

In conclusion, we would commend to you all a careful reconsideration of the distinctive features of our polity and history. The Congregational Church was called out into separate denominational life that it might be free to follow Christ in all things. Loyalty to Christ, freedom to follow the light of his truth, made known or to be made known, and fellowship with all others who are like minded, are the distinguishing features of our polity, and have been the landmarks of our history. These tenets will bear emphasising still, and the history made by the Congregational Churches in following them is an inspiring study. It is to be feared that many of our people are unacquainted with these facts, and unfamiliar with our principles. We urge that more attention be given to the duty of instructing both young and old in the things which pertain to Congregational Church-life, that they may be the better able to give a reason for their denominational affiliation, and that they may know that they are born to a rich inheritance, and are sons and daughters of saints, confessors and martyrs, who having "served their own generation by the will of God," "left us an example that we should follow in their steps." A church that can boast of martyrs like Barrow, confessors like John Robinson, theologians like Owen, commentators like Matthew Henry, poets like Milton, reformers like Cromwell, pioneers like the Pilgrim Fathers, missionaries like Moffat, preachers like Beecher, evangelists like Moody, and organizers like Father Endeavor Clarke, has surely in its past a pledge for the future, and material for denominational appeals that should inspire generation after generation. Dear brethren in the Ministry, it is incumbent upon you to see that the people know these things. The book of Acts is not yet concluded: let our congregations be instructed in the contents of its more modern chapters.

"And now, brethren, we commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among them which are sanctified."

SETH P. LEET, }
J. MORTON, } *Committee.*
THOMAS SIMS, }

MONTREAL, June, 1896.