

of what he had against them. The example is one that His servants would do well to follow. Here, blame has been the chief thing: praise comes in as a saving clause.

Brethren in Canada feel justly hurt by the imperial and imperious tone adopted by those in England. It is quite true that the mother country is greater than the colony; but individual men there do not stand to individual men here in the relation of the giant to the dwarf. Our recent visitor, though himself a colonist of twelve years standing, found here "abler men than he expected." We, too, are British; we respect ourselves—we cherish our independence—we claim self-government. Towards the support of each Missionary pastor, Canada gives fully three-fourths or four-fifths, in the form of salary or missionary grants, and this entitles us to the largest share of management. And we feel we have a right to be believed, when city and country ministers, supported by their churches or receiving aid, official and non-official, all agree in saying that there are good reasons why some churches that have received aid for a score of years should not be abandoned though they ask it still. We lament their necessity as much as our brethren in England can do; we are ever goading these churches to independence: but we know their unhappy history—their divisions—their losses—their unfortunate pastorates: and we also know that there is often left a kernel of spiritual promise. We are loth to sacrifice the investments of the past while there is discernible any hope for the future; and we hear the voice of the Master say,—“Destroy it not, for a blessing is in it.” We refuse to apply any cast-iron rule about a term of years and per centage of diminution, to a thing so unmechanical as the life of a church. If our brethren at home trust us, as they say they do, let them leave this to our judgment, “as those that must give account.” We must know more about the merits of the case than they do. We have the same anxiety for self-support. And if we have made some mistakes, is this a worse lot than has befallen them? The Colonial Missions conducted directly from London have been among the most costly and unsuccessful on the entire field in British North America. If churches in Canada require time for their education in Christian liberality, is not this true also of churches in England and everywhere else?

We expect, therefore, that the proposal originally sent from Bloomfield-street, (see *Canadian Independent*, April, 1865, p. 320) of vesting “ABSOLUTE CONTROL OF THE FUNDS” in the Canadian Committee, will be carried out in the letter and in the spirit. The minute adopted by our Missionary Society, in June last, and which Rev. W. F. Clarke commented upon adversely, in our last number, was no “diplomatic document”—if by that term were meant anything ambiguous or deceptive, but a plain and straightforward statement of what had been agreed upon between a representative of England and one of Canada, in the first instance, adopted by the Canadiana Missionary Committee and Society, and has now been finally approved in London. We regard