

a revered monument would be lightly esteemed; in the peace that follows, we may carry on the work of upbuilding. We venture the assertion that English Independency, behind which "lies the grandest history of any church," was never a policy of isolation from brethren. Circumstances over which they had no control have compelled them to gird the sword upon their thigh, but the civilian garb is what they would rather wear. In our clear Canadian air we may retain their spirit, and develop a Christian liberty which, divested of the harshness of battle, may manifest a sympathy and fellowship, "broad as the love of God, narrow as His righteousness."

WE must correct a matter of fact under "reason two." The Scotch Presbyterian Churches did not all receive State aid. The United Presbyterians were, like ourselves, pure voluntaries. They always refused State aid, and rejected State interference. In 1861, when they were joined with the Free Church section in Canada, they had about 125 organized congregations in Western Canada, and some 10,000 members. They held, with us, the doctrine of purity of communion, and grew, having "never received a cent from the State." To give the refusal of aid from the State as the cause of our smallness is, as it appears to us, to say that our present position is due in part to our principles, a position we rather shrink from.

LET our attention be directed to the "fifth reason," and around it let our intelligent energies be spent; then, we believe, the future will be ours, as the past has had its glory. Let us understand our principles, and stand by them.

THE author of the hymn, "My Faith Looks up to Thee," has passed through "death's sullen stream—a ransomed soul." Dr. Ray Palmer died 28th ult., at his home in Newark, N. J., at the ripe age of seventy-eight, of paralysis. He was ordained to the Congregational ministry in 1832. For the last years of his life he has lived quietly at Newark; often occupying various pulpits, and manifesting his continued interest in Christian work. Among the other productions of his pen we may note the translation from St. Bernard, "Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts," which is in our hymn books.

WE have received from our missionary, Mr.

Currie, a continuation of his diary, just as we go to press. It will appear in our next. Smitten, but firm in faith, our brother is facing his work. May he be conscious of the many hearts that are bearing him up with Christian sympathy at the throne of heavenly grace.

CONGREGATIONALISM IN CANADA.

We Congregationalists do not spend much of our time in discussing mere denominational peculiarities. To do so to any large extent would be folly. It would be like soldiers on the battlefield discussing the merits of their respective rifles, or the brilliancy of their brass buttons. Our duty is to make the best of ourselves, to sell our lives at as high a price as possible, to show the stuff we are made of and the quality of our weapons, by the work we do.

But there can be no harm in a company of soldiers, during a lull of the battle, congregating on a piece of rising ground, taking a view of the situation, and noting the relation of their regiment to the other sections of the army. And in like manner I think good will come from the conference we held in Bond Street Church the other day.

I will, with your permission, set down as briefly as possible a few thoughts which it started in my own mind.

Casting one's eye over Canada, he sees a number of organizations for carrying on Christian work. There is the Methodist organization; there is the Presbyterian organization; there is the Episcopal; there is the Baptist; there is the Congregational, and some others. I have called them organizations, because it is a general term, and has no ecclesiastical flavour about it. Now, it can be confidently said of all these organizations that they are doing good work. In each of them men and women are being converted to God. In each of them revivals are going on. In each Christians are built up in the faith; and in each men and women are dying in the peace of the Gospel.

What then? They are workable organizations. They may not be perfect, one may be better than another; but it is clear, from the work they are doing, that they are all usable. They may be compared to machines of different make, for cutting grain in the time of harvest. If you go into the country, you may hear reapers clicking around