

CONGREGATIONAL PROVIDENT FUND SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Congregational Provident Fund Society will be held in the Congregational Church in Ottawa, on the afternoon of Friday, the 11th of June, immediately after the College meeting.

CHAS. R. BLACK,
Sec'y-Treasurer.

CONGREGATIONAL COLLEGE, B. N. A.

The forty-seventh annual meeting of the College will be held in the Congregational Church, Ottawa, on Friday, June 11th, 1886, at 2.30 p.m.

GEORGE CORNISH,
Sec'y C. C. B. N. A.

MONTREAL, May 7th, 1886.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

I. ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual meeting will be held in the Congregational Church, Ottawa, Ont., commencing on Wednesday, June 9th, at 7.30 p. m., when the Annual Sermon will be preached by the Rev. J. R. Black, B. A., of Garafraza, Ont.

The Churches connected with the Union are reminded of Standing Rule No. 12, which requests every church to take up a collection for the Union on or before the first Sunday in June. This rule is intended to apply to all the churches, not excepting those which may not send delegates.

It is requested that all matters to be brought before the Union, especially applications for membership, should be placed in the hands of the Secretary a reasonable time before the Annual meeting. All such applications for membership are required to be in writing, and, in the cases of churches applying, to be accompanied by a recommendation signed by three (3) members of the Union.

The attention of pastors and churches is directed to Standing Rule No 4, where they will find instructions as to the manner of electing the Chairman.

Arrangements will be made with the Railway and Steamboat Companies for reduced rates. The Secretary is prepared to furnish the necessary certificates to all Ministers and delegates. He would be obliged if the applications were all forwarded in good time, and specified the lines by which it was intended to travel.

The Union Committee is requested to meet in the vestry of the Ottawa Church, on Wednesday, June 9th, at 2 p.m.

II. CONFERENCE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

At the last annual meeting of the Union, a resolution was passed in favor of holding a Conference on the State of Religion, and a committee, consisting of the Rev. Jno. Morton, together with the Chairman and Secretary of the Union, was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. The Committee decided to ask several gentlemen to give addresses or papers on subjects of practical importance, these to be followed by open conference and discussion. The following is the list of subjects and speakers:—

"Statistical Secretary's Report," Rev. Geo. Robertson, B. A.

"Conditions and Obligations of Church Fellowship," Rev. W. H. Allworth.

"How to Secure the Right Material for our Ministry," Rev. W. H. Warriner, B. D.

"How may the Church Best Reach the Churchless," Rev. E. M. Hill, M. A.

"Why are there not More Conversions in our Congregations," Rev. D. Macallum.

It has not yet been finally decided at what stage of the meetings these subjects shall be introduced. It has been suggested that we endeavor to secure the whole of Saturday forenoon for the Conference. The Secretary, on behalf of the Committee, would be glad to receive any further suggestions in order that we may have all the light possible in coming to a decision. It is hoped that the brethren will come to the Conference bringing their best thought on the subjects named, and ready to utter their thought with brevity and weight.

HUGH PEDLEY,
Sec.-Treasurer.

Cobourg, Ont., Box 166. April 26, 1886.

OBITUARY.

On Tuesday the 6th of May, the Rev. WM. BURGESS, of Tilbury, passed away to his rest. He was the son of the Rev. James Burgess, of Cambridge, England, was born 16th of May, 1801, so that at his death he was within a few days of the ripe age of eighty-five. He studied in the Royal College of Preceptors, London, of which he was a licentiate. He entered the ministry as assistant pastor with his father, whom he succeeded at his death. He came with a family of seven sons, to Canada, and settled in Southwold, taking charge of the Congregational church there, the first of our order in Ontario, seemed to be just waiting and praying for such a man. They were without a pastor and the peace of the church was disturbed. They were divided among themselves and some of them almost hopeless, in regard to their future, when the Rev. W. Burgess came among them, and by his wise, gentle, kind, healing policy brought them together again. After five years of happy useful ministry he determined for the sake of his family of sons to purchase land, and settle in the woods, which to the regret of the church to whom he had endeared himself, he did. Without practical knowledge of backwoods life, but looking to God alone for guidance he purchased land in Tilbury, to which place he moved his family. Tilbury was then a new country and the lands low and undrained. There in the deep forest with a large family, none of them very strong, he settled with a wife as humble as himself. Very soon after he got sheltered, they began to build a house for God, about two miles from his own, to accommodate others as well as themselves. Here he preached the gospel, and gathered around him a church of believers into which every one of his own family were brought, with others. About eight years ago, he was succeeded by his son Rev. Edmund Burgess, now minister of Tilbury Centre, but continued occasionally to preach as late as the winter 1885. He was always a close student, and for many years spent most of his time alone in his study. He wrote a good many hymns of the acrostic order which have occasionally