

eccentric its course, there are laws by which that course is regulated. In crossing the orbit of the earth and other worlds, the danger which philosophy may suggest, is controled by the high and fixed will of Him who sitteth on the circle of the heavens. Law and a Lawgiver are clearly seen in the movements of heavenly bodies. Since, then, the material universe is evidently arranged and kept in order by the laws of God, how much more must there be law presiding over the universe of mind. Sublime as are the scenes of the material universe, what are they without a beholder? Matter is excelled by spirit. The soul of man is of more value than a world. But as law abides throughout the government of Jehovah, where can redemption be found for guilty man? An answer has been given to the question in the Gospel of Christ. The Star of Bethlehem heralded the coming of a Saviour for guilty men, and shone on the lowly birth-place of the Prince of Life. The news of salvation beamed from heaven. One star differeth from another star in glory, yet not one of the stars of heaven would we wish to see extinguished: they are all God's lamps shining on the page of his moral government. In God's light we shall see light.

May our readers lives near to God in the light of the Sun of Righteousness, and thus escape the doom of those who are wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

DEPUTATION TO THE COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

We regret to learn that the important pastoral relationships of our beloved brother, the Rev. H. Wilkes, D.D., render it not desirable that he should leave at present on the deputation to England. Our esteemed brother, the Rev. F. H. Marling, however, proceeds (*D. V.*) by the *Great Eastern*, which sails early in August from Quebec. May God give the winds and waves charge concerning our brother, prosper him in his mission, and bring him again in peace. Will the churches remember him at the throne of grace?

CONGREGATIONALISM: WHAT ARE OUR DISTINCTIVE PRINCIPLES? WHY DO WE HOLD THEM? WHAT IS OUR DUTY IN REGARD TO THEM? AND SPECIAL ENCOURAGEMENTS.

ADDRESS OF THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN, REV. DR. LILLIE.

(Concluded from page 7.)

In answer to the question, why we hold them and attach to them the importance we do, we reply,

1. *That we feel bound to accept and maintain them on account of their Scriptural authority.*

Not merely do we find our principles, as we believe, in the New Testament, which is the book of the kingdom; but they comprise, in our view, the sum, and form the only natural expression of its teaching on the points embraced in them.

To suppose the Church's Head to have left us without guidance, in one form or another, on matters so nearly affecting our interests and those of truth as the administration of the laws of His kingdom, would be to hold Him to have departed very widely from the course it has pleased Him to pursue in