

city. The "old meeting house" where some of the sectional meetings of the Union were held, traces its descent to Bridge, one of the Puritans who went to Holland, and Robinson, the leader of the Pilgrim Fathers, had a Norwich charge.

The church in which the Union held its business meetings is on the site of the old parliament. It is one of the largest in the city. In addition to the main auditorium it has superb class rooms, and a lecture hall, church parlour, young men's rooms, etc., etc. The Rev. W. Barrett is the pastor of Princess street Chapel, an able man. The Union was entertained by the good people of all denominations, the Bishop of Norwich and one of the Canons of the Cathedral being among the hosts.

The meetings were largely attended and it is said were immensely successful. A splendid reception was given by the Mayor and officials in St. Andrew's Hall, once the grand church of the Black Friars.

The Chairman, Rev. Edward White, gave an address of wonderful power on a subject of thrilling interest to preachers, on Handling the Scriptures. He pleaded for systematic study of God's word, and for expository vs. textual preaching. A new feature of this autumnal gathering was the devotion of one entire day to missions. The time was somewhat intrenched upon by a deputation from the nonconformist bodies in the city very nice, and very proper, but to parties at a distance not so interesting. The time came for the Colonial society to have a hearing, but it was approaching the hour of adjournment, when it was proposed to give that society the floor the first thing next morning; but another deputation from the Baptist Union was at hand, and an hour and a half had to be consumed by that, then the discussion on the "Spiritual work of the Churches" was in order. Between the two, the Colonial society was sandwiched. I was allowed *twenty minutes*. You can imagine how much I could say on Canada in that time. A brother from Australia had the same favour, there was no time for discussion, and that ended the Colonial society's chances at the Autumnal meetings, in its "year of jubilee." I leave your readers to draw their own conclusions. I do not think there was any desire to relegate the Colonial society to a corner, but circumstances combined to make it possible to do so. There are warm friends of the Colonies among the ministers and members of our churches, some of whom came to the Union meetings expressly to speak on their behalf. I may mention the Rev. Dr. Duff, Airedale College; Rev. I. L. Forster, London; Rev. R. Mackay, London; Rev. F. Hastings, London; and many others. I find that the principal reason for apathy, is lack of information—I have been met in the most cordial way by the brethren, and promises of co-

operation and help come from many quarters. I expect to have my hands full for the next six months. The remainder of October and November I am to spend in Yorkshire and Lancashire.

We had a gentle breeze over Beecher. Some folk were most anxious to have him invited to preach or speak at the meetings, but for reasons you may imagine, there were others who thought the time of the assembly might be better employed. The matter was amicably settled. So far as I have been able to judge from the tone of the meetings in Norwich, our denomination in England is making progress, stands in no danger from the so-called "new theology." The heart and life of Nonconformity are sound, and it seems to me that far too much has been made of the "new departure," differences have been magnified where very little difference existed, and incalculable harm has been done. It is very easy to raise the cry of heresy, but it is not so easy to allay anxiety when once the idea goes abroad that a man is unsound in doctrine. No one will accuse me of having much sympathy with speculations in theology, yet I believe there are worse conditions of church life, and of individual Christian life, worse than what we find in connection with what is sometimes misunderstood as "new theology," anything is better than "slumber and death." The truth has nothing to fear from investigation. Nothing can stand long now that is not productive of life, we must test our teaching by its results. I have found no lack of loyalty to the Christ of Calvary among those I met at the autumnal meetings in Norwich.

Sincerely yours,

T. HALL.

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CHURCH AND COLLEGE DOINGS IN MONTREAL.

MY DEAR MR. EDITOR:—For more than a month past, I have been intending to send you a letter, but the pressure of engagements, unusually numerous, has hindered me from my purpose. The excitement in our church life, which has been very intense ever since our return from the seaside and country, culminated on Sunday and Tuesday last, each of which days was marked by noteworthy events to both church and its late pastor.

It needs not to be said that the congregations on Sunday were very large, in fact, I never saw so many people in Emmanuel church, as were present at the evening service. To attempt any intelligible account of these services would occupy more of your space than you can afford. In appointing the meeting, the church resolved that all the protestant ministers of this city