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THE APPROACHING UNION MEETING.

On Wednesday, the 12th June, 1861, the messengers of the churches are expected to assemble in union in the city of Kingston. Our annual gathering has on former occasions, proved a season of sweet refreshment to the souls of the brethren, and has not been unproductive of good to the general interests of the Congregational denomination in Canada. Let us for the meeting now in prospect, anticipate the highest success. To attain that end, the presence and blessing of Him that walketh in the midst of the golden candlesticks, are emphatically necessary. Christ's words—"Without me ye can do nothing," may be felt as possessing a meaning in connection with all deliberations for the advancement of His cause on earth. Hence the appropriateness of continuing in supplication, that the power of Christ may rest on his servants. Their cry may well be,—If thy presence go not with us, carry us not up hence.

Brethren will bear with us when we hint, that it is of the utmost consequence that we come prepared, through that preparation of the heart which is of the Lord. The questions arising out of the present position of our missionary operations, and our connection with our brethren in England, involve such momentous consequences, that, in our opinion, it will require all the wisdom and grace existing in our Union, to settle them in a way honouring to God, honourable to ourselves, and fitted to advance the future welfare of the churches. We hope then and pray, that the approaching Union Meeting may produce hallowed results—that those present may feel that it was good to be there, and that an all prevailing spiritual influence may be enjoyed, spreading revival and life through the land, as streams from Lebanon.

OUR HOME MISSIONS AGAIN.

The Communication of the Secretary-Treasurer, and the articles in the April number of the *Canadian Independent* which it elicited, plainly shew that both in England and in Canada our missions are the subject of earnest consideration. This, we regard as matter for thankfulness, provided those concerned take a sufficiently calm and comprehensive view of the case, and grapple fairly with the real point at issue.

When the union of the several Societies was effected, it was distinctly understood by our friends in Canada, that the new organization was to embrace the peculiar spheres, both of the Colonial and the Canadian Societies. But for this, the union would never have been consummated. Indeed this fact