

who are comparative strangers, to the sick, the poor, to Sunday School children, and tract distribution. This work does not in the least relieve members of the church from the duty of visiting, and the annual publication of the Church Directory affords every facility for this engagement.

FAITH AND ORDER.

This church has adopted for its basis the "DECLARATION OF FAITH AND ORDER" put forth by the Congregational Union of England and Wales. This is not regarded as a test for communion or a creed for subscription, but simply a summary of what is commonly believed by us as Congregationalists. No term for fellowship is required save a simple faith in Christ as our personal Saviour.—See "DECLARATION" at the end of this Report.

MEMBERSHIP.

Application for admission into the church should be made to the pastor. Members of such other churches as hold conversion to be a condition of membership are received by presenting letters of dismission. Candidates by profession are usually visited by two members appointed for that purpose, who give their recommendation at the next church meeting. Each candidate's application is submitted to the vote of the church.

GOVERNMENT.

This is Congregational; we regard the Scriptures as the only infallible guide in matters of doctrine and church order, and believe that we learn from them that each church is authorized to elect its officers, receive and dismiss its members, and act authoritatively and conclusively upon all appropriate business. We recognize the Lord Jesus Christ as our King and sole ruler in spiritual things, and His Word as our Statute book and only standard.

CHURCH MEETINGS.

Monthly meetings are held for the transaction of all business pertaining to the church. While the pastor and deacons seek to facilitate matters by preparing business for the church to take action upon, this does not in the least interfere with the liberty of the members to originate and present other resolutions, neither does it relieve them of their responsibility for the action taken by the church. All measures are decided by the vote of the church.

DISCIPLINE.

This is only exercised by the church itself, and may take the form of reproof, suspension or excommunication. In offences committed against individual brethren the party offended must obey the command in Matthew xviii. 15-17, before bringing the matter before the church. The responsibility for the purity of the church rests upon the entire membership.

CHURCH SITTINGS.

At a Church Meeting held July 31, 1856, the following resolution was passed with regard to church sittings:—"That there be no pew rents, but the regular attendants be expected to contribute to the general fund of the church according to their ability, and have allotted to them, for convenience only, such number of sittings as they may ordinarily require."

Officers of the church are in attendance on each Monday afternoon from 3 to 4, to afford an opportunity to such as desire to select sittings to do so. Those who through their engagements are prevented from making their application at this time may apply after any of the Sabbath or week evening services.