

sionary societies and to our sustentation funds, will refuse to continue their subscriptions for the support of rival camps, when no just reason can be found for our failure either to unite or to agree upon a policy, which will lead to the withdrawal of one or the other from localities where there is not room for both.

Is any one frightened by the expense and inconvenience which such a federation would involve? Let him remember how this bugbear stood in the way of the denominational union of the various branches of Presbyterianism and Methodism a few years ago, and how easily, after all, the difficulty was overcome when bravely faced. Let him also consider whether we are prepared for the greater evil, the withdrawal of the financial aid upon which we now reckon for the carrying on of our separate and often opposition schemes.

I can think of no reason for which we shall not be ashamed at the day of judgment, that may be urged against such an immediate federation as that at which I now simply hint, but the details of which I do not pretend even

to outline. I do not include other denominations because I fear no other denominations are ripe for it. Until the term "historical episcopacy" is more clearly defined, until our Baptist friends revise their cardinal position as to what constitutes right to membership in the visible Church, and until Congregationalism is ready to recognize some central authority to whose advice it is prepared to yield consent in reference to such questions as have been discussed in this article, I fear that "nearer approach" for practical purposes, outside of Presbyterianism and Methodism, is yet in the future. Perhaps the Congregational and Baptist denominations might see their way to some such federation. I do not see how the Episcopal church could consistently enter into any arrangement of the sort of which I speak.

But if Presbyterianism and Methodism would thus unite the effect of the good example would be very far reaching, and the immediate blessings would do much toward a practical solution of the problem set for us by the editors of this journal.