

Official.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE RELATION OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY TO THE UNION.

The following report has been prepared for the next Annual Meeting of the Union; and is now printed in the *Independent*, in compliance with a wish expressed by brethren at the time the committee was appointed.

The Committee appointed by the Congregational Union, at its Annual Session in June, 1859, to take into consideration, and report on, the propriety of effecting some change in the relation of the Missionary Society to the Union, "such as was, several years ago, effected on our Theological Institute," beg to report:—

That having carefully considered the subject with which they were intrusted, they find on the one hand, that the present relation which the Society sustains to the Union, may expose it to certain *possible* difficulties; while on the other, they are persuaded that its separation from the Union, were it placed on the same basis as that on which the Institute has been placed, would not be desirable. The preponderance of subscribers present at the Annual Meeting, residing in the place where the meeting was held, thereby localizing the power by which the officers and committee are appointed, would alone be a sufficient reason against such a plan.

Your Committee are not, therefore, prepared to recommend that the Missionary Society should be placed on the same footing as the Institute; and yet, under certain conditions, they think a separation from the Union might have its advantages: they are therefore prepared to recommend the following items, not separately but as a whole—

1. That all connection with the Congregational Union terminate.
2. That an annual meeting be held at *the same time and place* as the Annual Meeting of the Congregational Union is held—open to all subscribers—at which the report will be presented, and the officers and committees appointed for the ensuing year.
3. That the several churches contributing to the funds of the Society, shall have power to send two delegates, who, with Congregational ministers, members of the Society, shall, but they only, vote at said meeting.

These items are placed in the following proposed changes of the constitution of the Society, which they also recommend—

PROPOSED CHANGES ON THE CONSTITUTION.

Articles I. II. III., to remain as they are.

Article IV.—That the business of the Society shall be managed by a Secretary-Treasurer, Home-Secretary, and a Committee of not less than nine others, to be elected annually by ballot, after nomination, by and at a meeting of subscribers, held during the Annual Sessions of the Congregational Union of Canada, said meeting to be open to all subscribers; but the right of voting shall be restricted to Congregational ministers, members of the Society; and delegates from subscribing Congregational churches, each church having subscribed during the year not less than \$10 being entitled to send two delegates: the committee thus elected to