

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, FOREST, C. W.

The friends of the Congregational cause in this place, having been encouraged by the success attending the labours of Mr. J. Douglas, student, deemed it advisable to proceed to the formation of a church. Invitations were therefore sent to Rev. T. Lightbody, of Sarnia, Rev. C. P. Watson, London, and Rev. D. McCallum, Warwick, to give their services for this purpose.

On Friday afternoon, Sept. 18th, a Tea Meeting was held, the proceeds to be applied to supplying the place of worship with pulpit and pews. Very rainy weather and muddy roads caused the company to be much smaller than had been expected. With this exception the meeting was everything that could have been desired. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Douglas, McCallum, Watson, and Lightbody. In the evening a sermon was preached by Rev. T. Lightbody.

On Saturday morning a very happy meeting of the Sabbath School children took place. Several beautiful hymns were sung, and all present seemed deeply interested in the remarks of the several speakers. Cakes and fruit were afterwards distributed.

Too much praise cannot be given to the devoted superintendent of the school, Mr. McFadden, by whose untiring zeal and generous services so much has been accomplished.

In the afternoon of the same day, after an appropriate sermon by Rev. C. P. Watson, a Church of Christ of the Congregational order was formed, consisting of eight members, formerly belonging to sister and other churches. Seven have since been added by *profession*.

The services on the Lord's Day were as follows: at 10, a.m., addresses to the Sabbath School were given by Messrs. Lightbody and Watson; at 11 a.m., sermon by Bro. Lightbody, after which the Lord's Supper was administered; at 2, p.m., sermon by Bro. Watson. These services were remarkably well attended, the chapel being filled with deeply attentive hearers. Bro. Lightbody preached also in the afternoon and evening at two other stations, and Bro. Watson preached at 7 p.m. in Johnson's school-house. The services of the day were of a very encouraging character, many felt them to be times of refreshing.

On Monday afternoon a sermon to the young was preached by Rev. T. Lightbody, and at 7 p.m. Mr. Watson again preached. The interest in these meetings seemed to be sustained throughout.

During the past summer \$115 were raised towards the support of Mr. Douglas, and about \$12 for the College funds. Do we not see some of the fruits of our missionary efforts at Forest? Bro. J. R. Kean spent two summers at this station, labouring very acceptably. Bro. Douglas has also spent two college vacations here, and so kindly has he been received by the people, and so successful his labours, that, in the opinion of all the ministerial brethren who have visited Forest, the prospect is full of encouragement. Brother D. has had services regularly at six different stations, and at all of them are found several persons who are warmly attached to Congregationalism. The simplicity of the form of our Church government, the purity of communion, and liberality of sentiment, seem to meet with peculiar favour in this district. It is no exaggeration to say that, in this part of the Province at least, no denomination has obtained a precedence over us. But there is no time to be lost. If we do not go in and take possession