

Rev. Dr. R. S.
and Religion.
Churches and
ion.

disposal, even
wishing a full
ent, of the Con-

HALL.

ary in London,
religious Societies
been before the
ring out of the
freehold site of
metropolis. At
having the matter
l in Farringdon
son, and in the
proprietors which
83 feet fronting
aving a depth of

erection as that
from the *Times*
on ground which
memories of the
f what, till within
et Prison, as we
cy were immured
al of them were
's comptroller, in
and Greenwood,
ber in 1586, and
y, they burst into
, July 20, 1588,
tings, for which
ate." From the
signing himself,
or the truth of the
borne to Tyburn.
ence issued the
e London gaols,
s as they could
being confined
7, Prynne, Bast-
et, whence they
eir ears cut off;
ective prisoners.

Few students of Church history will have forgotten how the crowd lined the streets and roads of London and its suburbs, "from the Fleet even till beyond Highgate," when Prynne was conveyed thence to Lancaster Castle. Such is the ground trodden by these men's feet and watered by their tears, upon which the Congregationalists of England have erected their "Memorial Hall."

The corner-stone was laid during the Annual meetings of the Congregational Union, on the 10th of May, 1873, by Mr. J. R. Mills, in the presence of the leading members of the Union, the late Ven. Rev. T. Binney offering up prayer on the occasion, and Dr. Halley delivering the address.

On Tuesday, January 19th, of the present year, (1875), the Hall was formally dedicated with most interesting and appropriate services. Mr. J. Remington Mills occupied the chair, and after the opening hymn had been announced by Rev. Dr. Allon, and the offering of the dedicatory prayer by Dr. Stoughton, addressed the assembly, reciting the difficulties which had surrounded the project, and congratulating them on their success. The Report of the Committee says:—

"When the Congregational Union of England and Wales resolved to commemorate the fidelity to conscience which was shown by the ejected ministers of 1662, it was scarcely to be expected that a sum of £250,000—a quarter of a million of money—would be raised for the various objects of that commemoration. Yet that sum was contributed, and the Union then publicly expressed its thankfulness to God 'for such a noble proof of Christian sympathy' with the great principles of civil and religious freedom which the commemoration had called forth.

"One of the special objects of the Bicentenary subscription was the erection of a Memorial Hall and Library, with offices for the use of the various societies connected with the denomination in London. This scheme was confided to the trustees of the Congregational Library, with additions to their number from the Bicentenary Committee; and in carrying it out, they were enabled, by the sale of the lease of the old library buildings, to give about £9,000 towards the support of the new undertaking. In their appeal for subscriptions, the committee, having set forth a plan and assumed its success, said, 'Here our Congregational Union meetings can be held; here our religious societies may assemble; here special religious services may be promoted, and all the interests of our common Christianity advanced.'"

The edifice, says the *Times*, "towers grandly over the surrounding buildings to the height of about 160 feet. The style adopted by the architects (Messrs. Tarring and Son, of Basinghall street,) is the kind usually termed "decorated," from the richness of its ornamentation. The front of the building towards Farringdon-street is eighty-four feet in width, and its back abuts upon the arches of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway. It consists of a lofty central gable, flanked by a lofty tower on the south angle, and by another smaller tower on the north. The principal entrance is under the south tower; while the entrance to the basement with external stairs is arranged under an arcade at the base of the smaller tower at the northern angle. The ground floor has three windows of two lights each, with pointed segmental heads; the two floors above are lit by