

No. 19.

The General Conference of the New Jerusalem Church in Great Britain, in session at Salford, Manchester, Aug. 11th 1868, to the Association of the New Jerusalem Church of Canada. ()*

DEAR BRETHREN,—

The General Conference desires to send you, through me, brotherly greetings from this its annual assembly. It is very refreshing to us to gather together our scattered elements at this season, and we feel renewed in strength and earnestness for the work, which each individual member of the church must of necessity discharge chiefly alone and away from the cheering presence of his brethren. We desire that you shall be partakers in this our renewed strength; we desire to feel the warmest sympathy towards all our fellow-members in the New Jerusalem, whom distance divides from us as to the flesh, and we thus give expression to our feelings of love and sympathy for you. We hope that this our annual greeting may never degenerate into an empty form destitute of sincerity and affection; nor do we fear that it will so degenerate, if the members of the church in both countries are animated by love for the glorious New Jerusalem. For the love of the Church involves the love of the brethren. We know, from our own experience, that you must have many difficulties to contend against, many discouragements to face, many disappointments to survive. Accept therefore this imperfect expression of our brotherly regard as an encouragement under your trials from those, who are labouring under similar ones, and may you be preserved from the hardest to bear of all troubles and the most deadly of all dangers;—the want of devotion of your own members. We pray that, whatever may be the external circumstances in which it may please the Divine Providence to place you, union may prevail in your midst and throughout all your borders, the union which is only possible when all are possessed with the self-denying love of use and devotion to our common cause. Success will then not merely await you, but

(*) As this Address also arrived before these minutes were finished, I have thought proper to insert it here, in order to bring it to the knowledge of the brethren so much sooner.

F. W. TUERK.