

PREFACE.

Of the remainder, there are 14, of whose first name we are still, at this moment, utterly ignorant—and we have attended the Congregational Union for thirty years!

We have been correcting everybody's mistakes, but there is nobody to correct ours; and doubtless (especially in the money lists), there will be some errors. Surnames are arbitrarily spelled; and, if local collectors and church officers would get them correctly, there would be no trouble with us; yet our own local knowledge has been all that has prevented a number of annoying blunders.

And now, we commend the volume to the reader's perusal. Even the "tables" have information and lessons for all who love the particular courts of Zion we frequent. Each brother here presents his work—as of old each worshipper brought his handful of incense; and may it be fragrant to him for whom it was done! We thus compare notes; the wise and active are pleased, and the halting and perplexed are stimulated.

"Buy the book," say Shakespeare's first editors, "for, the stationer saith, that doth best recommend it!" Good advice in this case, where the reader gets so good a book at half the cost of publication.

WILLIAM WYE SMITH.

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