

PREFACE.



WE would like the privilege of omitting the Preface this year; and have ourselves and others believe the book was out at the right time—first of September! But the Eastern brethren tried a new experiment—which in their rural churches, with their late hay-making, seemed feasible and best—but apparently was no improvement: held the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Congregational Union in September. Were it continued at that date, some new arrangements would be necessary, either as to the date of issue, or the contents of the YEAR BOOK; but the N. S. and N. B. Union is to be in July next year (as before). The YEAR BOOK is, therefore, this year, two months late. Of course, all the more necessity for prompt orders for copies among the churches, and prompt circulation among the members.

The year has been a marked one in the denomination. The missionaries from Africa; the “new departure” of the *Canadian Congregationalist*; the new professor in the College; the visits of delegates from Great Britain to the International Council; and our own delegates to Boston; these and other things have claimed our attention, and reminded us that we are in a working world, and belonging to a working church; and are to be found at our posts, when the Son of Man shall come.

WILLIAM WYE SMITH,

Editor.

ST. CATHARINES, ONT.,

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