

# THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

VOL. XVIII.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1872.

No. 10.

## THE PRINCIPAL AMONG THE CHURCHES.

At the Annual Meeting of the Congregational College, held in Guelph, in June last, the Principal was requested, by a cordial and unanimous resolution, to pay an annual visit to the churches during some part of his vacation. It was not expected, nor did he undertake, that he should collect for the institution in person. But it was considered that his visits would keep up the interest of the churches in the College, inform them of its condition and progress, call forth young men and direct them, excite the churches to prayer, and secure that funds be provided by local arrangements. The work of the College is a quiet and "hidden" work. It does not present itself continually to the popular eye. It is removed a stage from the observation of the churches. A visit from a personal representative of the institution is therefore of much value to the cause of ministerial education.

We understand that Dr. Wilkes is prepared to spend the time between the closing of the Session and the Union Meeting in such a tour of visitation. Of course every church cannot be visited every year. If all are seen about once in three years, it is probably as much as will be accomplished.

We would again express the earnest hope that the churches will respond to the appeal made on behalf of the College Treasury. Every Church should be called on, every year, to do something on behalf of a cause so vital to our progress in the land.

## CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS.

From the English *Congregational Year-Book*, 1872, and the American *Congregational Quarterly* for January, 1872, we gather the following facts in regard to the Congregational churches of Britain and the United States. The churches in England number 2234, in Wales 897, in Scotland 105, in Ireland, 27, in Island of British Seas 17,—total 3280. Of British churches abroad there are reported in British North America 105, in Australia and New Zealand 177, in South Africa and Demarara 12, total 297. There are also some 300 Mission churches.