

of the various bodies seems to be fraternal, while points of difference are outspokenly brought forward.

Now, what have we to say to all this? Of course, we fail to see the Scripture authority for the system of "Church Courts" on any basis; or for the right to constitute a Church system according to the discretion of John Wesley or any other man. But as for our brethren who read the Bible otherwise we can only say that we are glad, for the sake of the general interests of religion, to see their sub-divisions reduced to the smallest possible number.

It is very interesting to us furthermore, to see that all these movements towards Christian Union proceed upon Congregational principles. The widening of the basis of Communion, in making Creeds as short and simple as possible, and in giving them a liberal interpretation, is one instance. The allowance, which is the first step to the universal adoption, of the Voluntary Principle, is another. The admission of the principle of Lay-Representation, is yet another. And the referring of such questions as those of Hymn-books and Organs to the local congregation is one more. At the rate at which our good brethren are moving who can tell how much nearer they may come, a few years hence?

We must express, however, a certain misgiving that comes over us, in contemplating the formation of these mammoth Church-organizations. They are too much like that huge system of pseudo-infallibility, which has oppressed the world so many centuries, whose yoke it cost some nations so fearful a struggle to throw off, and which now reasserts its power in a loftier style than ever. The growth of Great Powers, in Church or State, tempts to insolence and tyranny. Even good men can hardly bear the intoxication of wide dominion. It is some consolation, however to remember that the existence of several such bodies will constitute a certain "balance of power". With the old Church of Rome, the Church of England, the Pan-Presbyterian Church and the Conference of all the Methodists, watching one another, we shall hope that neither will attain to a dangerous predominance.

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"THE CHRISTIAN MONITOR, AND CONGREGATIONAL RECORD."

We have received a specimen number of a monthly 4-page sheet under the above title, proposed to be published at Liverpool, Nova Scotia, at 50c. a year, under the charge of Rev. C. Duff. We observe also that at the recent meeting of the Congregational Union of N. S. & N. B., the project was approved and guarantees given for one year. The following extract from the prospectus shows in what a friendly spirit towards our own enterprise this new periodical has been established; and we are gratified to learn, from other sources, that our circulation in the Maritime Provinces is likely to increase, rather than diminish. Were we to be driven off the field, we should regard it as a calamity to the churches of both Unions. We hope that our sister Journal may fulfil every hope of its founders, and constitute that means of direct local inter-communication which they feel they require. Let not our brethren in that quarter, however, leave us to