

opportunity of extending to them the right hand of Christian recognition; and wishing them God-speed in their work. Never stipulate for an exact agreement of opinion as the term of religious intercourse. Never be jealous of the spiritual prosperity of other Churches; but rather rejoice in it, not merely for its own sake, and the glory of God; but also for your own; for you are more likely to advance in spiritual things when your neighbours are revived than when they are depressed.—Never forget that there are far higher interests for all of us to consult than the success of Congregationalism. There are certain truths and blessings which are the *common property of the entire Church of Christ*—truths and blessings which will remain on earth when all existing ecclesiastical organizations may be broken up; and which are just so much more valuable than all our “denominational interests,” as the wheat is better than the chaff. While we thus venture to recommend you duly to recognize true religion, in whatever distinctive garb it may appear; you will not suppose us to advocate an absolute latitudinarianism, or an indifference to opinions and practices in other religious communities which are, in your convictions, incompatible with “the truth as it is in Jesus.” Of such character, in our judgment, are the dogmas of sacramental efficacy, apostolical succession, priestly absolution, the merit of good works, or the limitation of the Church of Christ to any particular sect. These dogmas—found in whatever Church they may be—we do not hesitate to pronounce, in the language of scripture, “damnable heresies.” Against them, we trust, that the Congregational Churches of these Provinces will ever raise their earnest, unequivocal, and unyielding protest.—Sustained as these fatal inventions of men are, by the gentleness and refinements of intellectual culture; it will be wise in us, as the Apostle Paul found it in his day, to meet such errors with the aids of sound learning, as well as with the sword of the spirit. We do then heartily congratulate you, on the prospect of special attention being directed to the superior education of our youth, and of candidates for the Christian Ministry. We feel thankful to God, that he has put it into the heart of a pious and wealthy lady, in Liverpool, (N. S.) to appropriate a large portion of her means towards the establishment of a College in connection with our Congregational Union. Let no effort be wanting on our part to help forward this patriotic and Christian design; and remembering that that Institution is to be wholly sustained by the willing offerings of its friends, in addition to the fees of the pupils, let us strive to make it a successful test of the efficiency of the voluntary principle; and thus, with all our other efforts, prove that the Congregationalists of Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick, as in all other places, are the opponents of all state endowments to religious Institutions—the promoters of liberal education—the advocates of evangelical truth—and the friends of universal Christian Union.