

uncongregational, inasmuch as definite action was taken, which action should have been left to the respective churches referred to.

"3. That the church emphatically repudiates the suggestion of 'wrong doing' conveyed in the resolution, and considers the imputation as unworthy of a body of Christian brethren, themselves subject to error and mistake.

"4. With regard to the withdrawal of the church from the Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec, the church regrets that the conference alluded to felt itself called upon to pass judgment. This is a subject entirely between the church and the Union, and will be considered at the proper time and place. In the meanwhile, the church would place on record that no discourtesy whatever was shown towards the committee of the Union appointed to confer with it, but the very reverse, as the following correspondence will prove :—

LETTER FROM DR. WILKES, DATED HAMILTON,
JUNE 21ST, 1881.

"To the Secretary of the Bond Street Church :

"DEAR SIR,—Your communication from the Bond street Church, withdrawing from the Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec, was in accordance with rule referred to the Membership Committee, which, after due consideration, reported a resolution as follows :—*Resolved*, that the letter of Bond street Congregational Church, Toronto, be laid upon the table meanwhile, and that a committee be appointed to confer with the Church and report thereon to the Union as soon as possible, because it is due to a church that has held the position which this church has for so long a time to make all reasonable efforts to retain it in the Union; said committee to consist of the chairman of the Union, the Revs. R. K. Black, Dr. Wilkes, Dr. Cornish, and K. M. Fenwick.

"Prior to leaving London this committee met, and appointing me convener requested me to address you as secretary of the church stating our appointment, and that as it would not be possible for us within any reasonable time to confer with the church otherwise than by written correspondence, we should feel obliged by any communication from the church to us which they may deem it proper to make in view of the design mentioned in the resolution. I return to Montreal probably next week, and may be addressed there at any time.

"Yours very truly,

"HENRY WILKES."