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EDITORIAL SOTTINGS.

HAVE you ever observed on parade a regiment of soldiers playing at marching by lifting up alternately each foot and placing it down in exactly the same spot? Some christians are ever marching—not on, but—in precisely a similar manner, they are always on the move, never moving on; ever learning, never having any knowledge of the truth; ever witnessing, no one can tell what. Reader, how have you received Christ? Is your's the path of the just, shining more and more unto the perfect day? Have you the virtue of growth? "Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

WE deeply regret to learn that our friend Rev. W. W. Smith has been bereaved of his daughter during the past month. She died unexpectedly after a brief sickness at the home in Newmarket. Will our brother accept our heartfelt sympathy with him in his sorrow, in which, we are sure, our readers all will join.

"She is not dead,—the child of our affection,—

"But gone unto that school

"Where she no longer needs our poor protection,

"And Christ himself doth rule."

THE spring sessions of the English Congregational and Baptist Unions (which meet in London,) are to be held during the second week of May, this year. Arrangements, so we learn from our excellent contemporary, the *Nonconformist and Independent*, are being made for an united session during the season of simultaneous gathering. The two chairmen, Messrs. Edward White and Charles Williams, will enjoy a joint reign for that occasion, which will be of unique interest. Our English Baptist friends generally hold the principle of open communion; the points therefore of agreement with the Congregationalists, both in doctrine and

polity, far exceed those of difference; and we rejoice to see the coming together in this emphatic manner of those so strongly united in a common faith and order.

Hitherto the colonies have set the example of *organic* union between different yet kindred denominations: witness the great Presbyterian and Methodist unions. We shall rejoice to see the mother land set the example of *vital* union between denominations that rejoice in a common heritage, polity, faith and aim. For some time past there have been communications and editorials in the *New York Independent*, and the *Morning Star*, (the organ of the Free Baptist churches of the United States,) upon the subject of closer union between the Congregational churches and those of the Open Communion Baptists. Our excellent friend the *Morning Star* sees a lion in the way,—we fail to see why water should divide us. For ourselves we hold it a precious privilege to place upon our children the badge of Christian discipleship, nevertheless should another hold otherwise as to the form, we should esteem his fellowship in christian work so highly that division on that line we should deprecate. It is not an ordinance that should divide the Israel of God.

OUR English exchanges gossip gloomily about the weather. Think of the Bishop of Sodor and Man (Isle of Man,) being dug out of a snow drift in March! That may sound familiar to Canadian ears, but for the old land—terrible. Then the death rate, especially from diseases of the respiratory organs, is far beyond the average in the great metropolis, and daily papers are vivisectioning the east wind without making it one whit more tolerable. In the balmy south also this winter has proved unusually severe; think of fifteen below zero where orange blossoms bloom! Certainly they who went south for the winter, found it. But