

chiefly owing to the fact that many brethren, abandoning the former name and object, had chosen rather to be known as the Regular Baptists of Canada, and to act together on a narrower basis. In 1855, however, the Union was re-constituted by some of those who still approved of the principles on which it was first founded, and who felt the need of some arrangement of the kind to enable all, who might be content to own each other as Baptists, to co-operate on evangelical principles, in promoting important objects. These principles and objects are fully set forth in the Constitution of the Union, which follows this notice, and which is clear enough to require no comment. The Union is designed to bring together, as much as possible, in fraternal confidence and endeavors after usefulness, all Baptists of evangelical sentiments, who may value essential unity apart from a rigorous uniformity, or without the necessity of sacrificing their liberty and conscientious views. It is accordingly precluded from urging the particular sentiments which distinguish different sections of the Baptist family; and hence though most of the present members hold the sentiment of open communion, the Union cannot, as such, agitate that question, inasmuch as it expressly maintains the right of each church "to extend or limit the terms of the communion of saints at the Lord's table according to its own views" of divine truth. Its object is not to contend about open or close communion, but rather to advocate that Christian independence and liberty which shall admit of diversity of views and practice without the loss of mutual confidence. With similar principles and aims the Baptist Union of England was formed many years ago: and its happy influence in gradually bringing into closer fellowship different sections of the denomination was strikingly manifested at the last yearly meeting. Why then shall not we in Canada copy so excellent an example and hope for like happy results? Different sections of other denominations are seeking earnestly after more union; and shall evangelical Baptists cherish no yearning and take no steps to secure the same blessed object? At the late meeting of the Canada Baptist Union, when interesting reports and historical sketches were presented, it was found needful to issue a small quarterly paper, in order to set forth its principles and aims, and to make its members and friends acquainted with its proceedings, its labours and its wants. This little periodical will also contain, from time to time, historical sketches and statistics relative to all Baptists in Canada, together with notices of the state and progress of our brethren throughout the world. At the same time it will keep