

and peculiar views, it will be understood that this body is not committed thereto."

Rev. S. N. Jackson, M.D., said he thought it would be better, now that we have dispensed with the annual sermon, that the Chairman should take some vital theme as the subject of his address, which would be better adapted to such a general audience as we would have on the occasion of delivering it.

Professor Cornish thought that the logical outcome of the address would be that other bodies would ask—"If these be your sentiments, why not come over to us?" He thought that it was intended we should have the present diversity of Episcopacy, Presbyterianism, and Congregationalism. He did not think it was ever intended to do away with these distinctions.

Rev. W. Hay thought it would look invidious to press such a resolution now, as though there was anything in the address differing more than usual from the ordinary current of thought among us. The ex-Chairman could not express the opinions of all the members of the Union, and he had no thought of trying to do so.

Rev. J. Fraser thought it was throwing down our denominational fences too freely. Our neighbours would be apt to take advantage of it, and commit depredations on our property.

Rev. M. S. Gray had become a Congregationalist simply for the sake of obtaining the liberty that had been described in the address. Human restrictions must never be opposed to Divine laws.

Rev. J. Salmon, B.A., moved an amendment, that all the words of the resolution be dropped after the sentence giving thanks to the ex-Chairman; and add, "that it be printed in the minutes of the Union." He thought there was no reason whatever for any disclaimer of the sentiments of the address on the part of the Union. There was no more reason for doing it now than on any former occasion.

Rev. R. Brown seconded the amendment. Should the resolution of the Committee be adopted, it would imply that there was something more objectionable in this address than in ordinary utterances and papers brought into the Union; and this was not the case.

Professor Cornish thought there was a difference between the Chairman's address and other papers. The former was, in a measure, official and representative; the others were not.

Rev. C. Duff coincided with the mover of the amendment.

Rev. K. M. Fenwick said it was always understood that all could not agree in the ideas advanced by the Chairman; and yet the Chairman's utterances should be regarded as more in harmony with the views of the members in general. These discussions about union were not new. Sixteen hundred years ago, the same breeze, as now, was passing over the Christian Church, and the same ideas were advanced. True union must be based on Christian life within. As brethren, we all want more union with Christ. Some of the unions now taking place were but conglomerations—a pressing together of heterogeneous elements that would not adhere. Only homogeneous elements of spiritual life, as in the natural world, could combine. If we all get nearer to Christ, we shall get nearer to one another.

Rev. E. C. W. McColl, M.A., congratulated the Union in making considerable advancement since the annual meeting a few years ago in Hamilton.

Rev. F. H. Marling admitted that he had neither heard the address attentively, nor had he read it since its appearance in the *Globe*; but he thought it might be better to confine the motion simply to the giving of thanks to the retiring Chairman, in which we would all be willing to unite. He dreaded any tendency to Plymouth Brethrenism, or any of those boasted unionisms which became the narrowest forms of sectarianism. Everybody was in favour of union when it simply consisted in drawing all other bodies to their own views.

Rev. R. Hay would prefer Mr. Marling's plan. He had opportunity of observ-