

proceedings, and appointing all its officers. It is probable that our Missions will occupy a prominent place in the deliberations of the approaching meeting. The Deputation appointed last year, to the Colonial Missionary Society, will undoubtedly furnish by their reports, some material for thoughtful and prayerful consideration. The Rev. Mr. Marling has already indicated somewhat (by letter to the Secretary of the Union, published in the March number of the *Canadian Independent*) the views of our beloved British associates, in reference to our mutual relations. Dr. Wilkes, the senior member of the Deputation, having been prevented going until last month, and being now, we hope, in Britain, may be enabled to shew more definite results of this Deputation. Their several reports will unquestionably lead to a thorough discussion of general principles, and there is good reason to hope, will secure a more satisfactory working of this Missionary partnership. Whatever differences of opinion between ourselves and the Colonial Committee may be developed, one thing is certain,—both parties will have better understanding of each other's views, and wishes; and we trust also, increased confidence in each other's cordial desire to work together for the furtherance of the Gospel in this land.

Another responsible department of the general work of the body, which will claim more than its ordinary share of our attention, though not so formally identified with the Union, is the *Theological College*. The resignation of one of its Professors, the Rev. A. Wickson, LL.D., will necessitate some change, possibly a radical one.

Our monthly magazine may come in for a share of notice. Its modest and amiable editor has without fee or reward, rendered willing service for four years. He has never had the measure of assistance from his brethren, that he had a right to expect; but without upbraiding, he has done the best he could, making up deficiencies in original matter, by choice extracts. It is possible that his gentleness and long suffering may at length bring his brethren to repentance. We should be glad to see promise of such change at our coming meeting. The *Canadian Independent* might become a greater power for good, if every man among us would render help according to his several ability. (The reader need not be informed that the editor has not seen this.)

The *communion of Churches* can be attained, under our circumstances, by no other means so effectively as by the "Union." While the local church is, in one sense, complete within itself, it is, in another view, only at least a perfect link in the chain that binds the several societies of the saints in social compact and communion. In their church capacity they are "members one of another." Extreme Independents there may be who would dispute this point; but to be consistent with themselves, they should refuse to accept letters of transfer from sister churches, which are a practical acknowledgment of their communion with such churches. Where such community exists, there should be some provision for expressing it, and cultivating the mutual sympathy and love upon which this holy fellowship depends. "One great end of assembling the males of the Jewish nation, three times a year, before the ark was, to keep up a brotherly feeling between the different and distant parts of the nation." In our denomination, and especially in this country, the annual gathering of churches and pastors is almost indispensable to the maintenance of unity of feeling and fellowship. Here, the power of combination is added