

## TWO PSALMS.

BY REV. WILLIAM WYE SMITH.

## PSALM CXXXI.

My heart is not haughty, my heart is with Thee ;  
 Mine eyes are not lofty, no sin would I see ;—  
 In things that are mighty and things that are high,  
 I keep myself humble as lowly I lie.

And walking thus meekly and humbly a child,  
 As a babe of its mother bereft and beguiled,  
 My hope, with all Israel, still is the Lord ;  
 And ever and ever we'll trust in His word.

## PSALM CXXXIV.

Ye stars that through the silent night  
 Your torches lift for God—  
 Who stand, obedient in His sight,  
 And wait upon His nod ;  
 And all your hands, ye earthly throng,  
 Lift up with glad acclaim ;  
 And bless the Lord, His courts among,  
 For holy is His name !

The Lord that made the heaven and earth,  
 The Lord that made the skies—  
 The God that shines in Zion forth,  
 And bids our hope arise—  
 Yea, He who saves from all ill,  
 His blessing send thee now ;  
 And balm that breathes from Zion's hill,  
 Descend upon thy brow.

*Newmarket, Ont.*

## Correspondence.

## MARITIME UNION NOTES.

When I first came to Nova Scotia and heard people talk of "The Union," I thought what a pretty assembly it must be, with so few churches, scarcely half as many ministers, and by no means a full number of delegates. Yes, it is not a large representative gathering, still it is perhaps as good in proportion to its constituency as that august assembly which some of us have attended in England, and it is perhaps, too spirited to place itself far below the level of the Union of the Upper Provinces. The churches, some of them, are the pioneers of the denomination in British America, and the Union itself has attained the mature age of forty years. The meeting this year in the city of St. John, N. B., was not so well attended by the general public as is generally the case when some rural locality is accepted as its place of meeting. The congregations on the Sabbath and also at the Union Temperance and Missionary gatherings in the evening lacked the enthusiasm which so generally mark similar occasions in our country churches. The reason is natural, and too obvious to need explanation. All the pastors connected with the Union were present with one exception, Rev. J. W. Cox, whose health would not permit

him to attend. Two students were also there representing churches, viz., Messrs. Lee, from Baddeck, and Daley, from Noel. The discussions were lively and animated, but did not perhaps reach what is sometimes called *warmth*, only just enough opposition, apparent or real, being expressed to draw out the much needed information which was given both by the local members and visiting delegates from Ontario and Quebec, whose presence, by the way, was helpful and appreciated. There is evidently a strong feeling of *independency* in the minds of a small part of the Union. This may be merely a hobby, but the horror of anything like the thin end of the wedge of Presbyterianism makes some of the brethren watchful lest the rights of the individual church should be encroached upon by some prerogative of the council system. The wording of the resolution in respect of THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT caused the most animated discussion on this subject, an amendment having been moved that the last part of that resolution be left out as being both reflective and unnecessary.

A new departure was this year adopted as to the way in which the chairman should be elected. The ballot system was decided upon and carried out. It is hoped also that the Missionary Conference plan will be accepted both by the Union and the Missionary Society as one of the regular meetings. This will be at once satisfactory to the pastors and churches, as the peculiarities connected with all our mission churches and their pastoral connections, and needs can be quietly and privately talked over in the presence of executive representatives who are thereby in possession of information which will at once be helpful to the executive, and inspire full confidence in their constituency in these Provinces. The labours of Missionary Superintendent Hall have been so much appreciated by the Union that more of his kind of work is needed than he can possibly give. The natural result of this need is to enquire whether we can get a co-operator with him for the Lower Provinces exclusively. That desire is almost if not quite unanimous, but the two difficulties in the way are, 1st, the right man ; 2nd, the money to pay him. It is thought by most that if the first of these difficulties be solved, the second must consequently fall. A second Mr. Hall is not expected, but an earnest Christian minister with tact, push and stimulating power, may possibly be found to periodically or specially visit our scattered churches.

J. S.

MR. EDITOR,—For the sake of keeping up my connection as a correspondent, I must send a few lines. It had been my intention to write a letter descriptive of Congregational work in Dakota, but the ground has been more fully and ably covered by Mr. Allworth's letter. The information he gives there, and the opinions he expresses, deserve the attention of all who are