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OUR CHURCH HISTORY.

We have been much gratified to meet with the frequent expression of a desire, from various independent quarters, for the preparation of some complete and connected history of the Congregational Churches in British North America. It is now fifty years since the first Congregational Church still extant was planted in Canada, viz., that at Stanstead, C. E. Several missions have existed for thirty or forty years. The founders of the oldest have nearly all passed away. The pioneers of newer fields are waxing old. If we are to preserve any record of our earliest movements, it must be drawn up soon. Our able contributor, Mr. Woodrow, of St. John, New Brunswick, has sent us a paper, to appear in May, on "Henry Alline and his Times," which supplies a most interesting chapter in our church history in the Maritime Provinces: and we look to him to extend his researches over the whole of that field. In relation to Canada, there are some scattered materials in type, which might be brought together with advantage. We can lay our hands, for instance, on some sketches by Dr. Wilkes, in the *Harbinger*, (a Congregational Magazine published in Montreal in 1842 and '3,) of the churches in Stanstead and Quebec; some numbers of the *Evangelical* and *Congregational Magazines*, giving accounts of the formation and first operations of the Colonial Missionary Society, and correspondence of the first Missionaries. Reed and Matheson's Narrative of their visit to America supplies an account of what they found, and did not find, of Congregationalism in 1835. We doubt not that there are in many a corner, old newspapers, magazines, and reports, as well as correspondence, not yet condemned to the flames, though lying in darkness and dust. Will not our older ministers and members rummage over their boxes and barrels in search of such valuable material? Probably the greater of the story is still unwritten, yet treasured up in the memories of men still living among us. If their testimony is not secured soon, it will be too late, and the loss can never be replaced. Some prominent actors have already been allowed to pass from the scene, without leaving such a legacy to their younger brethren.