

courtship has been something more than a flirtation, and judging from the procession of events in the past, we look forward to the day as not distant, when the churches of Christ shall be, we will not say so Congregationalized, but so Christianized as to efface the not indelible lines drawn between and around the different families, all of whom are the children of God. God speed the day.

CHANGE OF DENOMINATIONAL RELATIONSHIP, unless it be on account of vital principles, is seldom wise. Recently a Primitive Methodist minister who proposed to withdraw from his denomination, consulted with a Church of England clergyman, and received this advice: "As a rule every one should endeavour to remain with that body of professing Christians with whom they have got their good. A man is more looked up to by his fellows who has followed one consistent and uniform course through life, especially if that course has been begun from the time of youth. Above all we should be cautious of seeking to cast our lot with those whom we know have a better worldly standing than those with whom the providence of God has placed us; this is to sacrifice spirituality to worldliness, to pierce ourselves through with many sorrows, to deteriorate, and perhaps to ruin our souls. There have been some fine men and fine minds among your people; and my advice is to stick to them, and you will be a more useful man than if you changed; and at the end of 20 years or so, you will heartily thank God that you stood your ground when you were disposed to falter and change your course."

THE REV. ARCHIBALD BURFEE died at Housatonic, Mass., December 1st, 1873, aged 45 years. He finished his studies in the Congregational College in 1854, and had exercised his ministry just 20 years. After filling several important spheres in Canada, he removed to the United States, where he was actively engaged in his Master's work, until laid aside by the protracted illness of which he died. All who knew him will deeply lament the loss of a genial loving brother and a good minister of Jesus Christ. Mr. Burpee is the sixth of our Alumni who have "finished their course." The *Congregationalist* says:—

The funeral services of Rev. Archibald Burpee, acting pastor of the Congregational church in Housatonic, were held in the church in that place Thursday morning, Dec. 4. The exercises were conducted by Mr. William J. Bartlett, a lay preacher, licentiate of Berkshire South Association, who has had charge of the pulpit during the illness of Bro. Burpee. There was no sermon. Addresses were made by Rev. Amos E. Lawrence, former pastor of the church, and Rev. Dr. Gale of Lee, and prayers were offered by Rev. Mason Noble, Jr., and Rev. Evarts Scudder. \* \* \* Mr. Burpee was engaged to supply the church at Housatonic, with which he spent nearly two years, only the first few weeks of which, however, he was able to occupy the pulpit. He was not settled as pastor, but was highly esteemed and dearly loved. The people refused to accept his resignation, tendered more than once, and counted him their pastor, continuing his salary to the day of his death. After prolonged intense suffering, from that insidious disease, cancer of the stomach, he passed quietly and peacefully to his reward. The freely rendered services of Mr. Bartlett were very valuable and acceptable to both the afflicted pastor and his people, and deserve hearty recognition—as does the long continued kindness and affection of the congregation.

CONGREGATIONALISTS IN LONDON not only have a larger number of churches, but are also rapidly on the increase. From a paper read by the Rev. Mr. Gladstone, we learn that there are *two hundred and thirty-seven* Congregational