

them. He hedges up the way with thorns, leaving no outlet but to himself. His grace abounding takes from the fearful pit and from the miry clay, puts a new song into our mouths and establishes our goings; for in the discovery of his love in Christ we find deliverance from all our sorrows, and salvation from all our sins.

#### GLEANINGS FROM THE "CONGREGATIONAL YEAR BOOK" FOR 1864.

The annual register of British Congregationalism, giving its statistics and public transactions during the year 1863, has recently come into our hands, and it has been thought that some items from its pages would be interesting to the readers of the *Canadian Independent*. The *Year Book* is a volume of nearly 400 pages, 8vo, and can be procured here for less than half-a-dollar. How many copies are taken in this country?

We pass by the proceedings of the annual and autumnal meetings of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, since they have already been reported in this magazine, and extracts given from the addresses, worthy of long remembrance, delivered on those occasions by the chairman, Rev. E. Mellor. Nearly one-fifth of the book is occupied with these reports.

Next comes a large body of "Statistical Information," covering 120 pages, while in another part of the volume we have 100 pages more. The first series of tables contains lists of Congregational ministers and chapels in London, of the members of County and District Associations in England and Wales, of those of the Scottish Union and Associations, and of the same in Ireland and the Colonies. Then follows an "Alphabetical List of Independent Ministers" in England, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, the Colonies, and heathen lands. The insertion of a name in this list is as near an approach to an official recognition of a minister as of the denomination at large, as can be given. It therefore becomes a matter of some interest to know "how they do these things in England." We find the following "Special Notice" prefixed to the tables: "*Accredited Ministers*.—Ministers are added to this list from time to time, when accredited by tutors of the colleges; secretaries of county, district or local associations; three ministers, members of an adjoining association, when no association exists in the county; or by five members of the Congregational Board, when the applicant resides within five miles of the postal district of the metropolis."

A recent writer in the *Patriot* has pointed out the fact, that in the column under which the place of "training" for the ministry is given, it appears that nearly one-half have come from other sources than what are called "the regular colleges." A large number are returned as having received a "private" education. We notice eleven who were trained at the Evangelical Union institution, Glasgow. The following result is given of the numbering of our Israel:

Congregational churches in Gt. Britain :		In Colonies—	
England .....	1,818	The Canadas .....	93
Wales .....	687	Other British Provinces, North America .....	20
Scotland .....	103	Vancouver's Island .....	1
Ireland .....	28	Australasia .....	121
Jersey .....	8	South Africa .....	10
Guernsey .....	5	Demerara .....	3
Isle of Man .....	2		
	2,651		248.