

wish them speed somewhere else! I shall not say where. That foolish institution, Fenianism, has pretty nearly died out here and through this part generally. I think the people of Canada may rest at peace as far as that is concerned.

"I am glad to hear that ecclesiastical matters are looking so favourably in Canada, especially from a Congregational point of view. Here religion in all the Churches is below par. The people have got Church and State more strongly united than ever it was in England. It is true people do not pay tithes, neither are the ministers thrust upon the people at the point of the bayonet; but the pastor must agree in politics—he must preach politics—and he must pray politics—or he cannot find a charge over which he would be acceptable. In fact, Christ and Him crucified holds a second place in most of the Churches.

"I do not say this to please nor yet to displease the people where I am located: I am indifferent as to that: but simply to tell you what is the plain truth, which you may communicate to any who contemplate a move to the West."

The third witness shall speak in his own name, using great plainness of speech. The first seems to walk in light; the second in shade; but this one in light and shadow.

MY DEAR BROTHER,—Please give me space in the *Independent* to acknowledge, that it has touched my heart with a sense of sadness to read my name, in the "Narrative" presented at your late Union meeting, as that of one of several who had ceased to be labouring in the Congregational vineyard, and caused "a diminution of our number" that "could not fail to produce some depression among us with regard to the future of our work." Oh, none may tell how strong are the ties that bind some to their native land, however far they sojourn from it, or how precious and enduring is the love of those associations which memory, ever revisiting "hallowed ground," tenderly recalls! It is not of moment that I should state here what my reasons for crossing the lines were, but let it be known that incipient republicanism, or denominational apostasy, or unwillingness to "endure hardness," was neither among them; nor has it ever been my intention to remain many years out of Canada. But I must confess that I have learned during the past seven months as I knew not before, and as imagination, or poetry, or eloquence, could not have taught me, what patriotism and brotherhood are, and feel their influence with correspondingly increased and ever-growing sensibility. The lesson is worth more than rubies. I rejoice to have gained it, for surely it will give my life a nobler tone and a broader motive. Not now, indeed, in Canada am I, but doubly a Canadian; not among my kindred in flesh and my loved in Christ there, but all the more of them.

Great is the kindness I have met with here, alike from the ministerial brethren I have come into contact with, and the people to whom I am ministering. I am getting better support than I could hope for in Canada for at least some time. This place is very pleasantly situated, and is likely to grow. But I feel every day that one thing spoils it for a permanent home for me,—it is not, alas, in Canada.

Perhaps the confederation of the Provinces has done much to produce the *intensity* of feeling I have indicated. For what a grand thing it is for a young nation to be endowed with such an inheritance as Canada! With what breathless interest must all caring for the sway of righteousness and the welfare of man, watch its early course,—the plan it forms, the mould it makes, for its great future! And when that is the nation of which one in a foreign land feels himself in all his heart and inalienably a member, it is not strange if the sight should tend to make him long to be again at home. Yes, I am proud to declare that such is the effect on myself. My thoughts by day and dreams by night are of acting; my part towards rearing up a people in Canada that shall fear God and eschew evil. Here, in this great country, whilst I see much that is most excellent, I see also what grievous sins may obtain among and curse a people enlightened as scarce another people is. A vile iniquity, that I will not now ask the editor of the *Canadian Independent* to let me name in print, is said on unquestionable authority, to be committed to an awful extent throughout all these