

happen to know that there are arrears unpaid from 1872. The printing of the new edition of the Trust Deed will involve a special and immediate outlay, though that will be reimbursed in time. These two items will absorb \$100.

And, finally, they can *pray* for this meeting. Above all our wants, in the way of money and of plans, we need the gift of the Holy Ghost. A body like ours has next to nothing in the way of hereditary prestige, attractive forms or social rank. Our very polity demands a high spirituality. A religious revival would cure all our complaints. Our brethren in England are yearning for this blessing, and it is beginning to fall upon them. We can have no better hope for the Brantford Union Meeting of 1873 than that it be "a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord."

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### THE CONGREGATIONAL PROVIDENT FUND.

Our old friend, the "Congregational Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund Society," having contracted a matrimonial alliance with that promising stranger, "The Pastors' Retiring Fund," and both parties having agreed to merge their respective names in the compact title of the "Congregational Provident Fund," it becomes our duty to introduce "the happy pair" to the wide circle of friends and connections and friends who meet at the table of the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

The banns were proclaimed at the Union Meeting of 1872, besides which, a license was procured from the Legislature at Quebec; the terms of the marriage contract have been settled by the lawyers; and the union only awaits form a ratification by the family council, and the blessing of the Church.

Dropping all metaphor, however, we have to call attention to the following draft of by-laws of the reorganised Fund, which we can do the more briefly, inasmuch as we entered into the matter at length in August, 1872, and a letter appears in our present issue—to which we direct special attention—from the respected treasurer of the Society.

Under the existing by-laws, the rates and annuities are subject to revision every five years, dating from 1863; consequently, the Board are in order in proposing the alterations suggested under those heads, and others notified in 1872. They were authorized by the last annual meeting to submit a scheme for a Pastors' Retiring Fund, and to obtain the necessary powers from the Quebec Legislature. In the following schedule, the fruit of their consultations is submitted.

We observe that some further amendments are proposed, which, not being included in "Rates and Annuities," or notified at last meeting, must stand as notices of motion till 1874:—such as the reduction of Life Membership subscription from \$50 to \$20; an omission in section 2 of by-law iii.; additions to section 1 and section 3 of by-law iv.; and section 4 of by-law newly numbered xiii., which introduces a new principle.

We would direct the special attention of our men of business, as well as of min-