

PREFACE.

It is now ten years since the Rev. F. H. Marling and the present editor prepared the scheme for the publication of the CANADA CONGREGATIONAL YEAR BOOK, which was adopted by the Union and other societies assembling in Brantford in 1873. The first volume was edited by Mr. Marling, the six subsequent volumes by the Rev. John Wood, and for three years it has been under the present editorial management.

To meet the expenses of its publication it was agreed that the various societies which had previously published separate reports should each in future become responsible for the cost of their printing in the YEAR BOOK, thereby enabling the publishers to furnish it to the churches at a price barely sufficient to meet the cost of the preliminary matter in the volume. This plan has been adhered to and found to work satisfactorily.

The ten volumes already issued furnish historical matter and provides a means for reference which our church members will do well to preserve. To facilitate a ready reference to former volumes, a decennial index has been added to this volume.

While manifest imperfections mark the present volume, it has been sought to make improvements in each annual issue. In this connection the churches are again under obligation to Wm. Neish, Esq., of Her Majesty's Customs, Kingston, for valuable assistance in passing the present volume through the press, and to James Smith, Esq., Toronto, for the handsome design for the cover.

In addition to the reports of societies which have previously appeared, we this year present those of the Ladies' Home Missionary Society of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the Canada Foreign Missionary Society, and the Labrador Mission.

SAMUEL N. JACKSON.

Kingston, Aug. 31st, 1882.