

If it is not so, brethren, let us see your church records, and hear evidence to the contrary. Your good name, your brotherhood in the churches, depend on your letting in all the light possible on your actions. Honest men court the light. Christian men glory in the light. Show yourselves such; and none will rejoice more than we.

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL OF 1891.

The Congregational Union of England and Wales, having resolved on calling together a general council of Congregationalists in London next year, the Union of Ontario and Quebec, took up the matter at the recent meeting in Kingston, on the 5th of June. Prof. Warriner, on behalf of a Special Committee, reported as follows:—

Your Committee, having considered the question proposed by the Special Committee of Union of England and Wales, would recommend

1. That July, 1891, be the time for the meeting of the council.

2. That Denominational Institutions be also invited to send representatives.

3. That, as six is the number of representatives appointed to this Union the following gentlemen be apportioned as such, viz. Revs. George Cornish, LL. D., S. N. Jackson, M. D., John Wood, John Burton, Hugh Pedley, B. A., and Mr. George Hague. And that the following be appointed as alternates, to fill up any vacancies that may occur; in the order in which they are named, viz.: Mr. Charles Whitlaw, Rev. R. K. Black, and Rev. Prof. Warriner, B. D.,

4. That the abovenamed be also a Committee, (with Dr. Cornish as Conventer), to conduct the necessary correspondence with Denominational Institutions here, and to act in correspondence with the Committee in England, as a Committee of arrangements for the Council, as far as Ontario and Quebec are concerned.

These recommendations were adopted; and though it is scarcely probable that all the members nominated will attend—or possibly others in their place up to the full number of six, it is quite certain that we shall be creditably represented at the World's Council of Congregationalists.

There will be no attempt to make laws or in any wise forge fetters for the churches. No one seems to anticipate any creed-making on the part of the Council.

The relation and correspondence of the different bodies representing the free churches with and to each other, will doubtless be a subject of discussion and deliverance. The relation of the churches, both in their individual and united capacity, to the

great benevolent and reformatory questions of the day, will engage the earnest attention of this great gathering. United action respecting National Education; Romish aggression; clearing away the last vestiges of Church and State connection, in countries where it is nominally expunged from the Constitution—and making a more vigorous beginning in countries where it still exists, will be sure to find places on the practical programme of the Council. A uniform system of statistics, and a knowledge of how to summon counsel and assistance in any future emergency, will doubtless be the results of this interchange of thought. We can see great possibilities of good from this free conference of free men, representing these thousands of free churches in different parts of the world.

Our Contributors.

CHRISTIAN BENEVOLENCE.

BY CHARLES R. BLACK, MONTREAL.

The Secretary of the Union missed his way one day lately. He evidently set out to search (Dio-genes-like, though he was without his lantern when I saw him), for "a man," who could discourse on Christian ethics, in this ancient city of Kingston, before an audience composed in considerable part of those whose business it is every Sunday to teach on this and kindred subjects.

He couldn't find the "man," probably because he didn't bring his lantern with him; and he stumbled into my office, and laid violent hands on me; thinking no doubt, "here is a man, who at any rate is the official recipient of benefactions all the year round; and doubtless a portion of the sweet and gracious influence of the benevolence which prompts to beneficence must rest on him?" I fear he was mistaken, for these connectional results, however desirable in some cases, do not of necessity follow; and we know familiarity sometimes breeds—well *contempt* isn't exactly the word—say *insensibility*!

This must be the excuse for my temerity in appearing on this platform this evening.

Benevolence is one of those Anglicized Latin words which define themselves; and the literal