

## Historical Notes.

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The first printed ANNUAL REPORT of the Congregation covers the history of its life and work during 1865. An effort was begun about two years ago to collect a few complete sets of these REPORTS, in order that they might be bound and preserved for reference when necessary. Only one full series, thus far, has been secured. The history of the Congregation, prior to 1865, must be sought in the official *Minutes* of the Session and of the Board of Managers.

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The congregation of St. James Square was formed by act of the U. P. Presbytery of Toronto, June 23rd, 1853. This step was the outcome of a Petition, already favorably considered at a meeting of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, whereby the Presbytery was urged to organize a second U. P. congregation in Toronto. The Presbytery granted the prayer of the petitioners, and at the same time it agreed to sanction the invitation extended to Rev. John Taylor, M.D., to act as stated supply of the new congregation.

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At the beginning of its history, the congregation was known as the "Gould Street U. P. Church." For about twenty-five years it worshipped in the structure now occupied by the adherents of the Catholic Apostolic Church, corner of Victoria and Gould Streets. In 1877 the original property was sold for \$10,000,—which sum, by the way, was exactly the amount paid for the Gerrard Street site. The present structure was at once commenced. On November 17th, 1878, the new church was formally set apart for the worship of God, Rev. Dr. Taylor, of New York, and Rev. Dr. Jenkins, of Montreal, preaching the opening sermons.