

CONGREGATIONAL UNION

OF

CANADA.

SEVENTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

HELD AT KINGSTON, C.W., JUNE, 1861.

WITH APPENDIX,

CONTAINING STATISTICAL REPORT, NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION
AND SUNDRY LETTERS.

TORONTO:

PRINTED BY W. C. CHEWETT & CO., KING STREET EAST.

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MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
CONGREGATIONAL UNION
OF
CANADA;

HELD AT KINGSTON, C. W.,
12TH—17TH JUNE, 1861.

WITH APPENDIX,
CONTAINING STATISTICAL REPORT, NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION
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OFFICERS
OF THE
CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF CANADA,
FOR
1861-62.

Chairman.

REV. JOSEPH ELLIOT, OTTAWA CITY.

Secretary-Treasurer.

REV. EDWARD EBBS, PARIS, C. W.

Committee.

REV. THOMAS PULLAR,

" W. F. CLARKE,

" JOHN WOOD,

Mr. WILLIAM EDGAR,

" E. H. POTTER, AND

" S. HODGSKIN.

Next Annual Meeting at HAMILTON, Wednesday, 11th June,
1862, at four o'clock, P. M.

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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF CANADA.

- I. That the name of this Association be, "THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF CANADA."
- II. That it shall consist of Congregational, or Independent Churches; and of Ministers of the same Church Order, who are either in the Pastoral Office, or (being members of Congregational Churches,) are engaged in evangelistic, or educational service; approved and received at a general meeting.
- III. That this Union is founded on a full recognition of the distinctive principle of Congregational Churches, namely, the Scriptural right of every separate Church, to maintain perfect independence in its government, and administration; and therefore, that the Union shall not assume legislative, or administrative authority, or in any case, become a court of appeal.
- IV. That the following are the objects contemplated in its formation: 1. To promote evangelical religion in connection with the Congregational denomination. 2. To cultivate brotherly affection, and co-operation in everything relating to the interests of the associated Churches. 3. To establish fraternal correspondence with similar bodies elsewhere. 4. To address an annual, or occasional letter to the associated Churches, accompanied with such information as may be deemed necessary. 5. To obtain accurate statistical information relative to the Congregational Churches throughout the British American Provinces. 6. To hold consultation on questions of interests, connected with the cause of Christ, in general.
- V. To promote the accomplishment of these objects, and the general interests of the Union, an annual meeting of its members shall be held; each of the associated Churches being represented by two lay delegates; the meeting to be held at such time, and place, as may be appointed at each annual meeting.
- VI. That the officers of the Union, be a Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, Minute Secretary, and Committee, all to be chosen annually from its members, who shall execute the instructions of the Union, and prepare a docket of business for the annual meeting.
- VII. That alterations may be made in this constitution, by any annual meeting, provided that notice of such alterations has been given at the meeting next preceding.
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STANDING RULES.

1. Application for admission to the Union, shall be made in writing, and shall include a statement of doctrinal and ecclesiastical views. All such applications shall be reported to the Union, and at once referred to a standing (membership) or special committee for full inquiry. Upon their report that the evidence of good standing is sufficient and satisfactory, the applicants shall be eligible for immediate admission by unanimous vote. In other cases, with the consent of the Union, they shall stand proposed (with the privileges of honorary membership,) until the next annual meeting, at which, after a further report from the same committee, they may be fully received.

2. The Union shall meet annually on the second Wednesday in June, at four o'clock, P.M., for organization; to commence with devotional exercises; the Chairman of the last meeting, (or, failing him, the pastor in the place of meeting) to preside then, and until his successor be appointed.

3. After the above exercises, a Minute Secretary shall be appointed, the Roll of the Union called, and a Sessional Roll formed.

4. A temporary committee of five shall then be chosen, on nomination of the chair, for Business and Nominations, who shall be required to report at the close of public service on the same evening, Standing Committees on Business, Nominations, Membership, Public Services, Finance, and the Missionary Committee.

5. The Report of the Committee of the Union shall then be presented.

6. The Annual Sermon shall be preached on the Wednesday evening; the preacher being appointed at the previous annual meeting.

7. On Thursday morning, after the devotional services, the retiring Chairman shall deliver an address, and the new Chairman shall be elected by ballot, without nomination.

8. The meeting shall be daily opened and closed with prayer; the morning devotional exercises to extend to an hour.

9. No motion shall be discussed unless seconded; no member shall speak twice to the same motion, without permission from the chair; and every motion shall be presented in writing by the mover, if required by the chair.

10. The roll shall be called, and the Minutes of the preceding day read, at the opening of each day's session; and the Minutes of the last day at the close of the session.

11. The Church in whose locality the Annual Meeting shall be held, shall be requested to celebrate the Lord's Supper in connection with such meeting.

12. On the Monday evening during the sittings of the Union, a public meeting of the Union shall be held.

13. Application shall be made by the Secretary, one month at least before the annual meeting, for statistics of the several Churches, and a brief narrative of the state of religion among them, that he may prepare a condensed narrative of the whole, for the annual meeting, and for publication if so ordered.

14. A collection for the funds of the Union shall be made annually in each Church, on or near the Lord's day prior to the meeting. From this source, in addition to the other expenses of the Union, the travelling fares of the ministerial members of the Union, and of one delegate from each Church contributing for the year, shall be paid in full, if possible; the deficiency, if any, being divided by the number of members herein defined as entitled to participate, and the amount of such dividend being deducted from the sum otherwise to be paid to each such member;—on the understanding that such ministers and delegates shall remain during the sessional meetings, except with leave from the chair.

15. That delegates from the Union to Corresponding Bodies, who may fail to fulfil their appointments by personal attendance, shall address those bodies by letter, communicating in substance, such information and sentiments as they would furnish, if present, at their annual convocation.

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THE EIGHTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF CANADA,
JUNE, 1861.

The Eighth Annual Assembly of the Congregational Union of Canada, convened in the Congregational Church, Kingston, on Wednesday, 12th June, 1861, at 4 P.M. Dr. Lillie, presiding, led the devotional exercises.

The Rev. Joseph Hooper was appointed Minute Secretary, and Mr. C. T. Mitchell Assistant Minute Secretary.

The Sessional Roll was formed, consisting during the meeting of

MINISTERIAL MEMBERS.

Rev. R. G. Baird, " E. Barker, " R. K. Black, " G. B. Bücher, " A. Burpee, " J. T. Byrne, " W. Clarke, " W. F. Clarke, " J. Climie, " G. Cornish, B.A., " H. Denney, " J. Durrant,	Rev. E. Ebbs, " J. Elliott, " K. M. Fenwick, " R. Hay, " W. Hay, " W. Hayden, " J. Hooper, " A. Lillie, D.D., " F. H. Marling, " D. McCallum, " D. McGregor, " R. McGregor,	Rev. J. McKillican, " A. J. Parker, " H. D. Powis, " T. M. Reikie, " R. Robinson, " P. Shanks, " E. J. Sherrill, " C. P. Watson, " A. Wickson, LL.D. " H. Wilkes, D.D., " H. Wilson, " J. Wood.—36.
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LAY DELEGATES.

<i>Guelph</i> . . . Robert Thompson. <i>Kingston</i> . . . { W. Massie and { T. Hendry. <i>Listowel</i> . . . D. D. Campbell. <i>Montreal</i> } { W. R. Hibbard and <i>Zion Ch.</i> } { Alfred Savage. <i>Paris</i> { Arthur Haines and { C. T. Mitchell. <i>Quebec</i> . . . George Fitch. <i>Toronto, 2nd</i> } <i>Church</i> . . } G. W. Folts.	<i>Belleville</i> . . . B. B. Ross. <i>Garafusa</i> . . . Robert Brown. <i>Cobourg</i> . . . George Hague. <i>Lanark, 1st</i> } <i>Church</i> . . } James Muir. <i>Martintown</i> } { Alex. McGregor & } Peter Christie. <i>London</i> . . . J. T. Robinson. <i>Trafalgar</i> . . Wm. Shane. <i>Turnberry</i> . . John Brown.—19.
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DELEGATES FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

- Rev. Robert Wilson . . . Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.
 " C. W. Torry Congregational Conference of Ohio.
 " C. C. Cadwell Convention of Presbyterian and Congregational Churches, Wisconsin.
 " W. Ormiston, D.D. Late United Presbyterian Synod of Canada.—4.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

- Rev. C. Pearl Waterville, C.E.
 " P. W. Muir Canada Presbyterian Church.
 " John Porteous " " "
 " A. Wilson " " "
 Mr. W. W. Nelles Agent Upper Canada Tract Society.
 " J. J. Capper London, England.
 " D. McLellan Paris, C.W.

The hours of session were fixed at from 9 A.M. to 12.30 P.M., and from 2.30 P.M. to 5.30 P.M.

The following Temporary Committee was appointed upon nomination of the Union Committee, viz.: Rev. Messrs. Parker, Marling, Reikie, Robinson and Wood.

The Secretary presented a Docket of Business, which was confirmed to Thursday evening.

The Treasurer's Account, for the year ending this day, was presented: and Messrs. Hibbard and Thompson appointed auditors.

The Secretary presented an Abstract of the Statistical Report.

After prayer the meeting adjourned till 7.30 P.M.

At 7.30 P.M. assembled for Divine worship.

The Rev. Wm. Clarke, in the absence of the appointed preachers, delivered a discourse upon Matthew xvi. chapter, 18th verse: "And I say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The Rev. Messrs. Sherrill and McKillican assisted in the devotional exercises.

At the close of the service, the Temporary Committee reported; whereupon the following committees were appointed:

Business Committee:—Rev. F. H. Marling, Convener; Revs. W. F. Clarke and J. Durrant; Messrs. Massie and Haines.

Nomination Committee:—Rev. J. T. Byrne, Convener; Revs. W. Clarke and McKillican; Messrs. T. Hendry and P. McDougall.

Membership Committee:—Rev. J. Elliott, Convener; Rev. Messrs. Ebbs, Sherrill, Robinson and D. McGregor.

Public Service Committee:—Rev. K. M. Feuwick, Convener; Rev. Messrs. Climie, Powis, Baird and Macdonald.

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Finance Committee:— Mr. W. R. Hibbard, Convener; Messrs. Folts and Thompson.

The following nomination of *Missionary Committee* was laid on the table, to be balloted upon to-morrow morning, viz.: Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. Henry Wilkes, D.D.; Home Secretary, Rev. K. M. Fenwick; Rev. Messrs. A. Lillie, D.D., W. Hay, A. J. Parker, R. K. Black and R. Wilson; Messrs. A. Savage, W. R. Hibbard, G. Robertson, D. D. Campbell, P. McDougall and W. Massie.

THURSDAY, June 13th, 1861.

The Union met at 9 A.M. for devotional exercises. Rev. R. McGregor presiding.

The Rev. Dr. Lillie, retiring Chairman, delivered an address.

The Minutes were read and confirmed. The Roll was called.

The following delegates from corresponding bodies were presented: Rev. C. C. Cadwell, General Convention of Wisconsin; and Rev. C. W. Torry, from General Conference of Ohio.

The Union proceeded by ballot to the election of Chairman. The Rev. Joseph Elliott, of Ottawa City, was elected.

Upon report of the Business Committee a docket of business for Friday was adopted.

Dr. Wilkes presented and read part of the Missionary Report; whereupon,

Resolved,—That the Report read by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Congregational Missionary Society be adopted, and printed, with the addition of material in the hands of the Home Secretary.

Messrs. Alfred Savage and W. R. Hibbard were appointed auditors of the Accounts of the Treasurer of the Canadian Congregational Missionary Society.

Dr. Wilkes read a communication from the Committee of the Colonial Missionary Society. Also, a paper, prepared by himself, on our Mission Work and Relations.

Session concluded with prayer.

2.30 P.M. After devotional exercises, Minutes of the morning session were read and confirmed.

Secretary presented a letter from Mr. E. A. Noble, which was referred to the Membership Committee.

The Union proceeded to elect the Missionary Committee by ballot. The nomination was confirmed.

The Rev. K. M. Fenwick read a paper on the History of our Missionary Society.

Dr. Wilkes, at the request of the Union, read a second time the letter from the Committee of the Colonial Missionary Society.

On recommendation of the Business Committee,

Resolved,—That the thanks of the Union be presented to Dr. Lillie for his valuable Address, as retiring Chairman; and that he be requested to allow its publication in the *Canadian Independent*.

A conference was then held on the relation between the Canadian Congregational Missionary Society and the Colonial Missionary Society. It was then

Resolved,—That having heard the communication of the Colonial Missionary Society, presented by Dr. Wilkes; also, the documents severally prepared by him and the Rev. K. M. Fenwick; we rejoice to find that there is so much agreement between the views entertained by the English brethren and those held by ourselves; and hereby desire the Rev. Messrs. W. Clarke, Ebbs, Marling, Reikie and Dr. Lillie to prepare a suitable reply to said communication, and report on Saturday morning.

The session was then closed with prayer by Rev. R. Robinson.

At 7.30 P.M. the Annual Missionary Meeting was held.

FRIDAY, June 14th, 1861.

9 A.M. After an hour spent in devotional exercises, conducted by the Rev. E. J. Sherrill, the Rev. R. K. Black delivered an address on the question, "Why have we not a Revival?"

The Roll was called. The Minutes of last session read and confirmed.

The Secretary conveyed the salutations of the pastor and delegates of the Church at Hamilton, with the request that the Union hold its next annual meeting in that city.

Resolved,—That the thanks of the Union be presented to the Rev. R. K. Black for his address on Revivals. Also, to the Rev. W. Clarke, for his sermon so kindly delivered, on short notice, before the Union, on Wednesday evening.

The Union then rose, to afford an opportunity for holding the Annual Meeting of the Subscribers to the Congregational College of British North America.

On the chair being resumed it was, on recommendation of the Business Committee,

Resolved,—That this Union, in view of the alarming prevalence of Intemperance and its attendant evils, renews its testimony in favor of Total Abstinence, in opposition to all customs, examples and legal enactments tending to uphold and encourage the use of intoxicating drinks as beverages, and the traffic in them as such.

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Resolved, therefore, — 1st. That it is of the highest importance and, in the opinion of this Union, the solemn duty of all ministers of the Gospel personally to act upon the principle of total abstinence, and in all suitable ways to discountenance the use of intoxicating drinks as beverages by all men, especially by members of Christian churches.

2nd. That we earnestly entreat parents and guardians, in view of their weighty responsibilities, to make total abstinence their own law, and the law of their households.

3rd. That it is, indeed, a brand of disgrace and subject for shame and sorrow, that an enlightened and Christian country like ours should, by law, patronize, sustain and protect the traffic, which entails upon its inhabitants miseries the most appalling, crimes the most fearful, and the ultimate destruction of the bodies and souls of mankind.

4th. That the signs of the times clearly indicate the desirableness of a deeper religious interest being taken by Christians of every name throughout the land in the cause of Temperance.

5th. That ministers be requested to preach on the subject on the third Sabbath in December.

Resolved,—That the first Sabbath in August be recommended as a day for simultaneous collections in behalf of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

Resolved,—That the Churches be recommended to observe the second Sabbath in November as a day of special prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our land. Also,

Resolved,—That the last Thursday in February be recommended as a day of special prayer for Colleges and Schools of Learning.

The Union rose, in order to enable the friends of the *Canadian Independent* to hold a conference: after which the Union resumed session, and closed with prayer.

2.30 P.M. After devotional exercises, the Minutes of last session were read and confirmed.

The Secretary of the Union read a letter from the Committee of the Congregational Union of Scotland, by the Rev. H. Wight; also a letter from the Rev. F. W. Cox, on behalf of the Congregational Union of South Australia; also from Rev. W. Ormiston, D.D., in behalf of the late United Presbyterian Synod of Canada; also a letter from the Rev. W. B. Hammond, in behalf of the General Association of New York; also from Rev. G. S. Hoyt, in behalf of the General Association of Michigan; also from Rev. B. G. Willey, in behalf of the General Conference of Maine; also a letter from Rev. Green Sawyer, in name of the Union Quarterly Conference of Freewill Baptists, inviting correspondence with that body. This last document was referred to the Business Committee; and subsequently, upon its report, to the Standing Committee of the Union, to be reported upon at next annual meeting.

The Rev. C. C. Cadwell, delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; and Rev. C. W. Torry, delegate from the General Conference of Ohio, addressed the meeting: whereupon,

Resolved,—That this Union welcomes with peculiar pleasure these first delegates from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin,

and Congregational Conference of Ohio, and trusts regular fraternal intercourse will hereafter be maintained: the Union would also take this opportunity of expressing its heartfelt sympathy with the friends of freedom and truth in the United States, in view of the civil strife occasioned by the encroachments of Slavery; and would record its testimony to the cordial and friendly feeling towards the Federal Government, in its present difficulties, which prevails everywhere on British soil—a feeling which we have been lately surprised and pained to see questioned among our neighbors. Our earnest prayers shall continue to ascend to the Lord of Hosts that the civil war, at present raging, may result in the utter extermination of the system of Slavery.

The Auditors of the Union Treasurer's Account report the accounts audited.

The Finance Committee reported *ad interim*. Report accepted and adopted; authorizing the payment of 75 per cent. of travelling expenses of minister and one delegate.

The session was closed with prayer.

SATURDAY, June 15th, 1861.

9 A.M. After an hour spent in devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. E. Barker, the Rev. J. Climie, gave an address on the subject of Revivals.

The Secretary of the Union read a Narrative of the State of Religion in the Churches, and a Statistical Summary.

The Minutes of the last session were read and confirmed.

The Rev. W. Ormiston, D.D., delegate from the late United Presbyterian Synod of Canada, being present, addressed the meeting.

Upon report of the Membership Committee, the Rev. Cyril Pearl, of Waterville, C. E., was admitted to the Union. Also, the following Churches, viz.: the Church at St. Andrews, or Thistle town; the Church at Ottawa; the Church at Bluevale, or Turnberry; the Church at Trafalgar; the Church at Osprey; the Church at Belleville. Also, on recommendation of the Membership Committee,

Resolved.—That the Union withdraw fellowship from the Rev. E. A. Noble, and that his name be erased from the list of members.

On recommendation of the Business Committee,

Resolved.—That the invitation of the Church in Hamilton to meet with them in 1862 be accepted.

Resolved.—That the thanks of this Union be presented to the friends at Kingston for their hospitable entertainment during our present meeting.

The Committee for preparing a draft of letter to the Colonial Missionary Society presented their report.

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The Union resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the subject of our connection with the Colonial Missionary Society. The Rev. A. J. Parker in the chair.

The Committee of the whole rose, and asked leave to sit again.

The session was concluded with prayer.

2.30 P.M. After devotional exercises, the Minutes were read and confirmed.

The Missionary Committee presented the following Report :

It would tend to greater simplicity and efficiency of action, on the field of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and to a more accurate estimate by the Colonial Missionary Society of what is done, and the cost of doing it in that field, if, instead of the present plan, the Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick should nominate a missionary committee and a home secretary for that region, who should carry into effect the resolves of our General Committee, and should transact interim business, corresponding directly with the Secretary-Treasurer. And further, if the Report from that field was prepared by its Committee, and its accounts kept separate from those of Canada—the separation both of report and financial statements from our own appearing in the published report. The Committee recommend to the Union the adoption of this change, which is in harmony with the expressed wishes of the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Report accepted and adopted.

Union went into Committee of the whole to consider the letter prepared in reply to the Colonial Missionary Society.

The Committee rose and reported, recommending the adoption of the letter; and that the thanks of the Union be presented to the Committee appointed to prepare the draft, especially the Rev. F. H. Marling.

The Report was adopted; and thereby a deputation to the Committee of the Colonial Missionary Society and the Churches of Britain was decided upon, consisting of Rev. Dr. Wilkes, Secretary-Treasurer of Canadian Congregational Missionary Society, and another brother yet to be chosen.

The Finance Committee presented a final Report, which was received and adopted; with thanks for their efficient services, especially those of W. R. Hibbard, Esq., Convener.

After devotional exercises, adjourned.

SABBATH, *June 16th*, 1861.

Met for Divine worship at 11 A.M. The Rev. A. J. Parker, according to previous appointment, preached a sermon. His text was 1 Timothy i. 12-17. Revds Professor Cornish, A.M., and E. Ebbs conducted the devotional exercises.

At 2.30 P.M., a service was held for the youth of the congregation. Addresses were delivered by Revds. W. Hay, J. Durrant, J. Wood, A. Burpee and W. F. Clarke.

At the evening service, the Rev. C. W. Torry, delegate from Ohio, preached from Job xv. 11: "Are the consolations of God small with thee?" Rev. H. Denny and Prof. A. Wickson, LL.D., assisted in the devotional exercises.

At the close, the Union, by invitation of the Kingston Church, participated with it in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, the pastor presiding.

MONDAY, June 17th, 1861.

At 8.30 A.M. met, and spent an hour and half in devotional exercises. Rev. D. McGregor in the chair.

The Rev. D. McCallum delivered an address on "Eminent Piety essential to Eminent Usefulness."

The Minutes were read and confirmed.

The Nomination Committee reported; whereupon the following appointments were made:

MISSIONARY DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

Western District:—Revds. W. Clarke, W. F. Clarke, E. Ebbs, W. Hay, D. McCallum; Messrs. W. Edgar, C. Whitlaw, F. F. Blackadder, E. Yeigh, J. Livingstone, and Rev. J. Wood, Secretary.

Middle District:—Revds. A. Lillie, D.D., A. Wickson, LL.D., F. H. Marling, T. M. Reikie, J. Unsworth, W. H. Allworth; Messrs. J. F. Marling, R. H. Smith, J. Fraser, D. Cash, and Rev. J. T. Byrne, Secretary.

Eastern District:—Revds. K. M. Fenwick, R. K. Black, J. Climie, W. Hayden, P. Shanks; Messrs. T. C. Field, B. B. Ross, J. Robertson, W. Massie, G. Hague, and Rev. A. Burpee, Secretary.

Lower Canada District:—Revds. H. Wilkes, D.D., G. Cornish, B.A.; Messrs. C. Alexander, A. Savage, W. Moodie, W. R. Hibbard, and J. Baylis, Secretary.

Eastern Townships Section of ditto:—Revds. D. Dunkerley, A. Duff, E. J. Sherrill; Messrs. S. A. Hurd, L. Tuck, P. Pomeroy, S. L. Hungerford, and Rev. A. Macdonald, Secretary.

Nova Scotia and New Brunswick District:—Revds. G. Ritchie, J. B. Smith, J. Howell, G. A. Rawson, G. Sterling; Messrs. — Hartshorn, J. Burton, T. B. C. Burpee, and Rev. R. Wilson, Secretary.

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DELEGATES TO CORRESPONDING BODIES.

To Canada Presbyterian Church:—Rev. W. Clarke, primary; Rev. T. M. Reikie, alternate.

To General Association of Massachusetts:—Rev. J. Climie, primary; Rev. J. Fraser, alternate.

To General Conference of Maine:—Rev. J. McKillican, primary; Rev. A. J. Parker, alternate.

To General Convention of Vermont:—Rev. A. Macdonald, primary; Rev. A. Duff, alternate.

To General Association of New York:—Rev. W. F. Clarke, primary; Rev. J. Wood, alternate.

To General Association of New Hampshire:—Rev. A. Burpee, primary; Rev. P. Shanks, alternate.

To Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin:—Rev. D. McCallum, primary; Rev. C. P. Watson, alternate.

To General Association of Michigan:—Rev. E. Ebbs, primary; Rev. R. G. Baird, alternate.

To Congregational Conference of Ohio:—Rev. W. Hay, primary; Rev. R. Hay, alternate.

To Congregational Union of Nova Scotia, &c.:—Rev. H. Wilkes, D.D., primary; Rev. K. M. Fenwick, alternate.

The Union proceeded to the election of a co-delegate with Dr. Wilkes to the Colonial Missionary Society and the Congregational Union of England and Wales. The Rev. F. H. Marling was unanimously chosen.

It being understood that the Rev. W. F. Clarke would be in England, upon his own personal business, about the time of the Autumnal Meeting of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, it was

Resolved,—That he be associated with the Revs. H. Wilkes, D.D., and F. H. Marling, as delegates to that body.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

Upon report of the Nominations Committee, the following appointments were made for the next annual meeting at Hamilton, June 11th, 1862.

Annual Sermon:—Rev. J. T. Byrne, primary; Rev. R. G. Baird, alternate.

Sabbath morning ditto:—Rev. Professor G. Cornish, B.A., primary; Rev. A. Burpee, alternate.

Secretary-Treasurer:—Rev. Edward Ebbs.

Committee of Union:—The original appointment, upon re-consideration, was withdrawn, and the following parties chosen, viz.: Revs. Thomas Pullar, W. F. Clarke, J. Wood; Messrs. W. Edgar, E. H. Potter and S. Hodgskin.

Upon report of the Business Committee, it was

Resolved,—That the raising of the requisite funds for sending the deputation to Britain be referred to the Committee of the Union; the delegates from Zion Church signifying that should Dr. Wilkes go, his people would provide for his expenses.

Also: That the Churches at Montreal and Toronto, whose pastors have been appointed on this deputation be respectfully and affectionately requested to consent, severally, to the absence of their pastor on this mission; and that the ministers present hereby cheerfully engage to assist in supplying their pulpits, thus temporarily vacant.

Also: *Resolved*,—That the Editor and Proprietors of the *Canadian Independent* be requested to add 8 or 16 pages to the July number of that magazine, at the expense of the Union, in order to allow of the publication of the letter from the Colonial Missionary Society, and our reply thereto; Dr. Wilkes' paper in relation to the Canadian Mission Work and its relations; and the Narrative of the State of Religion in the Churches, by the Secretary of the Union.

Also: That at our next annual assembly, a meeting be held on the Thursday evening, to receive the Secretary's Summary of Statistical Report and Narrative of the State of Religion; and to hear delegates from corresponding bodies.

Also: That the arrangements of the Secretary for daily addresses before the present meeting of the Union, immediately after the morning hour of prayer, be approved; and that he be requested to undertake a similar office next year.

Resolved,—That the thanks of this body be presented to the Grand Trunk Railway Company for their re-issue of half-price tickets to ministers of the Gospel.

Resolved,—That the Secretary be instructed to print the Statistical Report, and, with the assistance of the Minute Secretaries, to prepare an abstract of the Minutes of this meeting for publication.

Resolved,—That this Union re-affirms its former testimony on the University question, adding, in view of a recently announced Governmental proposal, that the new scheme is founded, no less than the one formerly before us, on the vicious principle of denominational grants, against which we can never cease to protest.

Resolved,—That this Union desires to express its satisfaction with the action of the Colonial Missionary Society, taken 25th October last, in requiring the immediate discontinuance of every form of separation between the white and the colored races, in the Mission Church of Victoria, Vancouver's Island.

A free conference was held on the Constitution of the Missionary Society, and the district divisions of the work; after which it was

Resolved,—That these questions be laid on the table, to be taken up next year.

The Rev. Joseph Hooper was heard on behalf of the Canada Indian Missionary Society.

After prayer by Rev. H. D. Powis, adjourned.

At 2.30 P.M. resumed session: opened by devotional exercises.

The Minutes were read and confirmed.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Revds. R. V. Hall, J. Fraser, E. Cleaveland, A.M., and H. Lancashire, stating, that, having

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removed from Canada, they may obtain letters of commendation to other bodies, and that failing to do so, their names will be dropped from the roll of members.

A conference was held respecting the Canada Indian Missions; when, by division, the following resolution was carried, viz. :

That this Union has heard with pleasure from Rev. J. Hooper the origin and progress of the Canada Indian Mission of Owen Sound, and commends this good work to the confidence and support of the churches.

The Treasurer of the Union presented a second report of finances, comprising the receipts, &c., up to the close of the present meeting.

Messrs. Mitchell and Massie were appointed auditors; upon whose report the Treasurer's second account was adopted, and ordered to be printed together with the first.

After prayer adjourned till closing service at 7.

At 7 P.M. a closing devotional service was held. The Rev. Joseph Elliott, Chairman of the Union, presided.

Rev. R. Wilson, delegate from the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, delivered an address; also Rev. E. Barker and Rev. J. Wood.

The Chairman, in closing, addressed a few words to the Kingston friends; to which the pastor responded.

The Minutes of the day's session were then read and confirmed.

Prayer was offered by Rev. R. Wilson, and the meeting adjourned to Hamilton, on the 11th June, 1862, at 4 P.M.

(Signed), JOSEPH ELLIOTT, *Chairman.*
EDWARD EBBS, *Secretary.*

B

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF STATE OF RELIGION IN CHURCHES.

"PATIENT CONTINUANCE IN WELL DOING,"

Which constitutes the *chief* material furnished in the reports, is not easily presented in graphic and legitimate force. A worthy pastor in the Backwoods of the North West, who regularly ministers to three congregations every Sabbath, alternating one of these engagements with a fourth station, gathering severally at the four services, 40, 60, 100 and 150 hearers, simply adds to his statistical report, "*Nothing remarkable to state.*"

Another, referring to old grievances, which, by forbearance and conciliation, are being gradually healed, rejoices over a few alienated friends happily restored. Another, speaks with encouragement of gaining ground in the confidence of the community; but adds, "Our progress is *up-hill* work! Our band is small; but, I believe, devoted. There can be no doubt that God will give us a blessing." Another devoted pastor, who has patiently toiled in the same field since his entrance upon the ministry, now more than eight years, and during the last two has, with his beloved people, been grievously straitened by commercial reverses, and removal of many valuable helpers; yet from honourable pride has rejected all proposals to make known his necessities to the Missionary Board, writes thus: "These temporal difficulties have affected injuriously, I fear, both pastor and people. They should have led us to God: but they have rather kept us from Him. Still there are, and have been, during the whole year, many earnest souls constantly crying, 'How long, Lord?' And some of them not only earnest, but *believing* and *hoping*. We are altogether more hopeful than we were: congregations are improving, and so is the attendance on weekly means. 'Faint: yet pursuing!' may be taken for our motto, if you please."

The pastor of another church says: "The past hath been a cold season with us. The congregations continue good; but spiritual, *intense* love to Jesus Christ scarcely visible. I am longing for birth-pangs in myself and the church. I know that Christ can and will attend to His own business. I (like a childish busy-body) am trying to climb up where He keeps His secrets, to see what this cold winter means; and I get no help from Him in that direction. Only He says, '*Preach the Word: be instant in season and out of season:* and what thou knowest not now, thou shalt know hereafter.' I wish I had good manners enough to do what He tells me, and ask no questions! Christ has kept me within doors for four weeks past; first with intermittent fever, then diptheria, and now the weakness of infancy."

Our good brother's last remark suggests numerous other references to serious

IMPEDIMENTS.

The pastors of Eramosa and Innisfil have also suffered serious interruptions from loss of health. The former, speaking of his three months' absence on this account, says his people tried to keep up the services, but broke down. "Where," he asks, "are our lay preachers?" The same brother also mentions a *small chapel debt* as a troublesome incubus;

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more difficult to wipe off than a larger amount. Also, the non-attendance of the members at church meetings; caused, as he thinks, in great measure, by the unbusiness-like manner of conducting them. Our excellent pioneer missionary to Colpoy's Bay (now called Albemarle and Amabel) laments the difficulty in the way of weekly social gatherings arising from the excessively hard labor required in subduing the forest wilds.

In other fields the chief obstacle deplored is the unavoidable necessity for the division of the pastor's labors between several distant places, much to the detriment of the cause.

Several refer to the extensive migration of the people, as a severe trial to feeble churches. One has lost by removal five entire families, besides several individuals; and another reports in the last two years, no less than thirty-six dismissals granted, besides fifteen members absent; while the additions during the same period amount only to ten!

One reveals weakness of principle, or of heart, in the retention of the names of several on the church roll, who are only nominally members; while nothing in the report indicates spiritual progress: and this, a church not long since preëminently favoured with the manifestations of Divine power and grace. As an off-set, however, another and a much feebler church reports having experienced a gracious reviving, after a season of severe trial, resulting in the expulsion of two members under circumstances the most painful. "During those troubles," says the pastor, "our congregation was small, and our prospects very dark. Of late, however, we have been much encouraged; our congregation has increased, and is now, at times, larger than at any period since my settlement here. At our last church meeting we added four."

Several reports give prominence to the baneful effect of sectarian aggression; seven or eight denominations forcing themselves into villages and sparse settlements where even two could not be self-supported. For instance, a missionary pastor, who has occupied his present field since 1829, says: "There has been no very unusual movement among us, except that other denominations are planting themselves in our village, and are working with zeal to secure adherents and members. The Episcopalians are here with a house in course of completion; Wesleyan Methodists have lately finished and opened a new house; Presbyterians promise to begin soon; and the Baptists are laboring on our borders. Adventists have a house, and every few months have a preacher from abroad and a protracted meeting. The number of denominations in these country places, tends to divide the strength, weakens the bands which ought to combine, and makes it difficult to avoid entirely sectarian controversy."

One other impediment mentioned deserves passing notice. The pastor of an eastern church says: "A number among the young manifested much seriousness for a while; under the word and in private converse; but sad to say, the impressions so made were dissipated by an increasing rage for wild and fashionable amusements. Dancing in particular, received beyond a doubt a fresh impetus from the evident gratification taken by the Prince of Wales in that diversion, and the countenance given to it, on the occasion of his visit, by members of Christian bodies in Montreal. In my opinion, some action of the Union, condemnatory of the practice, is very desirable."

SPIRITUAL PROSPERITY.

Evidences of this are quite apparent in many of the returns, notwithstanding the entire absence of what are commonly called "Revivals."

For instance, at *Stanstead South*, "A marked improvement has taken place in the spiritual condition of the church during the last year. A prayer meeting was commenced in October, which was continued every evening for three months. It was indeed a season of blessing. Much anxiety was felt for unconverted friends and relatives, and earnest prayer offered in their behalf. Several cases of deep impression occurred, of which two resulted in finding the Saviour." *Belleville* (after sad dissensions in former years) has had a year of perfect peace, much comfort, and hearty coöperation. Four Sabbath services are conducted in the town and suburbs, at one of which the pastor is relieved by a lay preacher. *Cobourg* manifests fresh vigour, larger attendance at week-night services, and an efficient Sabbath school. At *Cold Springs* the venerable father who for sixteen years has continued to minister in word and doctrine, reports attendance remarkably good; youthful hearers numerous, and apparently deeply interested. At a rural station, three miles from *Eramosa*, devotional services have been held for a length of time in a private house, and were still kept up while the pastor was absent on a three month's tour on account of his health. A most serious feeling prevailed; and three who were there brought to Christ now stand proposed to the *Eramosa* church. Others are still enquiring; while, alas, some of whom hopes were cherished, have gone back to their former vain conversation. The pastor of the *Scotland* church speaks of the past year as giving occasion for deep thankfulness, affording a sense of security and steadfastness. This brother has inspired his people with somewhat of his own spirit of steadfastness and resolute perseverance. He has labored among them nearly fourteen years; has a church gathered chiefly from the world, now numbering 98, with a congregation of 200, and a Sabbath School of 109, in a little village of but few inhabitants. The church at *Burford*, under the same pastor, is also in most efficient state. *Guelph* enjoys spiritual prosperity, as the following paragraph from its worthy pastor fully shows. "Though we have no startling revival incidents to chronicle, there have been some of the most substantial tokens of the Spirit's power in our midst, such as may well incite us to thank God and take courage. Brotherly love has reigned without a discordant jar. The spirit of prayer has in some degree prevailed, and has been especially evinced in the attendance at the weekly prayer meeting. The 'word' has in some pleasing cases been with power. Among others, we have to record a very pleasing conversion from Popery; a young woman whose 'good confession' stirred much thankfulness and praise in our hearts. The congregation has steadily increased, compelling the provision of additional accommodation. This has been furnished by the erection of galleries, containing about 110 sittings."

The year's experience at *Kingston* has been one of progress. The church has enjoyed perfect peace. The pastor expresses himself greatly encouraged by the spiritual tone, and generally healthy condition of those in church fellowship. There are two Sabbath schools; both in a prosperous condition. The weekly lecture has been very encouraging. The lecture room has been quite full. There is an interesting prayer meeting of the young people on Sabbath morning, an hour before the public service; and during the week the laborious and faithful pastor has three promising Bible classes. He says moreover: "The appointment by the Union of a day for special prayer for the out-pouring of the Spirit, was an occasion of much good. We set apart the whole week (Saturday excepted), and so largely were the meetings attended, that these special services were continued for five or six weeks. The Master was with us,

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and several striking instances of answers to prayer were granted us. There were few among the young people but were deeply impressed, and some of them have been hopefully brought to the Saviour." Sixteen were added to the church during the year, upon profession.

Several other spots in the garden of the Lord, where we might linger with profit and delight, must be passed over, as your time forbids further extension of this part of the sketch. One other report we must give *entire*, for its every item is sufficiently important; and for brevity, distinctness, and comprehensiveness it is a *beautiful model*.

"The leading points to be noted are—

"1. Peace and unity in the church.

"2. Much enlarged congregation.

"3. An apparently deep interest in the services of the sanctuary.

"4. Good attendance at prayer meetings.

"5. A blessed work among the young; nearly all those received by profession (20 in number) are of this class; many of them children of members.

"6. Very encouraging young people's prayer meetings—sexes separate—conducted by themselves.

"7. The severe trial of the pastor, in the protracted illness and death of his wife, seems to have been blessed to the church.

"8. Most encouraging liberality in giving."

I need not add that this report is from the pastor of Zion Church, Montreal.

INTERESTING INSTANCES OF CONVERSION

Are recorded in more than a dozen of the returns. One brother, in addition to his rejoicing over individuals of his congregation and bible class, has the special delight of seeing his two sons, aged 17 and 15, "walking in the truth," and the younger devoting himself, in purpose, to the Gospel ministry. Several interesting cases of *youthful* consecration to Christ are noted. One report mentions two remarkable instances. Another says that a boy belonging to the Sunday school was recently called to pass through the dark valley of death; and in the trying hour expressed his faith and hope in Jesus in such a manner as afforded the full conviction that the sting had been removed.

Pastors' Bible Classes appear to have been specially blessed with the convincing and converting influences of the Holy Spirit. All who mention such classes as having been conducted, do so with expressions of confident rejoicing, that the seed thus sown is bringing forth fruits to the glory of God. In one instance, an excessively irreligious man of wide influence for evil, has given striking evidence of becoming a new creature in Christ Jesus. An elderly lady, educated as a Universalist, and wholly associated until lately with parties of the same views, has renounced her long cherished objections and opposition to the Gospel, and has actually been born when she is *old*. In Owen Sound and in the 2nd Church, Toronto, frequent admissions have occurred upon profession; and the pastor of the latter church states that several anxious enquirers are at present seeking his private instruction and help. The converting grace of the Spirit has evidently been more generally poured out upon the hearers in our congregations than in either of the two previous years.

MATERIAL IMPROVEMENTS.

At Melbourne, C. E., though without a pastor, the church has been painted and otherwise renewed. At Eramosa, and Georgetown, the grounds have been improved, and in the latter case large sheds built.

At Guelph, galleries, and at Paris a spacious and well-furnished lecture room, have been added. New churches have been or are being erected at Macville (Albion), Manilla (Brock), Molesworth, and Ospring (Erin); and in each case the *people* in the several localities have cheerfully contributed nearly, if not quite, the requisite amounts. Funds are also being raised for new chapels at Kelvin, and at one of the stations of the Plympton church.

FINANCIAL EXPERIENCES.

One pastor reports that his people give little, for they do not think their minister needs much if any help! Another renews the testimony he has annually had the pleasure of bearing to the pecuniary fidelity of his people. An apprehended deficiency was entirely removed by anonymous donations on successive Sabbaths of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$30, \$40. An increase of \$100 has been voted to his salary. Many acts of generous kindness are also done to him from time to time. "Those that are taught in the word" at the 2nd Church, Toronto, "communicate to him that teacheth in all things." Their funds are raised on the Divine plan of "weekly offerings." The Guelph church has recently adopted it also. The pastor says: "Our experience thus far convincingly proves the wisdom and efficiency of this the Divine method of *regular* and *systematic* giving." The same plan has long been effectively worked in Zion Church, Montreal; and the financial statement shews the following amounts raised by that congregation during the past year:

For local purposes.....	\$5,444
For denominational <i>home</i> work.....	946
For foreign missions.....	1,574
For sundry catholic religious objects.....	1,824
	\$9,788

NEW GROUND.

Some progress has been made in occupying new missionary fields. At *Blue Vale* a church has been organized, resulting in great measure from the arduous evangelistic labors of Rev. R. McGregor, of Listowel. At *Meaford* a church has been formed, and both these infant causes are for the present supplied by students from the college, during their six months' recess. In connection with the latter church, are three regular preaching stations, where congregations of 100, 90, and 50 are severally gathered. At the lovely and romantic village of Magog, C. E., a mission has lately been commenced, but no church as yet formed.

DESTITUTE CHURCHES.

We are sorry to have to add that Melbourne, C. E., Eden Mills, Hawkesbury, Vankleek Hill, Roxboro' and Martintown, C. W., have been, excepting the last named place, destitute of the preached word. Port Hope has no prospect of continuing to enjoy the privilege. Perhaps if the good example of the Melbourne church, which although without an under shepherd, keeps up regularly a prayer meeting, at which from 20 to 30 habitually attend, were followed at Port Hope, they might worthily sustain their good name.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

The Rev. W. F. Clarke's settlement at Guelph is thus referred to by himself: "At the commencement of the year now reported, this church was without a pastor, and had no immediate prospect of obtaining one. By an unexpected providence, they were ere long supplied with a

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shepherd, and a union of the most cordial and harmonious character formed between them." The Rev. W. H. Allworth has removed from the united churches of Barton and Glanford, to Markham and Stouffville, which are united once more under one pastor. Speaking of this arrangement, our brother remarks "Stouffville needs now a resident minister. Their out stations cannot be dropped without inflicting an injury on the church. But so it must be! Pickering is dropped!"

The Rev. J. T. Pattison, has become Mr. McDonald's colleague in the Stanstead field.

Rev. A. Burpee has withdrawn from his engagement with the Port Hope church, at the request of the Cobourg friends, to whom he will henceforth devote his whole time, and the church become self-supporting.

Rev. R. Robinson, and Rev. E. Barker have severally resigned their pastoral charges, at Stratford, and Eramosa and Ospringe: thus leaving three important churches destitute of under shepherds.

GENERAL SOCIAL INTERESTS.

Our churches and pastors take their full share, in proportion to their numbers, in all the social movements of the times; though it must be confessed that much of their force runs to waste for want of more combination and concentration. On the *educational work* of our country, it is believed that the brethren are entirely of one purpose, if not perfectly of one mind as to the theory. Several reports allude to the increasing interest felt in the secular as well as religious education of the masses.

On the *Temperance Reform* our pastors are for the most part, well known to be thoroughly committed. The absence of all reference to this important reformation in most of the reports, arises, in all probability, from this fact. It is to be hoped, however, that the silence in the reports, does not indicate a corresponding silence in the pulpit, the popular assembly, and daily intercourse with the world. One report alludes to an interesting "Band of Hope" having been organized by the pastor in September, in connection with the Sabbath school, which now numbers 76 young recruits for the Temperance ranks. Their meetings are conducted, as much as possible, by themselves, the pastor prompting and encouraging. These meetings have been quite enthusiastic. Another suggestion is furnished by the same report, viz., the desirableness of pastors being furnished with a *pocket pledge book*, to be used as opportunity may present in their daily intercourse with their flock, and society in general. An instance is named, of twenty-one pledges being obtained in this manner by the officiating minister at one wedding.

AGENCIES AND MEASURES.

One report makes emphatic reference to the valuable services of lay preachers, enabling the pastor to maintain a fourth Sabbath appointment, being thus relieved at one of the four in rotation.

Another pastor specially commends the fellowship meeting, which he has found to be a very valuable nursery for enquirers; and one of the best means of promoting love, grounding in the truth, and cultivating the gifts of the brethren. His fellowship meetings are chiefly conducted by the private members, the pastor attending only once a month. The exercises consist of prayer and praise, with conversation on Bible truth and Christian experience.

EDWARD EBES,

Secretary of C. U. of C.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDING 5TH MAY.

Seventy-four returns have been made, up to this day 10th June. The number embodied in last year's report was 62. Some of the 12 additional returns of this table, are from churches that failed to make any in the previous year; while several new churches have reported themselves for the first time in the present table: such are Magog, C. E (church not yet organized), Blue-vale, Drummondville (coloured), and Meaford, C. W.

Of these 74 churches, 60 have been provided with stated pastoral ministrations throughout, or at least during the latter part of the year. Twelve of these pastors have charge of two churches each.

They regularly occupy 132 preaching stations, conducting 327 weekly services.

Under the heading of adherents, thirteen of the 74 made no return. Of the 61 returns, the aggregate number of adherents is 10,645; and of average attendants at the principal service of regular preaching-places, 10,079.

The membership of 73 reported churches is 3,424, of whom 1,368 are males, and 2,056 females. Of these 289 are absent from fellowship.

Two hundred and twelve have been added to 42 of the reported churches, upon profession, and 100, to 32 churches, by letters of transfer. In all 48 churches have received 312 additions; while 25 have had no additions.

Thirty-two deaths are reported, among whom are two wives of Pastors. One hundred and twenty-one letters of dismission have been given, and thirty-two have been removed from fellowship, by church discipline. In all 185 removals. The net increase of members is 150.

Fifty churches report 65 Sabbath schools in connection with them; in which 511 teachers are engaged in the instruction of 4,087 scholars. Doubtless most of the 24 churches not reporting any, are engaged in Union Schools connected with no denomination.

With regard to church property, 45 reports state that there is no change. Two have reduced chapel debts. Five new churches have been erected, or are now in the course of erection; while another reports galleries added; another, a vestry built; and two mention the erection of chapel sheds. Only 19 have insurances on the church buildings.

CONTRIBUTIONS REPORTED.

67 Churches for Local Purposes.....	\$28,070
61 " for Home Denominational.....	4,268
19 " for Foreign Missions.....	1,902
25 " for General Catholic Objects.....	2,497
Total reported.....	<u>\$36,737</u>

COMPARATIVE VIEW.

On comparison of the last two Annual Tables it appears that 12 more returns have been made, 62 churches having reported themselves last year, and 74 this year. This is the largest number ever collected. Fourteen more preaching stations, and *one hundred and twenty-three more weekly services* are reported. The number of adherents is 1,354 in excess of last year; and of hearers, 1,090 more.

Four hundred and seventy more members are reported. The additions by profession are remarkably similar in the two tables, being 211 last

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year, and 212 this year. The total additions are 23 more than in the previous year. There have been eight more deaths; 24 in previous report, 32 in this. The dismissals each year have been exactly equal, 121. Removals by discipline, and purging of rolls, were 54 last year, and only 32 this year. The aggregate removals have been 14 less. The net increase of the previous report was 90; this year it is 150.

In the Sabbath Schools, the number of teachers is increased by 24; and scholars by 190.

The reported contributions for local objects, pastors' salaries included, are \$4,543, in excess of previous returns. For Denominational Home work, \$754 less. For Foreign Missions, \$721 more. For general catholic objects, \$445 more. Total, \$4,955 more than last year.

EDWARD EBBS,
Secretary C. U. of C.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES OF CANADA, To 5th May, 1861.

NAME OF CHURCH.	Date of Organization	No. of Pastors.	NAME OF MINISTER.	Date of present settlement.	No. of Stations	No. of Adherents.	No. at Chief Ser.	MEMBERSHIP.			ADDED BY			REMOVED BY			SABBATH SCHOOLS.			CONTRIBUTIONS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
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CANADA EAST.																																											Brome	1844	4	Archibald Juff	1841	3	65	40	9	18	3	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	2	15	592	74	5	20	601	Cowansville	1855	3	Do.	1828	3	130	60	10	28	3	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	7	45	40	15	45	490	Danville	1832	1	Ammi James Parker	1828	3	405	125	48	74	122	8	5	7	4	1	0	0	5	27	185	330	40	15	45	490	Durham	1837	1	David Dunkerley	1823	3	250	100	15	31	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	60	12	20	0	14	43	Eaton	1835	1	Edwin J. Sherrill	1838	1	190	94	19	41	63	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	22	155	58	34	50	507	Fitch Bay	1859	1	I. P. Adams	1854	5	75	11	16	27	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	17	0	0	117	Granby	1841	2	G. E. Bucher	1855	2	400	100	25	36	61	0	3	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	450	24	4	0	479	Magog (Mission)	No	ch	Levi Loring (Missionary)	1861	3	Melbourne	1837	5	Vacant	1832	3	100	80	14	20	34	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	220	Montréal "Zion"	1832	2	Henry Wilkes, D.D.	1832	3	800	650	114	302	19	20	23	43	5	12	4	21	2	50	450	5441	946	1574	1824	9788	Potter	1840	5	L. P. Adams (see above)	1853	1	250	200	22	44	66	3	4	1	5	2	0	0	2	1	9	600	69	0	0	1150	Quebec	1840	5	Henry Dingle Powis	1853	3	100	70	25	14	39	...	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	6	30	174	34	0	6	214	St. Andrews	1840	4	Alexander Sim, M.A.	1854	3	180	130	23	43	66	5	1	4	5	2	3	0	5	1	5	25	39	0	6	674	Stanstead South	1856	...	Alexander Macdonald	1858	6	99	Warwick, Little	1857	1	A. J. Parker (see Danville)	...	1	60	60	6	9	15	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	30	41	0	0	4	45	CANADA WEST.																																														Albion	1845	1	Joseph Wheeler	1839	2	350	200	30	59	10	0	2	2	1	0	0	1	2	15	140	546	84	0	0	630	Alton	1839	4	Student supplies (R. Lew is)	...	1	200	150	18	29	47	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	...	200	20	0	0	220	Amabel & Albemarle	1858	2	Ludwick Kribs	1842	2	110	50	7	11	18	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	Barton & Glanford	1856	2	Vacant (occasional supplies)	...	1	100	80	20	42	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	7	86	40	50	12	102	Belleville	1839	1	John Clinie	1839	3	200	100	6	24	30	1	6	2	8	0	0	0	1	5	35	460	136	50	0	645	Bluevale	1860	...	Student supplies (J. Brown)	...	3	Bothwell	1857	1	William Clarke	1830	2	25	60	4	6	10	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	35	Bowmanville	1839	3	Thomas M. Reikie	1845	1	140	100	18	27	45	3	2	0	2	1	14	0	15	1	7	50	114	488	Brantford	1831	4	John Wood	1853	1	276	130	35	54	89	15	3	6	0	12	0	12	1	18	140	850	125	1020
Brome	1844	4	Archibald Juff	1841	3	65	40	9	18	3	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	2	15	592	74	5	20	601																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
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Eaton	1835	1	Edwin J. Sherrill	1838	1	190	94	19	41	63	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	22	155	58	34	50	507																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
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Belleville	1839	1	John Clinie	1839	3	200	100	6	24	30	1	6	2	8	0	0	0	1	5	35	460	136	50	0	645																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Bluevale	1860	...	Student supplies (J. Brown)	...	3																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
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Bowmanville	1839	3	Thomas M. Reikie	1845	1	140	100	18	27	45	3	2	0	2	1	14	0	15	1	7	50	114	488																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Brantford	1831	4	John Wood	1853	1	276	130	35	54	89	15	3	6	0	12	0	12	1	18	140	850	125	1020																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															

Brock	...	2	Dougald McGregor
Burford	1839	4	Wm. Hay (see Scotland)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Caledon, South	1858	...	Student supplies (R. Lew is)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Caledon, North	1838	2	Joseph Unsworth	1853	2	100	70	15	38	53	0	4	1	5	2	0	0	2	1	8	375	140	0	0	515	

The Churches at Manningville and Stanstead North in C. E., and Brockville, Hillsburgh, Toronto 1st, and Vankleek Hill, C. W., have not been heard from.
 EDWARD EBBS, Secretary.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT No. 1.
Dr. THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF CANADA IN ACCOUNT WITH EDWARD EBBS, TREASURER. Cr.

	1860.	1861.		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1860. June 16	456 67	June 13	By Cash in Treasury, brought forward.....	22 97	12 60
" 19	7 50	" 16	" Collections from Churches, paid to Finance Com- mittee, viz.:	15 43	15 43
	12 00		Cowanville, \$3 10; Danville, \$6 50	125 00	125 00
	2 27		Durham, \$2; Eaton, \$4; Fitch Bay, \$4 93; Franklin, \$4 50	10 00	10 00
	3 50		Granby, \$5; Inverness, \$3 50; Melbourn, \$4	9 03	9 03
	2 38		Montreal Zion Church, \$112; Quebec, \$13	24 25	24 25
	2 25		Sherbrooke, \$8; Stanstead South, \$2 25	17 10	17 10
December 31 1861.	0 63		Albion, \$5 (see &c.); Alton, \$5	26 07	26 07
	1 87		Barton and Glanford, \$4; Belleville, \$5 03 (see &c.)	10 00	10 00
	4 00		Bowmanville, \$6 25; Brantford, \$11; Brock, \$7	14 10	14 10
	1 21		Burford, \$9; Caledon S., \$3 10; Cobourg, \$9; Cold Spr., \$4	12 08	12 08
June	2 70		Eden Mills, \$3; Eramosa, \$4; Georgetown, \$4	29 95	29 95
"	0 48		Guelph, \$5; Hamilton, \$8 50; Kelvin, \$1; Kingston, \$11 57	10 80	10 80
	7 00		Lanark, \$3; Lanark Village, \$3; Listowel, \$4	14 00	14 00
	0 75		London, \$8 10; Markham, \$5; New Durham, \$1	93 04	93 04
	0 75		Newmarket, \$7 08; Ottawa, \$2; Owen Sound, \$3	0 75	0 75
	0 75		Paris, \$10; Pine Grove, \$3 76; Sarnia, \$4; Scotland, \$6 25	7 00	7 00
	0 75		Southwold, \$2; Stouffville, \$6 30; Stratford, \$2 60	0 29	0 29
	0 75		Simcoe(Dr. Clarke), \$1; Toronto 2d Ch., \$7; Dr. Wickson, \$2	\$505 21	\$505 21
	0 75		Thamesville, \$2; Trafalgar, \$3; Warwick, \$9 75; White- by, \$3 25	14 00	14 00
	0 75		By extra contributions from few friends in Zion Church, Montreal	93 04	93 04
	0 75		" Cash to Treasurer on account of cab-hire to Victoria Bridge	0 75	0 75
	0 75		" Do. do. by Rev. W. Hayden, overpaid expenses (See &c.)	7 00	7 00
	0 75		Balance due Treasurer	0 29	0 29
	0 75			\$505 21	\$505 21

Audited and found correct.
 W. R. HIBBARD,
 ROBT. THOMPSON.
 Kingston, June 13, 1861.

EDWARD EBBS, Treasurer.
 Paris, C. W., June 6th, 1861.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, No. 2.

Dr. THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF CANADA IN ACCOUNT WITH EDWARD EBBS, TREASURER. Cr.

1861.		1861.		By collections from Churches, viz.:		\$ cts.		\$ cts.	
June 6...		June 15...							
To Balance due Treasurer, per last account.....		\$	6 29	Alton, \$1.50; Burford, \$1.....			5 50		
Messrs. Maclear & Co.'s account, two years Minutes.....			50 75	Bowmanville, \$0.05; Brock, \$7; Brantford, \$10.....			23 05		
J. Lovell's account, Express and Postages on Triple Reports.....			3 01	Barton, \$2; Belleville, \$10; Cobourg, \$2.50; Caledon, \$1.50.....			16 00		
75 per cent of travelling expenses of Ministers and Delegates.....			255 22	Danville, \$5.50; Eramosa, \$3; Eaton, \$4; Granby, \$2.....			14 50		
Balance in Treasury.....			31 92	Guelph, \$8; Garfraxa, \$4.50; Hamilton, \$10.....			22 50		
				Kelvin, \$1; Kingston, \$12.67; Lanark, \$3.35; Do. Village, \$2.....			19 02		
				Listowel, \$6; London, \$6.60; Montreal, \$90.15.....			102 75		
				Markham, \$2.50; Martintown, \$6.50; Owen Sound, \$6.....			15 00		
				Ottawa City, \$5.27; Paris, \$14; Quebec, \$13; Scotland, \$7.50.....			39 77		
				Stratford, \$2.45; Sarnia, \$4.25; Southwold, \$6.....			12 70		
				Stouffville, \$4.50; Trafalgar, \$2.05; Toronto, Second Ch., \$7.....			13 55		
				Turnbury, \$1.20; Whitby, \$3.70; Warwick, \$5; Little do., \$1.....			10 90		
				Vaughan, \$3.70; Dresden, \$2; Anon, \$4.10; Dr. Wickson, \$1.....			10 80		
				By Patrick Freeland, Esq., sale of five Chapel Deeds.....			306 04		
				By collections from Churches subsequently received, viz.:			15 00		
				Albion, \$5; Cold Springs, \$3; Georgetown, \$4; Inverness, \$3;					
				Markham, \$5; Stanstead, \$6.75.....			26 75		
							\$347 79		

Audited and found correct,

EDWARD EBBS,
Treasurer.

Kingston, 17th June, 5 P. M., 1861.

WM. MASSIE,
C. T. MITCHEL.

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LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE COLONIAL
MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Bloomfield Street, May 21, 1861.

*To the Ministers and others composing the Canadian Congregational Union and
Missionary Society, in their Annual Assembly.*

DEAR BRETHREN,—Before entering on the subject on which we are about to address you, we beg to offer you our sincere and fraternal greeting, and to assure you of the deep interest we feel in your personal and social welfare. It is our earnest prayer that in all your meetings, at this your annual gathering, you may realize the presence of our divine Lord and Master, and be guided in every matter that may be brought under your notice to such decisions as will advance the prosperity of the Churches, and tend to the glory of God, whose servants you and we profess to be. We cannot contemplate the history of Congregationalism in your Province without discovering much cause for devout thankfulness. It is in Canada that some of the earliest efforts of our Society were put forth; and although there may be some things to lament, there are, we think, more to encourage, and, we will add, none that may not by faith and prayer be remedied if wrong, or be strengthened if weak. May your present assembly prove a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and, when you return to your respective spheres of labor, may it be under a holy impetus, promoting you to increased diligence in seeking to bring souls to the Saviour, and so to build up our Zion in every part of your land.

We fear the letter we addressed to you last year, on the renewal of the grants in aid of those stations assisted from the funds of our Society, has been somewhat mistaken. It was not our intention to refuse pecuniary aid to such Churches as were really progressing, though their advance was slower than either you or we could desire. But there were some that did not appear to us to be making any progress at all; and we imagined, where this was the case, it would be better to relinquish such stations, and strengthen others of greater promise. We were led to look back to the records of the Society, in order to ascertain the amount of grants in aid for several years, and the following is the result of such an examination. In the year ending May, 1857, the gross amount of assistance was £1530 6s., less your Missionary collections £720 4s., the difference £810 2s. being the amount contributed by British funds. The following year the total was £1618 6s. 3d., less your collections £820 3s. 3d., our portion therefore being £798 3s. The year 1859, the total reached £1,892 19s. 5d., your collections being £802 12s. 6d., leaving the increased amount from our resources to be £1090 6s. 11d. And for the year 1860, the gross amount was £1898 5s., your collections being only £758 16s. 7., leaving the still larger sum supplied by us to be £1139 8s. 5d. This was no doubt occasioned *partly* by the adoption of some new stations, which at the commencement were of necessity somewhat expensive, as Ottawa for instance. Still it led to a careful examination of the stations, as given in your annual statistics, when we found some that had been receiving grants for 15 and even 20 years, and it awakened a fear lest these grants were operating like an endowment, and preventing in some instances those advances towards self-sustentation which it is at once the duty and privilege of the Churches to make. A writer in your *Canadian Independent*, signing himself "E," whilst arguing the matter very temperately, says, "The connection has hitherto proved highly satisfactory the Canadian Churches and Pastors." We are encouraged by such

a testimony, as it has ever been the study of the Committee that it should be so. And you may rest assured, dear brethren, that there will be no abatement in the affection we cherish for you, or the effort we put forth on your behalf. Your correspondent "E" judiciously argues against returning to the former arrangement. We have no wish that you should, as we are thoroughly convinced it would be productive of immense or even insuperable difficulties, hazarding the very existence of not a few of your Churches. Your correspondent most justly remarks, "There is quite as much danger of the Colonial Missionary Society's subsidy degenerating into an edowment incubus, in its influence on *contributors*, as upon recipients of aid." This is the very thing we fear; and if it be a fact that your stronger churches were better able to double their contributions than the weaker to make up the 20 per cent, that in every case might be deducted, and that your "prosperous farmers could double and quadruple their contributions with advantage to themselves," we put it to you, dear brethren, whether there is not some ground to justify us in bringing this matter under your serious consideration. Receive once more our assurance that it is not our wish to deprive any of our beloved missionary brethren of the slightest comfort they enjoy. We admire and thank God for the zeal and self-denial they practice; and we far rather add to the amount they receive, could we feel it right to do so, and the state of our funds would allow it, than abstract a single dollar from any of the grants proposed. Whilst our proposition is to lessen the grants to Churches that have for so long a period been on our list, there is a proviso that "special cause may be shown," in any given case, why such a diminution should not be made. It may be therefore that such Churches as are situated in your Eastern Province, surrounded by Popish influences, and exposed thereby to difficulties not easily surmounted, may be exceptional cases—especially as by removing the brethren from such stations the only light that shines there would be followed by total darkness. We ask you then, dear brethren, calmly, prayerfully to consider the whole question. It is one which regards the prosperity of the cause which is dear alike to you and to us. The glory of God, the extension of the kingdom of Christ, the salvation of souls, are involved in it. In seeking these objects, objects which alone are worth living for, we have hitherto worked harmoniously together. We have nothing else in view in the proposition before you. If you can devise a better method of procedure for the future, let us know, and it shall receive our maturest consideration. We desire nothing but the good of the churches, the comfort of our brethren, and the promotion of the great object for which our much loved Society lives and labors.

We are aware of some of the difficulties with which you have to struggle, especially the noble stand you make for the purity of communion, which no doubt in some instances is a hindrance to your progress. But this is the grand feature of our ecclesiastical system, which must never be lost sight of. The addition of a few dollars to the income of a Church would be a poor compensation for the admission to membership of those who give no evidence that they are truly converted to God. We admit that some allowance must be made on this ground. Then it is also said that the tendency in your population to migrate from east to west weakens your churches in the former. This we can easily suppose may be the case, and might in some measure account for the continued feebleness of some of the Churches in that part of your country. But, as it appears to us, whilst this migration weakens the cause in the east, it might be expected to strengthen it in the west, which your statistics do not show that it does.

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But dear brethern, we forbear entering further on the subject, and would leave it in your hands, not doubting that you will give it that consideration which its great importance demands. It is our desire and prayer that the "wisdom which is profitable to direct" may be vouchsafed to you; and, by looking to the only source from which that wisdom can be derived, we cannot but express our hopeful confidence that both you and we will be guided aright, and that such an arrangement will be devised as will be satisfactory to all the parties concerned.

Allow us, in conclusion, again to assure you of our sincere Christian affection and our earnest prayers that a plentiful effusion of divine influence may be poured upon Pastors and Churches throughout the land, that so the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified. We subscribe ourselves, in the name and on behalf of the Committee.

Yours in the faith and fellowship of the gospel,

JAMES SPICER, *Treasurer.*

THOMAS JAMES, *Secretary.*

REPLY OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION TO THE COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Kingston, C. W., June 15, 1861.

To the Committee of the Colonial Missionary Society.

DEAR BRETHREN,—The members of the Congregational Union of Canada, acting also for those of the Canadian Congregational Missionary Society, assembled for their annual meetings, have received with deep interest your communication to them of the 21st of May. Be assured that we most cordially reciprocate the fraternal sentiments it contains. We never think of your Society but with lively gratitude for its signal services, during the past quarter of a century, in the planting and watering of Congregational churches in Canada. We need no assurance that you have the prosperity of our cause thoroughly at heart. With all the candour inspired by these feelings, and by your oft-repeated declarations of confidence in ourselves, we now proceed to take up the important questions on which you have addressed us.

We are very glad to find that your present communication relieves us of much of the uneasy sensation produced by some expressions in your letters of the 4th September and 6th December last, to our Missionary Committee. You are already aware that brethren here were startled at the peremptory tone in which it was announced that the Sliding Scale "must be adopted for the future;" and this while we occupied, as distinctly agreed, not an auxiliary, but a co-ordinate position in respect to you.

With regard to the sliding scale itself, we cannot too emphatically state that the opinion of those who are on the field is unanimously and most decidedly adverse to it. It has been weighed in the balances and found wanting. Its very name is suggestive of the most dismal recollections. It would extend this letter to too great a length, were we to enter minutely into the reasons of this universal conviction. But amongst us it is so strong, that if you still feel it incumbent upon you to insist upon it in relation to your contribution to the Canadian work, we shall have to consider the question of a dissolution of our existing missionary partnership, and a reversion to the former separate mode of operation. This alternative you deprecate—we should do so with tenfold urgency.

It is due to you also to state that the announcement of such a policy has, to an alarming extent, unsettled the minds of several of our most valued and successful missionaries, whose cases would come under the operation of the new rule. Nothing could more clearly demonstrate to our minds the unsoundness of the principle, than the effect produced on such men, labouring in spheres spiritually hopeful, but pecuniarily dependent.

The painful feeling prevailing among us has been heightened by the recollection of the hindrances to our Indian Mission work found in your Constitution. While, of course, we leave the provisions of that instrument entirely to the judgment of our English brethren, our own missionary constitution is framed on the principle that we can make no distinctions of race or colour in preaching the gospel to every creature within our field; and it is felt that there is no valid reason arising out of our connection with you, why we should be under the necessity of forming separate organizations, involving so much additional labour and expense, for objects which beforehand we pursued under one.

You will, we are sure, pardon the further suggestion, that we feel our combined operations embarrassed by the facts, that the circumstances of the colony are so utterly different from those of the mother country, and that you are unavoidably so entirely deprived of the advantage of local and personal acquaintance with the cases of application. Reverse the positions, and imagine English Home Missionaries placed under a Canadian Board, and you will realize our case exactly. This difficulty we know is felt, as it has been often expressed, by yourselves.

In dwelling upon the danger that missionary grants, long continued, may degenerate into virtual endowments, we think you cannot have given due weight to the precautions we take against any such result, viz., the requirements of annual application, the fresh examination of each case before a grant is renewed, the frequent reduction of the aid given, the urgency with which each church is plied by letter and in person with regard to self-support, and the cutting off of such as are deemed too weak to live. We are satisfied that if you could once witness in person the administration of the missionary grants by our Committee, any impressions as to slackness in this matter would be effectually dispelled. Such is the influence of the continual pressure exercised upon our missionary pastors, that they regard dependence on our aid as a heavy burden and grievous to be borne, and hail the cessation of it as an emancipation from the house of bondage. Some of them urge their people to call themselves "self-sustaining" too soon, supplementing the deficiency by new personal labours or privations. It is the earnest desire of us all, pastors and churches, individually and as a denomination, to be as speedily as possible independent of all aid from Britain.

To us, however, it is abundantly evident—and we are certain that were you on the ground you would see it as clearly—that there will be churches in Canada, which Christ would have preserved, unable to come up to the point of independence in the five or ten years you propose to assign as the term of assistance. And although you would allow of exceptional cases, we have no doubt that the right course is to leave the question unfettered by any exact rule, each case being dealt with on its own merits, in the spirit we have just described.

Do not let the fact of recently increased demands from this quarter lead you into a condemnation of plans that, on the whole, have wrought so well. You seem to have overlooked the increased number of labourers in these more costly years. Examining the figures you quote by this test, the following results appear: In 1857, 33 missionaries were aided, at the

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average amount of £46; in 1858, 36 at £44, in 1859, 40 at £47; and in 1860, 45 at £42. For the last two years the expenditure in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have been included in our accounts. Brethren from that district testify that more work is done there than formerly, while, as you know your outlay is far less. Let the higher drafts you refer to, then, be credited to the vigorous expansion of the work, not to a faulty method of administration. On the other hand, our appropriations for this year will be considerably less than those of 1860. Three churches have declared themselves independent of further aid, and several others apply for diminished grants.

Since you refer officially to the opinions of "E.," published in the *Canadian Independent*, allow us to remind you that these were the views of an individual, whose correctness was disputed by another correspondent of the Magazine, "K. M. F.," in the following number. In estimating the ability and disposition of our friends, in respect to subscription, regard must be had to the habits of the surrounding community. Our statistics show an ascertained contribution of £2 6s. sterling per member. Does not this compare favourably with English liberality?

In regard to losses by emigration from the East not increasing the Western churches, we may explain, that by "the West" we mean an area of many thousands of square miles, including all the Western States of the American Union. Our migrating members are lost to us in this wide expanse.

A word as to the comparisons that have frequently been drawn between the progress of our churches and those of the sister colonies in Australasia. Independently of the mineral resources of those territories, the indubitable fact is, however accounted for, that a much larger proportion of emigrants of the middle class—in which, we need not tell you, the strength of our denomination is found—has proceeded thither than in our direction. Those colonies are younger than ours. Congregationalism (here a late arrival) took early and deep root in them; it has been strengthened by continual additions from the mother country; and if it be stronger than with us, the difference is thus to be explained. We rejoice, without a particle of envy, in the prosperity of our brethren at the antipodes. But let not their more favoured condition be an argument against our need!

Having thus noticed the chief points of your letter referring to the past, we now advert to its request for suggestions in relation to the future.

Some propose that you should annually grant a sum of money—the amount to be fixed by yourselves—for the work in British North America, leaving the several appropriations to be made by our Missionary Committee, without further reference to you.

Others, again, would prefer a continuance of our present system, hoping that, the power of initiating all grants being exercised on our part with all possible fidelity, and that of revision on yours in your wonted fraternal and suggestive style, we may be able to carry on the work with mutual satisfaction.

A modification has been suggested of this character: that appropriations be made definitely by our Committee, at the beginning of each year, and reported in detail to you—your comments thereon coming under the consideration of the Committee for the following year. By this course, the uncertainty in which missionary brethren are kept for three months of every year, till your opinion on the schedule arrives, would be prevented. From this plan, however, new stations could be exempted, as agreed with you at the beginning.

We do not here indicate a decisive preference for either of these plans, or enter upon a full discussion of them; because we are taking steps to adjust our future arrangements in "a more excellent way." We have long felt that we have suffered comparatively in your regard, for the lack of personal bonds of connection with our brethren in Britain. We are, mostly, unknown to you by face. Our ministry is largely of Canadian origin and education, while nearly every pastor in the other colonies is from the fatherland. They not seldom visit you again. You know them better—it would not be wonderful if you loved them more. Now, in order to remove this disability of ours, as far as may be, and come to a full understanding on all matters of mutual concern, we propose shortly to send to you the Secretary-Treasurer of our Missions, beloved and honored equally by you and by us, together with one of our younger brethren, a former student of our own College, the Rev. F. H. Marling, who, face to face, can, better than by pen and ink, let you know our affairs and how we do. We know how heartily you will welcome these our messengers, and we earnestly hope and pray that in free conference every difficult question may be so adjusted that we may work together for many happy years in promoting Christ's cause in British North America.

Signed in the name and on behalf of the Congregational Union of Canada.

J. ELLIOT, *Chairman.*
EDWARD EBBS, *Secretary.*

LETTER FROM CONG. UNION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, January 22, 1861.

To the Congregational Union of Canada.

BELOVED BROTHERS,—Your fraternal epistle, dated April, 1860, came duly to hand in August last, and gave great joy to the brethren forming the Congregational body in this Province, when read in the Executive Committee, and at the public meeting of the Union. I am sorry to say that the reports to which you refer have never reached this place; which failure, however, will not discourage us from sending to you various documents connected with South Australian affairs.

Allow me to give you some information on points in which you appear to be interested, but seeking further knowledge. Victoria, the sister colony, has a Congregational Union and Home Mission in one organization, but very recently called into existence, and of which, I think, the Rev. W. B. Landells, of Collingwood, is the Secretary. Tasmania has a similar organization, and the Rev. J. Nisbet, of Newtown, holds the office of Secretary. Western Australia has no organization. I am ignorant of the state of things in New South Wales, and the youngest of Britain's offspring in Australasia. Queensland is as yet too young, I presume, not being a year old, to have formed such an union. We have in this colony a Congregational Union and a Home Missionary Society; the former fraternal, confessional, and embodying the sense of the churches for extra-colonial action; the latter chiefly to raise funds for grants to weak churches throughout the colony, and to bring into efficient action lay service for the neighborhood of the capital. Each society has a district official staff. The following are our most recent statistics:—Population 120,000. Congregational ministers 28, of whom four are

unattached. Places of worship 49; being chapels 28, rooms, halls, &c., where worship is regularly maintained, 21. Sittings 6,873. Attendance 4,265. Membership 858. Sunday scholars 1,865, taught by 249 teachers. Many of our places are very small and feeble, and necessarily so, for the people are few and sparse. We perceive, brethren, by your letter, that you labor under some false impression as to our state, for you predicate certain great things of our contributions to the cause of our Great Master, *because of our golden treasures*. We are quite innocent of gold in this colony, except in a coined or manufactured state; unless indeed we could give the name of a gold-field to a small patch of auriferous soil employing a score or two of people. Our adopted land is one to which the description of the Jewish legislator will apply with singular correctness, "For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates, a land of oil, olives and honey, a land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, and thou shalt not lack anything in it, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig copper." We live under as free a constitution probably as exists in the world, and in which all state aid to religion has been abolished long ago, mainly under the able leadership of the Rev. T. Q. Stow, who still labors in word and deed in our midst.

Education is aided by a Parliamentary grant of £16,000 for the current year, which is distributed to schools on certain conditions, such as, that there be so many scholars in attendance; that there be no other government school within a certain distance; that the school be favourably reported of by a government inspector as to teachers qualifications, school-house, &c.; that the Bible, either authorized or Douay, be read daily, but not used as a school-book; that children whose parents object may be absent during such reading, &c. &c. Hitherto the system has worked with some degree of efficiency, notwithstanding some theoretic inconsistencies, but on the arrival of a new Roman Catholic Bishop a pastoral was issued by him denouncing the system, and declaring that nothing less than the handing over a fair proportion of the grant (about £2000) into his hands for exclusively Catholic use would satisfy him. We have, however, such confidence that the state-aid question is thoroughly settled here, that we do not fear his success in the slightest degree.

We have no regular agency for training ministers in this colony. Our esteemed friend, Mr. Stow, once gave instruction to three young men, who are now laboring usefully in the rural districts, and we contemplate the renewal of elementary instruction to pious young men to occupy country posts. Our dependence has been hitherto, with the exception above named, on England, and by the agency of the Rev. J. L. Poore, thirteen ministers have been introduced into the colony during the last three and a half years, of whom nine remain with us.

As to the state of religion among us, we have, as probably the people of God always have had, to mourn over a low state of piety and to cry before God "My leanness, my leanness, wo unto me." We have, as probably have all colonial churches, to mourn over colonial laxity. But still we should be ungrateful to God were we not to acknowledge a measure of his favor to the churches of our land in the general attention to religious worship, respect for religious character, and support for religious ordinances—truths sufficiently attested by the maintenance of one hundred and thirty-nine ministers of religion (besides a considerable body of lay preachers) among 120,000 people.

We have had delight and profit in uniting with the Christian world in the "week of prayer," and have had gatherings in the city of a most

gratifying character during the week from January 6th to 13th, in which, notwithstanding the severity of the heat, our largest chapels were nightly crowded. Our prayer is, and yea our trust too, that it will please the Great Father of all, through his Son Jesus Christ, to pour out his Holy Spirit on all flesh—to revive his work among the churches, so that waste places may be restored and the languishing revived—that ministers may live nearer to Christ as the source of their strength—that men of business may show all good fidelity—that households may be better trained for Christ—that sinners may be converted, and in short that our Divine Redeemer may speedily see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied, in the arrival of that promised period when all human tongues from pole to pole shall unite with angels above in rendering "Blessing, and honor, and glory, and praise, and power to him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, forever."

May these blessings be both to you, brethren, and to us.

In the name of the Union, by the authority of the last half-yearly meeting,

I beg to subscribe myself,

Your's in the Lord,

F. W. Cox,

Hon. Sec. Con. Un. S. A.

P. S.—The Rev. Mr. Hay, from your colony, paid us a passing visit towards the end of last year, and after tarrying a few days proceeded to Victoria and thence to Tasmania. We trust his coming to this hemisphere is of the Lord.

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LIST OF MINISTERS ASSOCIATED, WITH THEIR POST OFFICE ADDRESS.

Adams, L. P., Fitch Bay, C. E.	Kribbs, L., Albemarle, C. W.
Allworth, W. H., Markham, C. W.	Lillie, Adam, (D.D.) Toronto, C. W.
Armour, John, Kelvin, C. W.	Marling F. H., Toronto, C. W.
Baird, Robert G., Sarnia, C. W.	McCallum, D., Warwick, C. W.
Baker, Thomas, Newmarket, C. W.	McDonald, A., Stanstead South, C. E.
Barker, Enoch.	McGregor, Dougald, Manilla, C. W.
Black, Robert K., Lanark, C. W.	McGregor, Robert, Listowell, C. W.
Bucher, G. B., Granby, C. E.	McKillican, John, Martintown, C. W.
Burgess, William.	McKinnon, Neil, Kincardine, C. W.
Burpee, Archibald, Cobourg, C. W.	McLean, John, Erin, C. W.
Byrne, J. T., Whithy, C. W.	Parker, A. J., Danville, C. E.
Campbell, John, Athol, C. W.	Pearl, Cyril, Waterville, C. E.
Clarke, William, Dresden, C. W.	Powis, Henry D., Quebec, C. E.
Clarke, W. F., Guelph, C. W.	Pullar, Thomas, Hamilton, C. W.
Climie, John, Belleville, C. W.	Raymond, Ari, Bell Ewart, C. W.
Cornish, G., (B. A.) Montreal, C. E.	Reikie, T. M., Bowmanville, C. W.
Denny, Hiram, Trafalgar, C. W.	*Robertson, James, Sherbrooke, C. E.
Duff, Archibald, Cowansville C. E.	Robinson, Robert, Dresden, C. W.
Dunkerly, D., Durham, C. E.	Shanks, P., Lanark Village, C. W.
Durrant, John, Stratford, C. W.	Sherrill, E. J., Eaton, C. E.
Ebbs, Edward, Paris, C. W.	Sim, Alex., (A.M.) St. Andrew's C. E.
Elliot, Joseph, Ottawa City, C. W.	Unsworth, J., Georgetown, C. W.
Fenwick, K. M., Kingston, C. W.	Watson, Charles P., London, C. W.
Hay, Robert, Woodbridge, C. W.	Wheeler, Joseph, Albion, C. W.
Hay, William, Scotland, C. W.	Wickson, A., (LL.D.) Toronto, C. W.
Hayden, William, Coldsprings, C. W.	Wilkes, H., (D.D.) Montreal, C. E.
Hooper, Joseph, Owen Sound, C. W.	Wilson, H., St. Catharines, C. W.
King, S., Ryckman's Corners, C. W.	Wood, John, Brantford, C. W.

* Since deceased.

LIST OF ASSOCIATED CHURCHES.

Abbotsford, C. E.	Granby, C. E.	Osprey, C. W.
Albion, C. W.	Guelph, C. W.	Ottawa, C. W.
Barton & Glanford, C. W.	Hamilton, C. W.	Owen Sound, C. W.
Belleville, C. W.	Hawkesbury, C. W.	Paris, C. W.
Bothwell, C. W.	Hillsburg, C. W.	Philipsburgh, C. E.
Brantford, C. W.	Indian Lands, C. W.	Port Sarnia, C. W.
Brock, C. W.	Inverness, C. E.	Quebec, C. E.
Brockville, C. W.	Innisfil, C. W.	Russeltown, C. E.
Broome, C. E.	Kelvin, C. W.	Scotland, C. W.
Bowmanville, C. W.	Kingston, C. W.	Sherbrooke, C. E.
Burford, C. W.	Lanark, 1st. Ch. C. W.	Springford, C. W.
Caledon, C. W.	Lanark Village, C. W.	Southwold, C. W.
Caledon South, C. W.	Listowell, C. W.	Stanstead South, C. E.
Cobourg, C. W.	Little Warwick, C. E.	Stratford, C. W.
Cold Springs, C. W.	London, C. W.	Stouffville, C. W.
Danville, C. E.	Markham, C. W.	St. Andrews, C. E.
Durham, C. E.	Melbourne, C. E.	Thistletown, C. W.
Eaton, C. E.	Martintown, C. W.	Toronto, 2nd Ch., C. W.
Eden Mills, C. W.	Montreal, 1st Ch., C. E.	Trafalgar, C. W.
Eramosa, C. W.	Montreal, 2d Ch., C. E.	Turnbury, C. W.
Erin, C. W.	Newcastle, C. W.	Vaughan, C. W.
Garafraxa, C. W.	Newmarket, C. W.	Warwick, C. W.
Georgetown, C. W.	Oro, C. W.	Whitly, C. W.

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Congregational Union of
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Minutes of the seventh annual
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