

wise let them not seek it from man, but from one who is able and willing to direct them aright if they ask in faith, believingly. I remain Sir Yours A CONGREGATIONALIST

Now, we do not wish to be severe upon our unknown correspondent, especially as he is a Congregationalist. Without boasting of more charity, we will express a better opinion regarding him than he does of the Bishops, and say we believe he is desirous of being honest, he feels a deep interest in Congregationalism, and in his way is seeking its good. At the same time he has consciously drawn on a vivid imagination or is wofully ignorant of facts, as well as guilty of great discourtesy.

To say nothing of his assuming to be the rightful judge of men's motives, and having the right to direct their acts according to his opinions, there is a total ignoring of the fact that the churches and the denomination which our brethren Marling and Clarke have left, received from them many, many years of faithful and efficient service. For the education and support they received, did they not in the highest sense educate and support hundreds during their years of service in our midst? We do not commend the steps our brethren have taken, neither has there ever been an expression of joy in these columns over the events, but, as those honoured and loved for their own and their work's sake, we would treat them as brethren.

But we are occupying more space than the communication deserves, and for the rest we must content ourselves with a few direct corrections. It has not been declared that no church can be formed or minister chosen without first calling

a Council. The Congregational Bishops do not contradict Christ when He says, "Where two or three," &c., neither has "A Congregationalist" quoted the text correctly. The Bishops never had a protégé whom they tried to force upon the Western Church, Toronto; but before the first step had been taken to organize a church, the pastors, deacons and delegates of the three churches, numbering in all about forty, advised a gentleman to begin mission work in the field, and seek to gather a congregation. Nearly all the members forming the Western Church were then members of these churches.

We would inform our correspondent, that the Rev. W. W. Smith, of Pine Grove, is the gentleman who voted against the resolutions on Councils, and suggest that he send him a large subscription for his Indian mission work. In sincerity, we hope this will not be the last communication we receive from "A Congregationalist," but trust when he so honours us again he will be sure of his facts.

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#### SUPERINTENDENCE OF MISSIONS.

As the regular editor, who is also Superintendent of Missions, has vacated his office for his usual month's rest, we not only slip into his editorial chair, but desire to slip into the editorial columns something concerning this important department of work. It is now two years since it was commenced, which carries it beyond an experiment, and affords every opportunity to judge of it on its merits alone.

For many years it was felt that there