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EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

A FEW earnest words on denominational finance. Since the notice that the Executive will not borrow as largely as before, and will in its next payment deduct a percentage till funds come in, we have received communications shadowing resignation or collapse. We desire to say that this is not the spirit with which the emergency is to be met. Edmund Burke wrote: "Difficulty is a severe instructor, set over us by the Supreme Guardian and Legislator who knows us better than we know ourselves, as He loves us better too. He that wrestles with us strengthens our nerves and sharpens our skill." A greater than Burke says: "Fight the good fight of faith;" and Bunyan quaintly reminds us that the Christian pilgrim has no armour for his back. We are persuaded that in our smaller cities and country places there is a large amount of financial strength that has not yet been even touched, and we press upon the consideration of our Associations the thorough organization of missionary work during the incoming winter, that people may be instructed in our needs and work, and that systematic, intelligent effort may be put forth to place our different departments of work upon a financially sound basis. Stand to your guns, brethren, and nail your colours to the mast.

THE plain order of Congregational service and the simplicity of its organization demands intelligence on the part of its members. Our denominational work is not known, therefore not supported; and for this we suspect pastors are somewhat to blame. THE INDEPENDENT should be in every home, so should the *Year Book*. There should be as thorough instruction in the wants of our home field as in those of the foreign. The state of a village or town in New Brunswick or Ontario should interest us as much as the customs of Japan; yet who is enquiring what Mr. Hindley is doing in

Barrie or Mr. Saer in St. John? How many members in our churches know of such men? And yet we say with a due sense of responsibility in every word that ignorance or neglect regarding such home work is as criminal as passing Timbuctoo by on the other side. Let the people know what is being endured and done, and that systematically, and let the work be begun or quickened now. Associations will soon meet; the time for essays has past, for effort begun.

OUR good neighbour, *The Canada Presbyterian*, on more than one occasion lately has had short articles on the Unitarian tendency of certain Congregationalists, e.g., a private letter is quoted in which these words occur: "Of course Jesus is not God, or absolute deity, nor ever claimed He was." Dr. Todd's withdrawal from the New Haven Central Association on account of the Unitarian tendencies of two students licensed by the association was also duly chronicled *cum nota*, plainly insinuating unsoundness in the Congregational faith. The charge of heresy is easily made and sticks even when disproved. Suspicion is proverbially cruel. Perhaps our contemporary will allow a *tu-quoque* paragraph by way of explanation after a statement of a fact or two.

THE statements of doctrine by existing Congregational Unions, and notably that put forth by representatives of the churches of the United States, bear distinct testimony to the divinity of the Christ, e.g., "In Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who is of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made." We are not aware of a single Unitarian confession in Congregational churches, though the terminology of the Nicene or Athanasian creeds may not be observed.

REGARDING Dr. Todd's withdrawal, our contemporary the *New York Independent*, which