friend's care, are on the shelves of our library.

In addition to the institution founded in Upper Canada in 1838, under Rev. A. Lillie, it was in 1842 deemed advisable to establish a "Congregational Institute of Eastern Canada," at Montreal; and Rev. J.

J. Carruthers and Rev. C. H. Wilkes were chosen professors in the same. Financial and other considerations led to the closing of the Institute in 1846, and the transfer of its students to Toronto. In the year 1860, the College was formally designated the Congregational College of British North America; and at the annual meeting of the constituency, held in this city, in 1863, it was decided to remove the College to Montreal the following year; which decision was reconsidered and re-affirmed at the annual meeting, held in Brantford, in 1864, whereupon the removal was made, and Dr. Wilkes was chosen Professor of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology. On the death of Dr. Lillie, in 1869, he was chosen Principal, and the departments of Theology and Church History were added to his former subjects, and he was installed into his office at the annual meeting in 1870. The report of 1881 included the resignation of the Principals by Dr. Wilkes, on account of his advanced age and growing infirmity, and the resignation was accepted; but he was requested to remain in office for another year, which arrangement was continued for a second year. In 1883, on the election of Dr. Stevenson as Principal, Dr. Wilkes was requested to continue as Professor of Systematic Theology and Old Testament Introduction. In 1884 he resumed, by request, his lectures on Church History. Besides his labours in the class room, Dr. Wilkes rendered great and permanent service to the College as a member of the Board for the past twenty-two years, and as pastor of Zion Church, and as one of the founders of the Colonial Missionary Society, London. As treasurer of the Endowment Fund, he did a most important work in providing for the permanent maintenance of the College. Not only was the inception of that fund due to his persistent advocacy, but most of the contributions, which would not have been given to another, were secured by his personal influence or application. By the death of Dr. Wilkes the College has lost one of its most faithful and steadfast friends, and his presence as a member of this Board will be sorely missed. The Directors are thankful to have enjoyed his co-operation to such an advanced period of life, and they will hold his character and his work in lasting remembrance. In all the annals of the Congregational College the name of Dr. Wilkes must ever hold a place of conspicuous honour.

The Board also beg to convey to the widow and family of their deceased colleague the assurance of their profound sympathy and condolence with them in a bereavement which falls on his household with the heaviest weight. May the God of all consolation sustain the widow and the fatherless.

*Montreal, December 16, 1886.*

MR. EDITOR,—Now that my INDEPENDENT is coming regularly to me, I am more interested in its departments. Sometimes your editorials soften and mellow me, as your first did in the last issue; sometimes they make me sad and desponding, as your quotation from "Words and Weapons," about great big churches in the States, in the which, it is said, there is life; but to the novice, say a Salvation Army man, it is dead. But, sir, you sometimes ruffle me; you don't always write to please me, as for instance on