

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF CANADA.

I. That the name of this Association be "The Congregational Union of Canada."

II. That it shall consist of Ministers and Professors, or Tutors in Colleges or Theological Institutes, of approved character, and of Churches of the Congregational or Independent order, duly received at a general meeting. In the admission of new members application shall be made in writing, addressed to the Secretary six weeks prior to the general meeting, in which a statement of doctrinal and ecclesiastical sentiments shall be made, and testimonials, if any, be supplied. Students who have finished their course at the Canadian Congregational Theological Institute, and who are ordained to the Ministry, and persons recommended by Associations of the same Church Order in other countries with which a fraternal correspondence is maintained, shall be eligible for admission without any probation; others shall be received only after having been proposed at the previous meeting.

III. That this Union is founded on a full recognition of the distinctive principle of Congregational Churches, namely the Scriptural right of every separate Church to maintain perfect independence in the government and administration of its own particular affairs; and therefore that the Union shall not, in any case, assume Legislative Authority or become a Court of appeal.

IV. That the following are the objects contemplated in its formation. 1. To promote evangelical religion in connection with the Congregational Denomination. 2. To cultivate brotherly affection and co-operation in everything relating to the interests of the associated Churches. 3. To establish fraternal correspondence with the several Congregational Unions on this Continent and in Europe. 4. To address an annual or occasional letter to the associated Churches, accompanied with such information as may be deemed necessary. 5. To obtain accurate statistical information relative to the Congregational Churches throughout the British American Provinces.

V. To promote the accomplishment of these objects and the general interests of the Union, an Annual Meeting of its members shall be held, each of the associated Churches being represented by two lay delegates, the meeting to be held at such time and place as may be appointed at each Annual Meeting.

VI. That the Officers of the Union be a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Minute Secretary, and Committee, all to be chosen annually, by ballot with nomination, who shall execute the instructions of the Union, and prepare a docket of business for the Annual Meeting.