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PREPARATIONS FOR THE UNION MEETING.

Wednesday, the fourth of June, is drawing near, when the Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec will meet at Brantford in its yearly convocation. No doubt the expectant hosts have already begun to make ready. We hear rumours of the renovation of the church building, the upholstering of the seats, and other works involved in setting the house in order. Domestically, also, doubtless,——but we forbear and withdraw our masculine feet from this forbidden ground! We would call emphatic attention to the request of the Brantford pastor, for full and timely information from those who will expect accommodation. Last year, it will be remembered, after the meeting, the chairman of the Montreal Reception Committee addressed us a letter with similar complaints. Even thoughtlessness in such a matter is a breach of Christian courtesy to those who take so much pains to make their visitors at home.

The Union Committee, which was charged with specially important duties in relation to this meeting,—the remodelling of the entire order of proceedings, has been deprived of the guidance of the Secretary, Rev. W. F. Clarke, in consequence of his engagements at Chicago. The result of their meeting on the 29th April, we expect to announce in the latter pages of the present number.

There have been discussions during the year in relation to the mode of admitting and receiving members of the Union. We do not know whether the subject will come up in shape for action at Brantford, but it is most probable that it will. It will require the most careful deliberation.

The Statistical Secretary, in 1872, had to make grievous complaints of that lack of returns from so many quarters, which made his summaries so defective and misleading. These figures are of great value, at home and abroad. If from any carelessness—in itself reprehensible—in the keeping of Church Records, the desired particulars are not to be got at very easily, a little pains would secure them. Sometimes, perhaps, the facts are so unsatisfactory that there is a little shamefacedness about revealing them; but the truth should come out; the brethren have a right to know it. We trust that Mr. Barker will have a better report to make for 1872-3.