

R

M A N U A L

OF THE

B R O A D W A Y

C O N G R E G A T I O N A L C H U R C H ,

OF

N O R W I C H , C O N N . ,

C O N T A I N I N G

A B R I E F H I S T O R Y O F T H E C H U R C H , I T S R U L E S ,
A R T I C L E S O F F A I T H , C O V E N A N T A N D
C A T A L O G U E ,

T O G E T H E R W I T H

A S T A T E M E N T O F S O M E O F T H E L E A D I N G P R I N C I -
P L E S O F C O N G R E G A T I O N A L I S M .

1864.

N O R W I C H :

B U L L E T I N J O B P R I N T I N G O F F I C E , F R A N K L I N S Q U A R E .

1864.

R

M. A. N. U. A. J.

ROADWAY

CONGRESSIONAL

38705

DOWN OR DOWN

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND SENATE

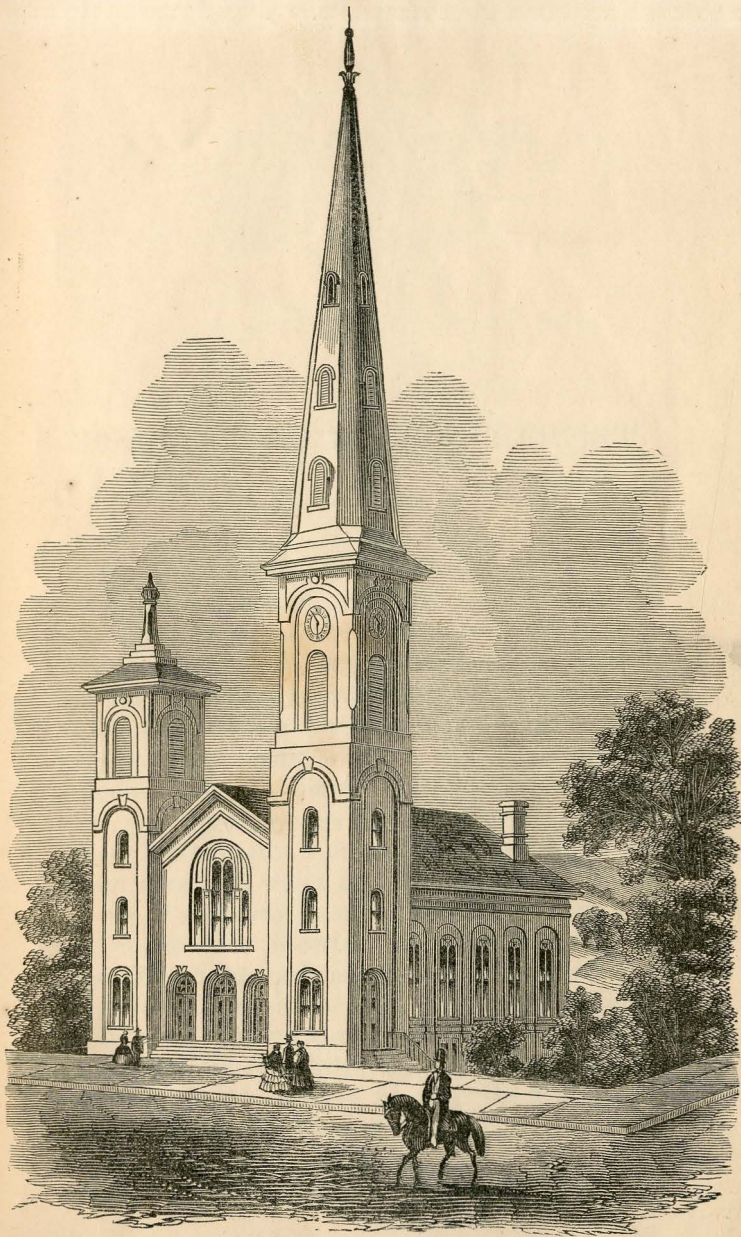
OF THE LEADING PRINCIPALS
OF THE CONSTITUTION

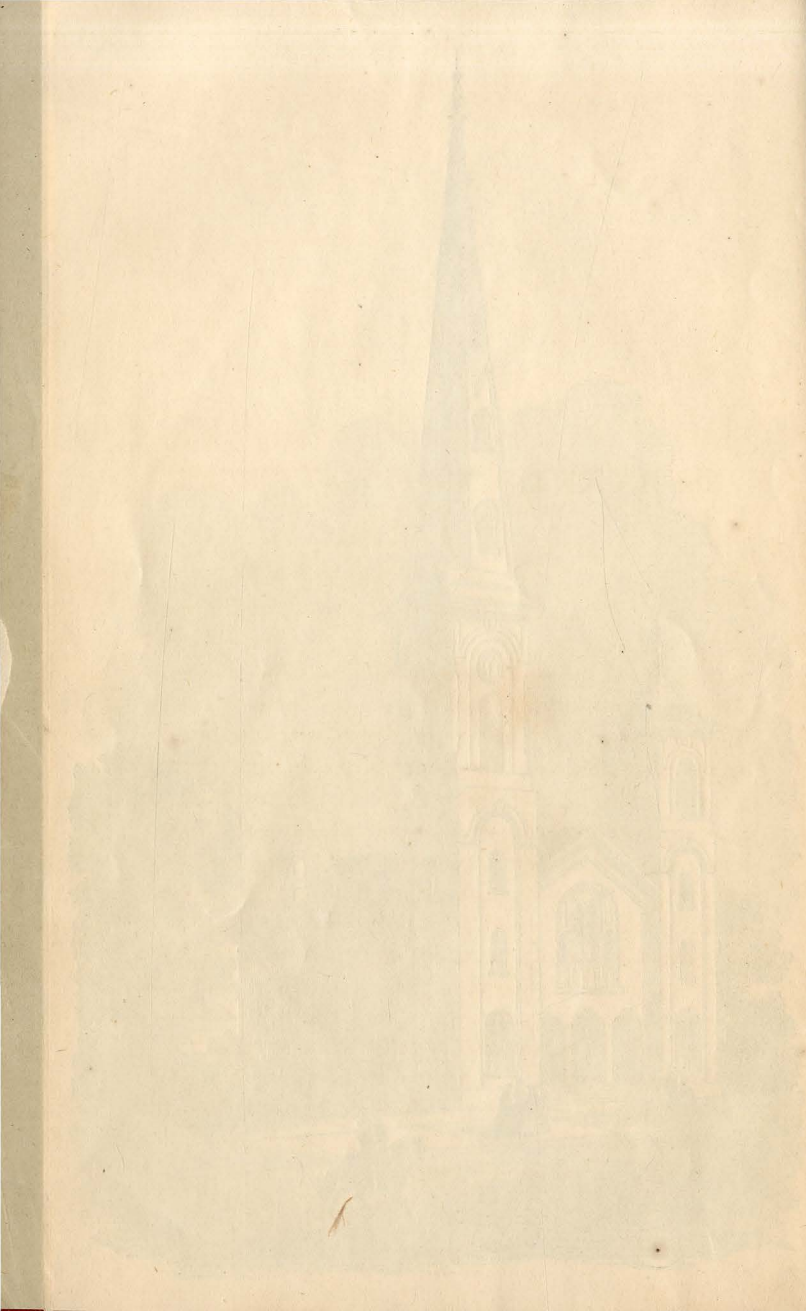


CONGRESS

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1800





HISTORY OF THE BROADWAY CHURCH.

As early as the year 1834, the house of the Second Congregational Society, (the only one of our denomination in this part of the town), was filled to overflowing. Investigations were made which revealed the fact that a very large number of the inhabitants of the city were entirely deprived of an opportunity to attend upon public worship. The importance of providing enlarged church accommodations, in some form, was urged by the Pastor and others, and was generally admitted. Numerous meetings for consultation were held, which resulted in January, 1838, in the call of a Society meeting, at which a committee was appointed to ascertain what families were disposed to associate in forming a new Church, and what funds could be raised for the erection of a new house of worship. Efforts were also made to secure a site for the new Church, with the expectation that the building would be erected by the entire Society, before a separation should take place.

These consultations and efforts, extending through a series of years, finally resulted, in January, 1842, in the withdrawal of a portion of the congregation to the Town Hall, where they established public worship.

On the 1st of June, 1842, the Church was organized, under the title of the "Fifth Congregational Church," with one hundred and twelve members.

On the 31st of August following, Rev. WILLARD CHILD was installed as Pastor.

In 1844, the present House of Worship was commenced, and was dedicated on the 1st day of October, 1845.

Mr. CHILD asked, and received dismissal, in August, 1845.

Rev. JOHN P. GULLIVER was ordained and installed, October 1, 1846.

By a vote passed April 9, 1847, the name of the Church was changed to MAIN STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

On Sunday evening, Sept. 17th, 1854, the House of Worship on Main Street, was destroyed by fire.

During nearly two years following, the congregation worshipped in the Town Hall.

On the 13th of October, 1857, the present church edifice, on Broadway, was dedicated.

By a vote passed subsequently, the name of the Church was again changed to BROADWAY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

In January, 1863, the following officers were appointed for the term of three years:

Deacons:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| WM. A. BUCKINGHAM, | BENJAMIN W. TOMPKINS, |
| LEWIS EDWARDS, | JEDEDIAH LEAVENS. |

Treasurer:

WILLIAM A. BUCKINGHAM.

Clerk:

AMOS W. PRENTICE.

Standing Committee for the year 1864:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| JOHN P. GULLIVER, | WILLIAM A. BUCKINGHAM, |
| BENJAMIN W. TOMPKINS, | LEWIS EDWARDS, |
| JEDEDIAH LEAVENS, | AMOS W. PRENTICE, |
| GEORGE H. MARTIN, | SIMON R. PARLIN, |
| | HENRY BILL. |

RULES OF BROADWAY CHURCH.

[ADOPTED AUG. 26, 1850.]

1. The Church shall hold an annual meeting for the transaction of business, at such time in the month of January, as the Standing Committee shall appoint.

2. The Pastor, the Deacons, the Clerk of the Church, and three brethren, to be chosen by ballot, at the annual meeting, shall together constitute the Standing Committee of the Church.

3. The Clerk of the Church shall act as Clerk of the Standing Committee.

4. The Deacons, the Treasurer and the Clerk shall hold their respective offices for the term of three years. [Adopted Aug. 26, 1845.]

5. Members of this Church who remove from among us, shall be expected to take letters of dismission, within one year from the date of their removal, unless satisfactory reasons for the omission of such a step be presented to the Standing Committee.

6. Members of other Churches, who shall have communed with us for one year, will be expected to present letters of dismission from the Church to which they belong, unless satisfactory reasons for the omission of such a step be presented to the Standing Committee.

7. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a record of the names of those who habitually commune with us, who have not united themselves with the Church; and it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee affectionately to urge upon such, the importance to themselves, to this Church, and to the Church to which they belong, of the transfer of their Church relations.

8. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a record of the names of those members of the Church who are absent from among us; and it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee

to correspond with such persons, and to procure, if possible, a transfer of their Church relations.

9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to report at the annual meeting the number of members in the Church, on the first day of January; the number of additions, dismissions and deaths during the year; the number habitually communing with us who are not members of the Church; the number and names of non-resident members of the Church, the places of their residence, so far as may be known; the length of time they may have been absent; with any other information he may possess, in relation to them, and which he may think will be useful to the Church.

10. Those who are to be admitted to the Church by profession, shall be examined, as to their doctrinal sentiments and personal piety, by the Standing Committee, and shall be publicly propounded at least one fortnight previous to their admission.

11. Those who unite with the Church by letter, shall be examined, by the Pastor or Standing Committee, as to their doctrinal sentiments and personal piety; their letters of recommendation shall be read to the Church, in connection with the public services of the Sabbath, and they shall be received, at the celebration of the Lord's Supper, by the use of the Form of Welcome, printed on the eighth page of this Manual.

12. In case of a vacancy in the Pastoral office, or of the temporary absence of the Pastor, it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee, unless a special committee be appointed by the Church for the purpose, to supply the pulpit, on such pecuniary terms as the Society or the Society's Committee shall direct. Adopted Jan. 28th, 1864.

FORM OF WELCOME,

TO BE USED IN RECEIVING THOSE WHO UNITE
BY LETTER.

After the reading of the names of the candidates, and of the churches by which they are recommended, the following invitation is given :

INVITATION.

Those whose names have now been read, are requested to rise, in their places, and accept a welcome to our communion.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

BELOVED IN THE LORD : Peace be unto you !
As a Church of Christ, in the name of our common Lord, we bid you welcome. In this public and solemn manner we recognise you as our kinsmen in Christ ; as members of that great family, which in heaven and on earth bears the name of our Saviour. As by this act you do now solemnly unite yourselves with this Church, as a particular Church of Christ, engaging to labor with us, to pray for us, and

to walk with us in the love and fellowship of the gospel: so we, on our part,

[Here the Members of the Church rise.]

do now cordially receive you to our communion, and declare you entitled to all its privileges. We receive you to our confidence and affection, as the disciples of Christ, and we engage to watch over you, to sympathize with you, and to labor for your edification, so long as you shall continue with us.

May the Lord enable us to be faithful unto death, and at last permit us to unite with that general assembly and Church of the first-born which shall be redeemed out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation. And the praise of our salvation shall be rendered unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood.

To Him be glory and dominion, forever and ever. Amen.

FORM OF ADMISSION,

TO BE USED IN RECEIVING THOSE WHO UNITE
BY PROFESSION.

BELOVED FRIENDS: You have presented yourselves before God, and his people, and the world, to make a solemn profession of your religious faith, and to take upon you the bonds of the everlasting Covenant. We trust you have well considered the nature of this transaction—the most solemn and momentous in which a mortal can ever engage, and that you are prepared, by divine grace, to present yourselves a living sacrifice, holy, and acceptable unto God through Jesus Christ.

Having examined and assented to the Articles of Faith adopted by this Church, you will now profess the same before these witnesses.*

* All candidates for admission to the church, whether by letter or profession, should carefully examine these articles of faith, together with the proof-texts upon which they are founded. If in any particular there is confusion or doubt concerning them, the candidate should seek counsel of the Pastor, or of a Sabbath school teacher, or of some other competent person. So solemn an avowal should be preceded by careful deliberation and study.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

ARTICLE I.

You, who now present yourselves before God, and this assembly, profess your belief in the existence of the one only living and true God, three persons in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; the same in substance, and equal in power and glory; who is possessed of all possible perfection, and divine excellence; the Creator and Preserver of all things, as he has revealed himself in the Holy Scriptures.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. Deut. 6: 4, 5.

I am the Lord, and there is none else; there is no God beside me. Isaiah 45: 5.

Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well; the devils also believe and tremble. James 2: 19.

I am the Lord; that is my name; and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. Isaiah, 42: 8.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things were made by him. John 1: 1, 2.

When he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. Heb. 1: 6.

Thus saith the Lord, Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. Jer. 17: 5-7.

Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him. Psalm 2: 12.

But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. Acts 5: 3, 4.

Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Matt. 28: 19.

Thou, even thou art Lord alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that are therein, and thou preserveth them all, and the host of heaven worshipeth thee. Nehemiah, 9: 6.

ARTICLE II.

You believe the writings of the Old and New Testaments to be the word of God, a perfect rule of Faith and practice, and able to make us wise unto salvation, through faith in Christ Jesus.

We have also a more sure word of prophecy, whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts: knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. II Peter 1: 19-21.

Continue thou in the things which thou hast learned, and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; and that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. II Tim. 3: 14-17.

Search the Scriptures: for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me. John 5: 39.

ARTICLE III.

You believe, that by transgression, all man-

kind have fallen from their original righteousness and communion with God, and so are become dead in trespasses and sins, and are justly liable to his wrath and displeasure forever.

And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof and did eat; and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat. And they heard the voice of the Lord God, walking in the garden in the cool of the day; and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. Gen. 2 : 16, 17, and 3 : 6-8.

God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions. Eccl. 7 : 29.

By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. Romans 5 : 12.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh: and that which is born of the Spirit, is spirit. John 3 : 6.

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulation, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things, shall not inherit the kingdom of God; but the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law. Gal. 5 : 19-23.

So then they that are in the flesh, cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if so be that the spirit of God dwell in you. Rom. 8 : 8, 9.

Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Marvel not that I said unto thee, ye must be born again. John 3 : 3-7.

What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? II Cor. 6 : 14, 15.

ARTICLE IV.

You believe that the Lord Jesus, by his me-

diation and death, has made atonement for the sins of the world: and that by the effectual call of God's free and sovereign grace alone, through the quickening, renewing and sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit, are any restored to spiritual life, become partakers of the faith of the Gospel, and entitled to its special ordinances.

Without shedding of blood is no remission. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, IT IS FINISHED; and he bowed his head and gave up the ghost. John 19 : 30.

And he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. I John 2 : 2.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy, hath begotten us again unto a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. I Peter 1 : 3-5.

Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world. John 1 : 29.

You hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins. Eph. 2 : 1.

By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them. Now, in Christ Jesus, ye who sometimes were afar off, are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building fitly framed together, groweth into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the spirit. Eph. 2 : 8-10, and 19-22.

If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. II Cor. 5 : 17.

Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation (judgment) to himself, not

discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. I Cor. 11 : 28-30.

Examine yourselves whether ye be in faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Christ Jesus is in you, except ye be reprobates. II Cor. 13 : 5.

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? Ye cannot drink of the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table and the table of devils. I Cor. 10 : 16-21.

Then shall ye begin to say, we have eaten and drunken in thy presence and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not, whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out. Luke 13 : 26-28.

Lord thou knowest all things, thou knowest that I love thee. John 21 : 17.

ARTICLE V.

You believe that faith without works is dead, and that these are to be done continually, in obedience to God's commandments, as fruits and evidences, whereby we do glorify God, edify the brethren, and adorn the profession of the Gospel; and thereby testify, that without holiness no man shall see the Lord.

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. John 15 : 14.

Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Luke 6 : 46.

In Christ Jesus, neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but a new creature. Gal. 6 : 15.

As the body, without the spirit, is dead; so faith without works is dead also. Show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works. James 2 : 26-28.

Be ye therefore followers of God as dear children. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord; walk as children of light; (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness, and truth;) proving what is acceptable unto the

Lord, and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. Eph. 5 : 1, 8-12.

Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you and will be a father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. II Cor. 6 : 17, 18.

Bring forth, therefore, fruits meet for repentance. Matt. 3 : 8.

Ye are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matt. 5 : 14-16.

He that endureth to the end shall be saved. Matt. 10 : 22.

Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Matt. 24 : 46.

I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot; I would thou wert cold or hot. So, then, because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Rev. 3 : 15, 16.

And now also the axe is laid at the root of the tree: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Matt. 3 : 10.

ARTICLE VI.

You believe that God hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ, and whereby he will magnify the glory of his mercy in the salvation of the elect, and of his justice in the eternal condemnation of the finally impenitent.

God now commandeth all men every where to repent: because he hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness, by that man whom he hath ordained, whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. Acts 17 : 30, 31.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. II Cor. 5 : 10.

Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner, but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable. Luke 3 : 17.

When the Son of man shall come in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory.

And before him shall be gathered all nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats. And he shall set the sheep on his right hand; but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Then shall he say also to them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal. Matt. 25 : 31-46.

And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie. Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. II Thes. 2 : 11-14.

All this you profess and believe?

—You will now enter into solemn Covenant with God and this Church.

COVENANT.

In the presence of God, his holy Angels and this Assembly, you now solemnly avow the Lord Jehovah, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to be your God—the object of your supreme affection, and your portion forever; you cordially acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ in all his mediatorial offices—Prophet, Priest and King—as your only Saviour; and the Holy Spirit, as your Sanctifier, Comforter, and Guide. You humbly and cheerfully devote yourselves to God, in the everlasting Covenant of his grace; you consecrate all your powers and faculties to his service and glory; and you promise that, through the assistance of his Spirit, you will cleave to him as your chief good; that you will give diligent attention to his Word and Ordinances; that you will seek the honor and interest of his kingdom; and that, henceforth, denying ungodliness and every worldly lust, you will live soberly, righteously and godly in the world.

You do now cordially join yourselves to this Church of Christ, and taking the Word of God for your guide, you engage to submit to its rules of government and discipline, to co-operate in its efforts for the conversion of men; to strive earnestly for its peace, edification and purity; and to walk with its members in charity, faithfulness, circumspection, meekness and sobriety.

This you severally profess and engage.

[Here the ordinance of Baptism will be administered.]

In consequence of these professions and engagements, we, the members of this Church,

[Here the members of the Church rise.]

affectionately receive you to our Communion, and, in the name of Christ, declare you entitled to all its privileges; we welcome you to this fellowship with us in the blessings of the Gospel; and on our part engage to watch over you and seek your edification, as long as you shall continue with us.

And now, beloved in the Lord, let it be impressed on your minds, that you have entered into solemn obligations to God and to this Church, from which you can never escape.

Wherever you go, these vows will be upon you; they will follow you to the bar of Judgment, and will abide upon you to eternity. From this time the eyes of the world will be upon you, and as you demean yourselves, so religion will be honored or dishonored; if you walk worthy of your profession, you will be a credit and a comfort to us; but if it be otherwise, it will be an occasion of grief and reproach. But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things which accompany salvation, though we thus speak.

The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you! The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace!

And now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.

HISTORICAL CATALOGUE.

This Catalogue gives the changes which have occurred each year, in respect to Admissions, Dismissions, Excommunications, and Deaths.

1842.

Received by Letter.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------|----------------------|----------|
| Francis A. Perkins, | from | Second Cong. Church, | Norwich. |
| Mrs. Abby B. Perkins, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Eliza P. Perkins, | “ | “ | “ |
| Edmund Perkins, | “ | “ | “ |
| Charles Lee, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Harriet G. Lee, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Sarah M. Lee, | “ | “ | “ |
| Horace Colton, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Mary H. Colton, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Marian H. Colton, | “ | “ | “ |
| (Mrs. Lane), | | | |
| Othniel Gager, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Eliza Gager, | “ | “ | “ |
| Jedediah Leavens, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Frances J. Leavens, | “ | “ | “ |
| William A. Buckingham, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Eliza R. Buckingham, | “ | “ | “ |
| George B. Ripley, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Hannah G. Ripley, | “ | “ | “ |
| Caleb B. Rogers, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Harriet S. Rogers, | “ | “ | “ |
| Edward Coit, | “ | “ | “ |
| Worthington Hooker, | “ | “ | “ |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Mrs. Mary Hooker, | from Second Cong. Church, Norwich. | | |
| Miss Hannah F. Niles, | “ | “ | “ |
| John T. Leach, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Olive C. Leach, | “ | “ | “ |
| Lee L. Jewett, | “ | “ | “ |
| William T. Dawley, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Frances H. Dawley, | “ | “ | “ |
| William W. Coit, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Nancy Maria Coit, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Maria V. Coit, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Iduella Gardner, | “ | “ | “ |
| (Mrs. Rogers), | | | |
| Lewis Edwards. | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Julia Ann Edwards, | “ | “ | “ |
| Amos W. Prentice, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Hannah E. Prentice, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Mary A. Woodhull, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Elizabeth B. Woodhull, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Lydia H. Woodhull, | “ | “ | “ |
| Horatio Willes, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Eliza P. Willes, | “ | “ | “ |
| Charles Clark, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Ann E. Clark, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Harriet Huntington, | “ | “ | “ |
| (Mrs. Cogshall), | | | |
| Miss Harriet Lathrop, | “ | “ | “ |
| Frederic W. Treadway, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Sarah C. Treadway, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Mehitable A. Coit, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Ellen Treadway, | “ | “ | “ |
| (Mrs. McWhirr), | | | |
| Augustus Backus, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Mary E. Hempstead, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Emma M. Hempstead, | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Lucy Hempstead, | “ | “ | “ |
| (Mrs. Kimball), | | | |
| Elihu Gallup, | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Emily C. Gallup, | “ | “ | “ |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| William S. Brakenridge, | from Second Cong. Church, Norwich | | |
| Mrs. Minerva Brakenridge, | " | " | " |
| Shubael Hebard, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Emeline F. Norton, | " | " | " |
| Miss Ann Beebe, | " | " | " |
| Euclid Elliott, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Lucy S. Elliott, | " | " | " |
| Egbert H. Avery, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Sarah L. Avery, | " | " | " |
| Erastus R. Randall, | " | " | " |
| Henry M. Stannard, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Mary T. Stannard, | " | " | " |
| Edwin Leach, | " | " | " |
| Miss Sarah D. Cundall, | " | " | " |
| Miss Rebecca Tracy, | " | " | " |
| Miss Mary Ann Tracy, | " | " | " |
| Miss Elizabeth Tracy, | " | " | " |
| Orville B. Lyman, | " | " | " |
| Giles B. Kirtland, | " | " | " |
| Daniel Briggs, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Sophia Briggs, | " | " | " |
| Miss Harriet Cole, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Lydia Griswold, | " | " | " |
| Miss Gertrude R. May, | 3rd | " | " |
| Thomas Jackson, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Esther Jackson, | " | " | " |
| Miss Mary Jackson, | " | " | " |
| Charles I. Cooley, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Lucy Cooley, | " | " | " |
| John G. Cooley, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Harriet Y. Cooley, | " | " | " |
| William C. Gilman, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Eliza Gilman, | " | " | " |
| Miss Elizabeth C. Gilman, | " | " | " |
| Miss Maria P. Gilman, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Philura Cooley, | " | " | " |
| Mrs. Maria Sturtevant, | 4th | " | " |
| Miss Jane Ellen Osgood, | " | " | " |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|------------------|---|
| Chester Parkhurst, from Cong. Church, Salem, Mass. | | | | |
| Mrs. Mary Parkhurst, | “ | “ | “ | “ |
| George H. Cox, | “ | “ | New Haven. | |
| Mrs. Maria Cox, | “ | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Mary Thompson, | “ | “ | Montville, Conn. | |
| Ashbel B. Haile, | “ | “ | New Haven, | “ |
| Dorson E. Sykes, | “ | “ | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Georgianna Sykes, | “ | “ | “ | “ |
| Miss Sarah Stockwell, | “ | “ | Brooklyn, | “ |

Received by Profession.

Miss Lydia R. Beebe.
 Miss Ann Beebe.
 Miss Harriet Jackson.
 Miss Abby Jackson, (*Mrs. Barrows*).
 Miss Parthena Thompson.
 Miss Sarah W. Rogers, (*Mrs. Carrier*).
 Miss Melinda Cooley.
 Joseph T. Fay.
 William A. Cogshall.

[The above one hundred and twelve persons were the original members of the Church. The following were added during the same year:]

Received by Profession.

Ralph Avery.
 Mrs. Martha Avery.
 J. W. Griffith.

Received by Letter.

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| Hezekiah Lord, | | from 3d Cong. Church, Norwich. |
| Mrs. Rebecca R. Lord, | “ | “ |
| Miss Louisa Lester, (<i>Mrs. Holmes</i>), | “ | “ |
| Miss Sophronia Watrous, | “ | “ |
| Mrs. Catharine G. Child, | “ | Pittsford, Vt. |
| Daniel W. Perkins, 3d Presbyt'n. Church, Brooklyn, N. Y. | | |
| Mrs. Mary Perkins, | “ | “ |
| Samuel Culver, 1st Cong. Church, New London, Conn. | | |

Dismissed.

Henry M. Stannard, to Cong. Church, Westbrook, Conn.
 Mrs. Mary T. Stannard, “ “ “ “

1843.

Received by Profession.

Israel M. Buckingham.
 Mrs. Lydia A. Buckingham.
 Daniel G. Briggs.
 Miss Charlotte Briggs, (*Mrs. Pollock*).
 Miss Eliza H. Gager, (*Mrs. Johnson*).
 Mrs. Nancy L. Jewett.
 Mrs. Mary Buckley.
 Mrs. Fanny W. Forsyth.
 Miss Jane Holt.
 Miss Lucy E. Cooley, (*Mrs. Ely*).
 James Bussey, Jr.
 Francis A. Griffiths.
 Mrs. Salome Osgood.
 Miss Mary E. Grant, (*Mrs. Nichols*).
 Newell C. Brakenridge.
 Bradish C. Brakenridge.
 Leander Griswold.
 John T. Mott.
 Mrs. Drusilla Lamb.
 Oliver A. Gager.
 George Carriel.
 Miss Lucy Ann Beebe.

Received by Letter.

Mrs. Joanna Mott, from Cong. Church, Lebanon, Conn.
 Charles Dewey, 3d Cong. Church, Norwich.
 Mrs. Anna Dewey, " " "
 Mrs. Abigail Carriel, Cong. Church, Manchester, Conn.
 Mrs. Jane N. Goddard, 3d " Norwich.
 Eleazer Carter, " " "
 Miss Mary Hebard, (*Mrs. Garside*), Cong. Church, Windham, Ct.
 Mrs. Amelia Crowell, Cong. Church, Andover, Conn.
 Miss Catherine K. Childs, Cong. Church, Village Corners, Conn.

Dismissed.

Francis A. Perkins, to Cong. Church, Boston, Mass.
 Mrs. Abby B. Perkins, " " " "
 Miss Eliza P. Perkins, " " " "

Died.

Miss Emma M. Hempstead, Dec. 13th.

1844.*Received by Profession.*

Miss Elizabeth Cole, (*Mrs. Dow*).

Miss Abby Huntington.

Miss Abby Hebard.

Miss Susan Caswell.

Mrs. Anna R. Currier.

Miss Lucy Maria Howard.

Received by Letter.

Miss Sarah Dolph, (*Mrs. Sackett*), fm 4th Cong. Church, Norwich.

Ebenezer Kelly, from Cong. Church, West Hartford, Conn.

Abel H. Simmons, from Cong. Church, New Haven, “

Dismissed.

William A. Cogshall, to Cong. Church, New London, Conn.

Died.

Miss Harriet Lathrop, Jan. 8th.

1845.*Received by Letter.*

Edward R. Thompson, from Cong. Church, Hartford, Conn.

Mrs. Lucy Prentice, “ “ “ Griswold, “

Mrs. Jane M. Worthington, from Presby'n. R. D. Church, N. Y.

Mrs. Elizabeth Coit, from 2d “ “ “ Brooklyn, N. Y.

Miss Sophia Newton (*Mrs. Revel*), from Cong. Church, Colchester, Conn.

Dismissed.

Horatio Willes, to Cong. Church, Jewett City, Conn.

Mrs. Eliza P. Willes, “ “ “ “ “

Charles Clark, to Cong. Church, Brooklyn, Conn.

Mrs. Ann E. Clark, “ “ “ “

William S. Brakenridge, to Cong. Church, Ware, Mass.
 Mrs. Minerva Brakenridge, " " " "
 Egbert H. Avery, to Cong. Church, New London, Conn.
 Mrs. Sarah L. Avery, " " " " "
 Miss Sarah D. Cundall, " " Killingly, Conn.
 William C. Gilman, to Tabernacle Church, New York.
 Mrs. Eliza Gilman, " " " "
 Miss Elizabeth C. Gilman, " " " "
 Miss Maria P. Gilman, " " " "
 Chester Parkhurst, to Cong. Church, Waltham, Mass.
 Mrs. Mary Parkhurst, " " " "
 Mrs. Catharine G. Child, " Lowell. "
 Miss Catharine K. Child, " " "

Died.

Mrs. Melinda Cooley, Dec. 30th.

1846.*Received by Profession.*

Artemas Osgood.
 Henry Huntington.
 Henry F. Swift.
 William S. Elliott.
 John E. Elliott.
 Richard H. Coit.
 Wesley Ireson.
 Francis E. Pennock.
 William Wright.
 Mrs. Hannah Lyman.
 Mrs. Martha L. Hebard.
 Miss Abby W. Avery.
 Miss Maria F. Mott.
 Miss Sarah E. Coit.
 Miss Eliza Edwards.
 Miss Julia D. Woodhull.
 Miss Harriet Ripley.
 Miss Mary Colebrook, (*Mrs. Sherman*).
 Miss Julia Jackson.

Miss Hannah Cadwell.
 Miss Hannah L. Geer.
 Miss Eliza G. Coffin.

Received by Letter.

William E. Ledyard, from Presbyt'n. Church, Albion, N. Y.
 Mrs. Caroline L. Coit, from 1st Cong. Church, New London, Ct.
 Miss Nancy M. Ladd, (*Mrs. Manning*), from Cong. Church, Franklin, Conn.
 Solomon S. Barrows, from 4th Cong. Church, Hartford, Conn.
 Mrs. Lydia H. Barrows, " " " " "
 Miss Mehitable Buckingham, from 1st Cong. Church, Lebanon, Conn.
 Miss Lucy Smith, from Presbyt'n. Church, New Rochelle, N. Y.
 Mrs. Matilda Downer, from Cong. Church, Colchester, Conn.
 Charles Soudant, from " " Exeter, Conn.
 Miss Deborah Gilbert, (*Mrs. Sumner*), from 2d Cong. Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Miss Charlotte Huntington, from 2d Cong. Church, Norwich, Ct.

By Installation as Pastor.

John P. Gulliver, from Eliot Church, Roxbury, Mass.

Dismissed.

Charles Lee, to 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. Harriet G. Lee, to 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Miss Sarah M. Lee, " " " " "
 William T. Dawley, Pearl Street Presbyterian Church, N. Y.
 Mrs. Francis H. Dawley, " " " "
 Miss Harriet Huntington, to Congregational Church, New London, Conn.
 Miss Ann Beebe, to " " Akron, O.
 Miss Lydia R. Beebe, to " " "
 Edwin Leach, to Methodist Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Daniel W. Perkins, to 1st Baptist Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. Mary Perkins, to " " " "
 Miss Abby Huntington, to 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.

Died.

Euclid Elliott, March 29th.

Miss Harriet Jackson, April 12th.
 Mrs. Maria Cox, August 3d.
 Mrs. Mehitable A. Coit, August 5th.
 William Wright, September 14th.

1847.

Received by Profession.

Edward Sayre.

Received by Letter.

Mrs. Frances C. Gulliver, from Congregational Church, Torrington, Conn.
 Mrs. Bridget P. Noyes, from 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. Mary Holyoke, from 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. Jane E. Huntington, from 1st Congregational Church, Middletown, Conn.
 Ralph G. Abell, from Congregational Church, Lebanon, Conn.
 Miss Eliza A. Hubbard, (*Mrs. Blackman*), from 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Miss Lydia Kinney, (*Mrs. Eaton*), from 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. Phebe G. Hinckley, from Congregational Church, Lebanon, Conn.
 Miss Charlotte M. Smith, from Congregational Church, Willimantic, Conn.
 Mrs. Jane E. Hunt, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. Rebecca T. Baker, from 1st Congregational Church, Worcester, Mass.
 Francis A. Perkins, from Pearl Street Church, Boston, Mass.
 Mrs. Abby B. Perkins, " " " " "
 Miss Eliza P. Perkins, " " " " "
 Mrs. Caroline Congdon, from Congregational Church, West Killingly, Conn.
 James Campbell, from Kirkorwald, Scotland.
 Mrs. Ellen Campbell, from Scotch Presbyterian Church, N. Y.
 Herbert C. Cutler, from 1st Congregational Church, Oxford, Mass.

Mrs. H. Melissa Cutler, from 1st Congregational Church, Oxford,
Mass.

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Caulkins, from Free Congregational Church,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Horatio Willes, from Congregational Church, Jewett City, Conn.

Mrs. Eliza P. Willes, " " " "

Miss Mary S. Ladd, from Congregational Church, Franklin, Conn.

Mrs. Marietta Ewing, 1st Presbyterian Church, Ohio City, Ohio.

Dismissed.

Erastus R. Randall, to Congregational Church, Hebron, Conn.

Ashbel B. Haile, to 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.

Mrs. Abigail Carriel, to Congregational Church, Manchester, Conn.

Miss Lucy Ann Beebe, to Bethel Church, Mobile, Ala.

Mrs. Elizabeth Coit, to 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.

Miss Sarah E. Coit, to 4th " " " "

Miss Eliza G. Coffin, to 2d " " New London, Ct.

Edward Sayre, to Broome Street Church, New York.

Died.

Mrs. Harriet S. Rogers, June 20th.

1848.

Received by Profession.

Miss Eliza Adams.

Received by Letter.

James Greenman, from 1st Congregational Church, Griswold, Ct.

Mrs. Sarah L. Greenman, " " " "

Mrs. Caroline L. Ames, from Congregational Church, New London,
Conn.

Mrs. Elizabeth A. Allen, from Free Church, Lockport, N. Y.

Miss Abby E. Parkhurst, from Congregational Church, Scotland,
Conn.

Mrs. Martha P. Ireson, from Presbyterian Church, Amsterdam,
N. Y.

Mrs. Ann Whiton, from 1st Congregational Church, Wethersfield,
Conn.

Joseph Watson, from Presbyterian Church, Rondout, N. Y.

Dismissed.

- Miss Lucy Hempstead, (*Mrs. Kimball*), to Presbyterian Church,
Salsbury, N. Y.
Giles B. Kirtland, to Congregational Church, Westbrook, Conn.
John T. Mott, to Congregational Church, Monroeville, N. Y.
Mrs. Joanna Mott, " " " "
Charles Dewey, to " " Chicopee, Mass.
Mrs. Anna Dewey, " " " "
Miss Maria F. Mott, to Congregational Church, Monroeville, N. Y.
James Campbell, to Reformed Dutch Church, West Farms, "
Mrs. Ellen Campbell, " " " " "

Died.

- Miss Maria V. Coit, Feb. 17th.

1849.

Received by Profession.

- Miss Mary Jane Cooley, (*Mrs. Wilcox*).
Miss Mary E. Caulkins.

Received by Letter.

- Benjamin W. Tompkins, from 1st Congregational Church, Nor-
wich, Conn.
Mrs. Eliza A. Tompkins, from 1st Congregational Church, Nor-
wich, Conn.
Mrs. Martha Ann Pennock, from Congregational Church, Man-
chester, Conn.
Mrs. Ellen S. Manning, from 1st Baptist Church, Philadelphia.
Joshua L. Powers, from 1st Congregational Church, New Lon-
don, Conn.
George Pierce, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
Mrs. Harriet N. Pierce, from 4th Congregational Church, Nor-
wich, Conn.
Mrs. Frances Webb, from Congregational Church, Plainfield, Conn.
John Steward, from Congregational Church, Bozrahville, Conn.
Mrs. Elma Steward, " " " "

Dismissed.

- Mrs. Maria Sturtevant, to 4th Congregational Church, Hartford,
Conn.

Ralph Avery, to Clinton Avenue Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Mrs. Martha Avery, " " " " "
 John E. Elliott, to 1st Congregational Church, New London, Conn.
 Hebard C. Cutler, to Congregational Church, Thompson, Conn.
 Mrs. H. Melissa Cutler, " " " "

Died.

Miss Iduella Gardner, (*Mrs. Rogers*), April 3d.
 Hezekiah Lord, July 5th.
 Charles I. Cooley, Aug. 16th.
 Miss Julia D. Woodhull, Sept. 16th.
 Mrs. Frances Webb, Dec. 23d.

1850.

Received by Profession.

Mrs. Louisa D. Champlin.
 John W. Hooker.
 William P. Greene, Jr.
 Francis Fisher.
 Henry Nichols.
 Kirk H. Leavens.
 Miss Theodosia D. Tompkins, (*Mrs. Greene*).
 Miss Esther Jackson.
 Miss Hannah L. Ripley.
 Miss Mary D. Ripley, (*Mrs. Humphrey*).
 Miss Maria Swan.
 Miss Elizabeth W. Lester.
 Peter Nelson.
 Mrs. Mary P. Barstow.

Received by Letter.

Mrs. Harriet Martin, from 1st Congregational Church, West Killingly, Conn.
 Mrs. Dolly Kingsley, from Congregational Church, Franklin, Ct.
 Andrew Sawyer, from Congregational Church, Windham, Conn.
 Henry A. Willes, from Congregational Church, Jewett City, Ct.
 Charles L. Danielson, from Congregational Church, Killingly, Ct.
 William W. Nearing, from Dutch Reformed Church, Catskill, N. Y.

Daniel Hume, from Methodist Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Robert Taylor, from Spring Street Church, Taunton, Mass.
 Mrs. Robert Taylor, " " " " "
 Mrs. Arabella Neff, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich, Ct.
 Mrs. Cushing E. Cook, Congregational Church, Franklin, Conn.

Dismissed.

Mrs. Martha Ann Pennock, to Congregational Church, Cohoes,
 N. Y.
 Frances E. Pennock, to Congregational Church, Cohoes, N. Y.
 Miss Lucy E. Cooley, (*Mrs. Ely*), to Elliott Church, Newton, Mass.
 Miss Eliza H. Gager, (*Mrs. Johnson*), to Congregational Church,
 Fall River, Mass.
 Mrs. Lucy S. Elliott, to 1st Congregational Church, New Lon-
 don, Conn.

Died.

Mrs. Amelia Crowell, Jan. 14th.
 Miss Lydia S. Woodhull, Aug. 13th.
 Mrs. Fanny W. Forsyth, Dec. 19th.

1851.

Received by Profession.

Jeremiah Davis.
 Harriet Davis.

Received by Letter.

Mrs. Jane M. Coit, from 2d Congregational Church, New London,
 Conn.
 Uriah Tracy, from Congregational Church, Scotland, Conn.
 Mrs. Freelove E. Tracy, " " " "
 Miss Eunice Starr, from Presbyterian Church, Wheelock, Choctaw
 Nation.
 Marcus McCall, from Congregational Church, Bozrahville, Conn.
 Mrs. Olivia McCall, " " " "
 Junius E. Kingsley, from Congregational Church, Franklin, "
 Mrs. Arianna B. Kingsley, from Congregational Church, Franklin,
 Conn.
 Mrs. Eleanora H. Rogers, from Rutger Street Presbyterian Church,
 New York.

- Harris B. Wildman, from Congregational Church, Hartford, Ct.
 Isaiah W. Francis, from Congregational Church, Canterbury, "
 Mrs. Abigail T. Barstow, from Cong. Church, Abington, Conn.
 Mrs. Edward H. Learned, from Congregational Church, Colches-
 ter, Conn.
 Mrs. Lucy E. Sterry, from Congregational Church, Willimantic,
 Conn.
 John W. Chester, from Congregational Church, Hadlyme, Conn.

Dismissed.

- Francis Fisher, to Pilgrim Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 John W. Hooker, to Yale College Church, New Haven, Conn.
 Joseph Watson, to Congregational Church, Rondout, N. Y.
 Mrs. Caroline L. Ames, to Congregational Church, New London,
 Conn.
 Mrs. Martha L. Hebard, to Congregational Church, Lebanon,
 Conn.
 Shubael Hebard, to Congregational Church, Lebanon, Conn.
 Miss Mary Hebard, (*Mrs. Garside*), to Congregational Church,
 Danville, Iowa.
 Mrs. Jane N. Goddard, to Presbyterian Church, New Rochelle,
 New York.
 Miss Rebecca Tracy, to Congregational Church, Lodi, Mich.
 Miss Mary Jackson, to Congregational Church, Lisbon, Conn.

Died.

- Miss Lucy Smith, June 26th.
 Mrs. Ellen S. Manning, Aug. 10th.
 Mrs. Sophia Briggs, Aug. 24th.
 Mrs. Philura Cooley, Dec. 14th.

1852.

Received by Profession.

- George Barstow.
 Mrs. George Barstow.

Received by Letter.

- Seth L. Peck, from Grassy Hill Congregational Church, Had-
 lyne, Conn.

- Mrs. Fanny G. Webb, from Richmond Street Congregational Church, Providence, R. I.
 Jabez Allen, from 1st Congregational Church, West Killingly, Conn.
 Mrs. Jabez Allen, from 1st Congregational Church, West Killingly, Conn.
 William Sterrett, from 2d Congregational Church, Douglas, Mass.
 Mrs. Adelina Sterrett, " " " "
 William L. Throop, from Union Church, Worcester, Mass.
 Mrs. Lucretia D. Throop, " " "

Dismissed.

- William W. Nearing, to 2d Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Joshua L. Powers, to 1st Congregational Church, New London, Conn.
 Mrs. Elizabeth A. Allen, to 1st Congregational Church, Lockport, N. Y.
 Mrs. Jane E. Huntington, to 1st Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Augustus Backus, to Congregational Church, Bolton, Conn.

Died.

- George Barstow, July 16th.
 Daniel Briggs, Oct. 21st.
 Thomas Jackson, Oct. 5th.

1853.

Received by Profession.

- Henry Griswold.
 Mrs. Elizabeth Wildman.
 Miss Harriet McCarty.
 Miss Mary G. Hazen.
 Miss Mary L. Hebard.

Received by Letter.

- Miss Naomi Tiffany, (*Mrs. Griswold*), from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Wilson Potter, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. Cynthia L. Potter, " " " "

Mrs. Aseneth Walker, fm 4th Congregational Church, Norwich, Ct.
 Miss Emma Jane Caulkins, " " " "
 Serenus S. Stocking, " " " "
 Mrs. Serenus S. Stocking, " " " "
 Alexis F. Gallup, from Congregational Church, Griswold, Conn.
 Mrs. Alexis F. Gallup, " " " "

Dismissed.

Mrs. Esther Jackson, to 1st Congregational Church, Norwich, Ct.
 Miss Esther Jackson, to 1st " " " "
 Miss Julia Jackson, to 1st " " " "
 Miss Abby Jackson, (*Mrs. Barrows*), to 1st Congregational Church,
 Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. Jane M. Worthington, to 2d Congregational Church, Nor-
 wich, Conn.
 George H. Cox, to Congregational Church, New Haven, Conn.
 John T. Leach, to Congregational Church, Colchester, Conn.
 Mrs. Olive C. Leach, " " " "

Died.

Mrs. Mary Hooker, Jan. 11th.
 Mrs. Lydia H. Barrows, Feb. 8th.
 Mrs. Abby B. Perkins, July 20th.

1854.

Received by Profession.

Miss Jane A. M. Brown.

Received by Letter.

Mrs. Elizabeth B. Brinkerhoff, from Bleeker Street Presbyterian
 Church, New York.
 Miss Lydia M. McNulty, (*Mrs. Williams*), from Congregational
 Church, Great Barrington, Mass.
 Miss Elizabeth B. McNulty, (*Mrs. Jackson*), from Congregational
 Church, Great Barrington, Mass.
 Miss Martha C. McNulty, from Congregational Church, Great
 Barrington, Mass.
 Mrs. Olive Adams, from Congregational Church, Bozrahville, Ct.
 George W. Kies, from Congregational Church, West Killingly, Ct.

Mrs. Frances M. Bentley, from Congregational Church, North
Stonington, Conn.

William G. Crosby, from Congregational Church, West Brattle-
boro, Vt.

Mrs. Mary O. Arnold, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich,
Conn.

Mrs. Sally Whipple, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich,
Conn.

Miss Sarah Whipple, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich,
Conn.

Dismissed.

Mrs. Marietta Ewing, to 1st Baptist Church, Racine, Wis.

Miss Mary Jane Cooley, (*Mrs. Wilcox*), to Congregational Church,
Fitchburg, Mass.

Mrs. Charlotte M. Smith, to Congregational Church, Chambers-
burgh, Penn.

Miss Deborah Gilbert, (*Mrs. Sumner*), to Congregational Church,
Spencer, Mass.

Miss Mary Colebrook, (*Mrs. Sherman*), to Congregational Church,
LaFayette, Ind.

Henry Huntington, to Congregational Church, Providence, R. I.

Worthington Hooker, to 1st Congregational Church, New Haven,
Conn.

Died.

Samuel Culver, May 9th.

1855.

Received by Profession.

Mrs. Julia O. Bill.

Mrs. Phebe Tarbox.

Lewis A. Edwards.

Miss Harriet Sterry.

Received by Letter.

Mrs. Mary E. Lester, from 3d Congregational Church, Norwich,
Conn.

Isaac P. Whiting, from Congregational Church, Deep River, Conn.

Mrs. Isaac P. Whiting, " " " "

- Henry Bill, from Congregational Church, Ledyard, Conn.
 John Crier, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. John Crier 1st " " " "
 Mrs. Abigail Robinson, from Congregational Church, Westminster,
 Conn.
 Miss Susan Dickinson, (*Mrs. Stone*), from Congregational Church,
 Holliston, Mass.

Dismissed.

- Mrs. Frances M. Bentley, to Methodist Church, Norwich.
 Mrs. Elizabeth Wildman, to Congregational Church, Castile, N. Y.
 Harris B. Wildman, to " " " "
 Ralph G. Abel, to Dutch Reformed Church, Canajoharie, N. Y.
 Miss Abby W. Avery, to Presbyterian Church, Belvidere, Ill.
 Mrs. Hannah Lyman, to Congregational Church, Willimantic, Ct.
 Miss Charlotte Briggs, (*Mrs. Pollock*), to Congregational Church,
 Hughsonville, N. Y.
 Orville B. Lyman, to Congregational Church, Willimantic, Conn.

Died.

- Miss Julia Ann Edwards, Sept. 1st.
 William Sterrett, Sept. 17th.
 Mrs. Mary Buckley, Oct. 5th.

1856.

Received by Profession.

- Miss Maria Leavens.
 Miss Sarah E. Lester.
 Mrs. Ellen C. Kies.
 Mrs. Harriet Gould.
 Mrs. Maria Croskrow.
 Miss Mary P. Huntington.
 Simon R. Parlin.
 Mrs. Malvina L. Parlin.
 Miss Harriet Amelia Pierce.
 Miss Maria W. Welsh.
 Alexander Nickle.
 Edward Manning.
 Miss Olive W. Barstow, (*Mrs. Platt*).

Miss Harriet Bill.
 Miss Mary Ann Johnson.
 Miss Anna Currier, (*Mrs. Jones*).
 Miss Mary E. Buckley.
 Miss Elizabeth R. Barstow.
 Miss Mary L. Hinckley.
 Miss Emma Spafford, (*Mrs. Spalding*).
 James Dickinson Ripley.
 George C. Ripley.
 Miss Emily L. Ripley.
 Miss Mary T. Prentice, (*Mrs. Dorrance*).
 John P. Barstow.
 Henry E. Cooley.
 Miss Mary E. Webb.
 Miss Sarah C. Buckingham, (*Mrs. Dyer*).
 Miss Sarah E. Story.
 Miss Isabella E. Hawes.
 Thomas S. Phillips.
 Mrs. Maria A. Phillips.
 Miss Sarah M. Greenman, (*Mrs. Carter*).
 Miss Harriet E. Crandall.
 Miss Lucretia M. Throop, (*Mrs. Durfey*).
 William Throop.
 Miss Sarah A. Corbin.
 Miss Sarah C. Treadway, (*Mrs. Whittemore*).
 Miss Elizabeth Hunt.
 Miss Mary Jane Hunt.
 Miss Jane Coombs.
 Miss Angeline B. Plant, (*Mrs. Swift*).
 Miss Ellen C. Gallup.
 Miss Mary L. Woodward.
 Miss Sarah W. Pierce.
 Charles L. Rix.
 Miss Eliza C. Buckingham, (*Mrs. Aiken*).
 Miss Elizabeth Chapman.

Received by Letter.

Russell Rix, from Congregational Church, Griswold, Conn.
 Mrs. Esther Rix, " " " "

- John T. Leach, from Congregational Church, Colchester, Conn.
 Mrs. Olive C. Leach, " " " "
 Edward Payson Porter, from 1st Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn,
 N. Y.
 Lyman Gould, from Congregational Church, Paper Mill Village,
 N. H.
 Mrs. Isabella Nickle, from 2d Congregational Church, Norwich, Ct.
 Mrs. Harriet H. Crandall, from Congregational Church, Pomfret,
 Conn.
 Mrs. Lucy E. Manning, from Congregational Church, Franklin,
 Conn.
 Nathaniel A. Fisher, from Beneficent Church, Providence, R. I.
 Mrs. Ophelia N. Fisher, " " " "
 Mrs. Esther Jackson, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich, Ct.
 Miss Esther Jackson, from 1st " " " "
 Miss Julia Jackson, from 1st " " " "
 Mrs. Abby Barrows, from 1st " " " "
 Mrs. Mary Eliza Norton, from Congregational Church, Branford,
 Conn.
 S. M. Fletcher.
 George F. Hawes.

Dismissed.

- Miss Sarah W. Pierce, to 1st Congregational Church, Norwich,
 Conn.
 Mrs. Abigail Robinson, to Congregational Church, Westminster,
 Conn.
 Mrs. Dolly Kingsley, (*Mrs. Ballou*), to 2d Congregational Church,
 Norwich, Conn.
 Andrew Sawyer, to High Street Congregational Church, Provi-
 dence, R. I.
 Miss Jane Holt, to 4th Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.

Died.

- Mrs. Mary E. Nichols, January 13th.
 Miss Harriet Sterry, March 2d.

1857.*Received by Profession.*

- Thomas Croskrow.
 Mrs. Sarah E. Hubbard, (*Mrs. Williams*).

Miss Julia S. Ayer.
 Joseph H. Holm.
 Miss Emeline F. Norton.

Received by Letter.

Miss Jane M. Fargo, from Congregational Church, Lisbon, Conn.
 Mrs. Caroline Colburn, from Congregational Church, Tewksbury,
 Mass.
 Miss Caroline B. Scarlet, from Congregational Church, Tewksbury,
 Mass.
 George H. Cox, from Howe Street Church, New Haven, Conn.
 Mrs. Eliza Cox, from " " " " "
 Miss Emma T. Cox, " " " " "
 Mrs. Harriet Ames, from Congregational Church, Lisbon, Conn.
 Mrs. Sarah Meech, from Congregational Church, Preston, "
 Mrs. Betsey H. Harris, " " " "
 James H. Kane, from Congregational Church, Brooklyn, "
 Mrs. Eliza Ann Edwards, from Market Street Reformed Dutch
 Church, N. Y.
 Miss Ann Murry, from 2d Congregational Church, New London,
 Conn.
 Julius C. Gallup, from Congregational Church, Oberlin, Ohio.
 Joseph H. Huntington, from Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth, N. J.
 Mrs. Ellen F. Huntington, " " " "
 Joseph A. Kellogg, from Congregational Church, Lebanon, Conn.
 Mrs. Fidelia B. Kellogg, " " Scotland, "

Dismissed.

James Dickinson Ripley, to Pilgrim Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 John Crier, to 1st Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.
 Mrs. John Crier, 1st " " " "
 Mrs. Martha P. Ireson, to Elliott Church, Roxbury, Mass.
 Wesley Ireson, to " " " "
 Mrs. Lucy Cooley, to Congregational Church, Newton, Mass.

Died.

Ebenezer Kelly, January 13th.
 Miss Eliza Edwards, February 6th.
 Mrs. Elizabeth B. Brinkerhoof, March 4th.
 Mrs. Aseneth Walker, March 27th.

Mrs. Georgianna Sykes, April 12th.

Miss Harriet Bill, Nov. 16th.

1858.

Received by Profession.

Mrs. Catharine Ware.

Miss Elizabeth Bumhill.

Miss Henrietta V. Oliver.

Miss Mary A. Griswold, (*Mrs. Tiffany*).

Miss Mary A. Hebard.

Miss Eliza C. Chapman, (*Mrs. Hinckley*).

George F. Wall.

Mrs. Emily Blackstone.

Mrs. Frances A. Ransom.

Miss Jane C. Webb.

Received by Letter.

Miss Eliza C. Bubier, from 1st Church, Cambridge, Mass.

Miss Abby Buckingham, from Congregational Church, Lebanon,
Conn.

Mrs. Abby Holt, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich, Conn.

Miss Lydia Holt, from 1st " " " "

Mrs. Elizabeth P. Latham, from Congregational Church, East
Lyme, Conn.

Dismissed.

George F. Hawes, to Congregational Church, Augusta, Me.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hunt, to Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Miss Mary Jane Hunt, " " " "

Miss Jane E. Hunt, " " " "

Miss Lucretia M. Throop, (*Mrs. Durfey*), to Westminster Church,
Baltimore.

William Throop, to Richmond St. Church, Providence, R. I.

Isaac P. Whiting, to Congregational Church, Ledyard, Conn.

Mrs. Isaac P. Whiting, " " " "

Serenus S. Stocking, to Trinity Church, Norwich.

Mrs. Serenus S. Stocking, " "

Miss Maria Swan, to Baptist Church, New York.

Mrs. Matilda Downer, to 1st Congregational Church, New Lon-
don, Conn.

Miss Hannah Cadwell, to Congregational Church, Meriden, Conn.

Miss Ann Beebe, to Congregational Church, New London, Conn.

Died.

Miss Mehitable Buckingham, April 26th.

George B. Ripley, July 9th.

Mrs. Ellen McWhirr, August.

Elihu Gallup, August.

George Carriel, October.

1859.

Received by Profession.

Mrs. Mary A. Chapell.

Mrs. Elizabeth Alexander.

Miss Jane Murry.

Samuel Backus Lyon.

William R. Hitchcock.

Henry Ruggles.

Clovis E. Hammond.

Asa B. Ware.

Edmund A. Ware.

Miss Emma C. Ware.

Mrs. Caroline F. Jones.

Richard Colburn.

Joseph D. Latham.

Albert Latham.

Charles F. Huntington.

Charles T. Barstow.

Henry G. Ransom.

George R. Ransom.

Charles B. Platt.

Albert Smith.

Martin V. B. Tiffany.

Robert Filson.

Alonzo Converse.

Mrs. Elizabeth Converse.

Miss Sarah C. Gallup.

Miss Henrietta L. Sturtevant.

Miss Julia S. Edwards.

Miss Lucy G. Leavens.
 Miss Mary Ann Lester.
 Miss Elizabeth Ripley.
 Mrs. Louisa F. Gardner.
 Miss Amelia C. Gallup.
 Miss Emily C. Gallup.
 Miss Jane A. M. Corbin.
 Miss Mary F. Norton.
 Charles H. Ellsworth.

Received by Letter.

Calvin G. Child, from Church of Puritans, N. Y.
 Mrs. Elizabeth Filson, from 2d Church, New London, Conn.
 Elisha Edwards, from 2d Church, Norwich.
 Mrs. Lauretta A. Edwards, from 2d Church, Norwich.
 Theodore F. McCurdy, from Reformed Dutch Church, Tompkinsville, N. Y.
 Mrs. Caroline H. McCurdy, from Reformed Dutch Church, Tompkinsville, N. Y.
 Mrs. Martha R. Hitchcock, from 2d Congregational Church, Norwich.
 John C. Kellogg, from Congregational Church, Keene, N. H.
 Nathan F. D. Avery, from Congregational Church, Franklin, Ct.
 Miss Janet M. Murry, from Free Church, Scotland.
 Nathan C. Chapell, from Congregational Church, Montville, Conn.
 George W. Whittlesey, from 1st Congregational Church, New London, Conn.
 Seth Jillson, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich.
 Mrs. Seth Jillson, " " " "
 Miss Lucy M. Jillson, " " " "
 Mrs. Frances A. Park, from Central Baptist Church, Norwich.
 James Caswell, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich.
 Mrs. Margaret B. Caswell, " " " "
 Mrs. Janette Ferguson, " " " "
 Robert Ferguson, " " " "
 Mrs. Mary E. Albro, " " " "
 Miss Mary D. Clark, " " " "
 Miss Antonette Blackman, " " " "
 Miss Elizabeth Blackman, " " " "

Miss Cornelia E. Blackman, fm 4th Congregational Church, Norwich
 Miss Lucy A. Blackman, " " " "
 Benjamin B. Blackman, " " " "
 Mrs. Mary S. Caswell, " " " "
 Mrs. Ursula F. Robinson, from 3d Congregational Church, Rock-
 land, Maine.
 Joseph Selden, from 3d Congregational Church, Hadlyme, Conn.
 Mrs. Caroline S. Selden, " " " "
 Mrs. Jane E. Hunt, from Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Miss Elizabeth Hunt, " " " "
 Miss Mary Jane Hunt, " " " "
 Mrs. Louisa G. Cutler, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich.
 Isaac P. Whiting, from Congregational Church, Ledyard, Conn.
 Mrs. Isaac P. Whiting, " " " "
 Miss Mary Boswell, from 2d Congregational Church, Norwich.
 Mrs. Loretta Coyle, from Congregational Church, Norwich.

Dismissed.

Edmund A. Ware, to Yale College Church, New Haven, Conn.
 George F. Wall, to 1st Church, Worcester, Mass.
 S. M. Fletcher, to Congregational Church, Westerly, R. I.
 George C. Ripley, to Yale College Church, New Haven, Conn.
 Henry Nichols, to Congregational Church, Quincy, N. H.
 Miss Sophia Newton, (*Mrs. Revell*), to 2d Congregational Church,
 Norwich.
 Bradish C. Brakenridge, to Congregational Church, Chapin, Iowa.
 Mrs. Marian H. Lane, to 2d Congregational Church, Norwich.

Excommunicated.

Edmund Perkins, Feb. 14th.
 John W. Chester, Feb. 28th.
 Daniel Hume, Feb. 28th.
 J. W. Griffith, Feb. 28th.
 Joseph S. Fay, Feb. 28th.
 William G. Crosby, June 30th.

Fellowship Withdrawn.

Charles Soudant, Feb. 28th.
 Miss Sarah Dolph, Feb. 28th.
 Miss Susan Caswell, Feb. 28th.

Francis A. Griffith, Feb. 28th.
Miss Sarah Stockwell, Feb. 28th.

Died.

Mrs. Drusilla Lamb, March 19th.
Miss Julia S. Edwards, Oct 9th.
Mrs. Phebe G. Hinckley, Nov 19th.

1860.*Received by Profession.*

Mrs. Emily W. Hovey.
Mrs. Happy R. Schofield.
Mrs. Mary Crocker.
John Bennett.

Received by Letter.

George H. Martin, from Central Baptist Church, Norwich.
Mrs. Julia A. Swan, from Congregational Church, Preston, Conn.
Miss Mary H. Shepard, from Congregational Church, Canterbury,
Conn.
Miss Lucy S. Kinne, from Congregational Church, Canterbury, Ct.
Charles E. Dyer, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich.
Phineas Schofield, from Congregational Church, Montville, Conn.
Mrs. Agnes Balfour, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich.
Lewis E. Stanton, from Yale College Church, New Haven, Conn.

Dismissed.

Charles H. Ellsworth, to Congregational Church, Westville, Conn.
Alonzo Converse, to College St. Church, New Haven, Conn.
Mrs. Elizabeth Converse, " " " " "
Miss Susan Dickinson, (*Mrs. Stone*), to Congregational Church,
Amsbury Mills, Mass.
Lewis A. Edwards, to Reformed Dutch Church, New York.
Mrs. Rebecca S. Baker, to Congregational Church, Worcester,
Mass.
Miss Hannah L. Geer, to Presbyterian Church, Cortlandville, N. Y.

1861.*Received by Profession.*

Miss Jennie Williams.

James B. Bliven.
Alexander Shalk.

Received by Letter.

Miss Harriet M. Lathrop, from Congregational Church, Lisbon.
Mrs. Alice H. Child, from 2d Congregational Church, Norwich.
Miss Alice H. Child, " " " "
Mrs. Dolly S. Loomis, from Congregational Church, Lisbon, Ct.
Miss Ann M. Hewitt, from 1st Congregational Church, Worcester, Mass.
Mrs. Mary R. Murdock, from Dutch Reformed Church, Patterson, N. J.
Miss Jenette Murdock, from Dutch Reformed Church, Patterson, N. J.
Chas. Shepard, from College St. Church, New Haven, Conn.

Dismissed.

Mrs. Agnes Balfour, to 4th Congregational Church, Norwich.
Mrs. Loretta Coyle, to Winthrop Church, Charlestown, Mass.
Miss Mary E. Buckley, to 1st Congregational Church, New London, Conn.

Died.

Mrs. Rebecca R. Lord, April 15th.
Miss Harriet Amelia Pierce, June 25th.
Miss Abby Buckingham, June 27th.

1862.

Received by Profession.

Nancy Finley.

Received by Letter.

Mrs. Maria H. Fay, from Congregational Church, West Killingly, Conn.
Henry W. Holly, from 1st Presbyterian Church, Stamford, Conn.
Mrs. Emily T. Holly, " " " " "
Mrs. Mary A. Selden, from Congregational Church, Hadlyme, Ct.
David P. Otis, from Congregational Church, Salem, Mass.
Mrs. David P. Otis, " " " "
Mrs. Albert Force, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich.

- Francis A. Dorrance, from 2d Congregational Church, Norwich.
 Gurdon A. Jones, Jr., from Christ Church, Norwich.
 Mrs. Betsey A. Brainard, from Congregational Church, Bozrah-
 ville, Conn.
 Mrs. George F. Howard, from Congregational Church, Jewett
 City, Conn.
 Mrs. Lydia E. Hewett, from 3d Baptist Church, North Stoning-
 ton, Conn.
 Mrs. Nancy A. Dewing, from Congregational Church, West Kil-
 lingly, Conn.
 Mrs. Emeline T. Ransom, from Congregational Church, Colches-
 ter, Conn.
 Martin L. Leonard, from Congregational Church, Franklin, Conn.
 Alonzo Converse, from Congregational Church, New Haven, Conn.
 Mrs. Elizabeth Converse, " " " " "

Dismissed.

- Isaac P. Whiting, to 1st Congregational Church, New Britain, Ct.
 Mrs. Isaac P. Whiting, " " " " "
 Miss Elizabeth P. McNulty, (*Mrs. Jackson*), to Reformed Dutch
 Church, Belvidere, N. J.
 Mrs. Mary P. Barstow, (*Mrs. Coit*), to 2d Congregational Church,
 Norwich.

Excommunicated.

- John Steward, Jan. 28th.
 Mrs. Elma Steward, Jan. 28th.

Died.

- Mrs. Eliza Ann Edwards, Sept. 11th.
 Joseph D. Latham, Oct. 21st.
 Mrs. Olivia McCall, Oct. 28th.
 Joseph H. Holm, Nov. 20th.
 Horace Colton, Dec. 4th.
 Mrs. Esther Jackson, Dec. 29th.
 John Bennett.

1863.*Received by Profession.*

- Miss Lydia W. Williams.
 Miss Julia L. Leach.

Miss Eliza J. Leach.
 Miss Margaret E. Leach.
 Mrs. Mary A. Setchel.
 Miss Eliza Rush.

Received by Letter.

William A. Aiken, from Old South Church, Andover, Mass.
 Elihu M. Frazier, from Methodist Church, Norwich.
 Mrs. Esther Frazier, " " "
 William S. Brakenridge, from Congregational Church, Westfield,
 Mass.
 Mrs. Minerva Brakenridge, from Congregational Church, West-
 field, Mass.
 Miss Mary R. Dorrance, from Congregational Church, Hampton,
 Conn.
 Henry E. Stevens, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich.
 Mrs. Nancy W. Stevens, " " " "
 Mrs. Abigail C. Dyer, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich.
 Miss Mary B. Prentice, from Congregational Church, Lenox, O.
 Lewis A. Edwards, from Dutch Reformed Church, New York.

Dismissed.

Mrs. Mary R. Murdock, to Reformed Dutch Church, Patterson,
 N. J.
 Miss Jenette Murdock, to Reformed Dutch Church, Patterson,
 N. J.
 Miss Lucy M. Jillson, to Congregational Church, Quincy, Me.
 Wilson Potter, to Tabernacle Church, New York.
 Mrs. Cynthia L. Potter, " " "
 Mrs. Arianna B. Kingsley, to Englewood Presbyterian Church,
 N. J.
 Miss Abby Hebard, to Congregational Church, Springfield, Mass.

Died.

Francis A. Perkins, March 27th.
 Mrs. Elizabeth Dow, May.
 Albert Smith, May.
 Newell C. Brakenridge, Nov. 20th.

1864.

Received by Profession.

George H. Rood.
 Mrs. Lucy C. Chester.
 Miss Eliza A. Tiffany.
 Miss Ellen Peterson.
 Miss Happy C. Champlin.
 Miss Rosalia U. Brainard.
 Miss Sarah A. Smith.

Received by Letter.

Benjamin F. Pollock, from Congregational Church, Cedar Rapids,
 Iowa.
 Mrs. Charlotte B. Pollock, " " "
 Edmund A. Ware, from Yale College Church, New Haven, Conn.
 Mrs. Sabra Park, from Congregational Church, Preston, Conn.
 S. B. Bishop, from 2d Congregational Church, Waterbury, Conn.
 Mrs. Ellen S. Bishop, from 1st Congregational Church, Wood-
 stock, Conn.
 Mrs. Nancy Jennings, from 4th Congregational Church, Norwich,
 Conn.
 Mrs. Maria Dowd, from 1st Congregational Church, Cayuhoga
 Falls, Ohio.
 George Ransom, from 1st Congregational Church, Colchester, Ct.
 Mrs. Eunice Ransom, from Congregational Church, Salem, Conn.
 L. H. Tracy, from 2d Congregational Church, New London, "
 Mrs. Eunice L. Tracy, 2d " " "
 Miss Mary L. Tracy, 2d " " "
 Henry G. Huntington, from 1st Congregational Church, Norwich,
 Conn.
 Mrs. Sarah R. Huntington, from Free Congregational Church,
 Providence, R. I.
 Mrs. Maria E. Edwards, from 2d Congregational Church, Mason,
 N. H.
 Miss Almira J. Wetmore, from 1st Congregational Church, Essex,
 Mass.

Died.

Alexander Shalk, May 20th.
 Clovis E. Hammond, June 27th.
 Miss Jane C. Webb, July 6th.
 George Ransom, July 22d.
 Lewis A. Edwards, Sept. 24th.
 Mrs. Sarah C. Dyer, Oct. 13th.

Dismissed.

Miss Jennie Williams, to 7th Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Charles L. F. Huntington, 1st Congregational Church, " "
 Mrs. Elizabeth P. Latham, to 1st Congregational Church, East
 Lyme, Conn.
 Joseph A. Kellogg, to 1st Congregational Church, Meriden, Conn.
 Edward Manning, to Congregational Church, Lebanon, Conn.
 Mrs. Lucy E. Manning, to " " " "
 Mrs. Mary G. Humphrey, to Mather Church, Jamaica Plains,
 Mass.
 John G. Cooley, to Clinton Avenue Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Mrs. Harriet Y. Cooley, to " " " "

Excommunicated.

Junius E. Kingsley, May 29th.

SUMMARY.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Whole number received from other Churches,..... | 384 |
| “ “ “ by profession,..... | 213 |
| | 597 |
| Dismissed to other Churches,..... | 164 |
| Excommunicated,..... | 9 |
| Fellowship withdrawn,..... | 5 |
| Deaths,..... | 67 |
| | 245 |
| Present members,..... | 352 |

ALPHABETICAL CATALOGUE OF PRESENT MEMBERS.

Adams, Eliza Mrs.,
 Adams Olive Mrs.,
 Aiken, William A.,
 Aiken, Eliza C. Mrs.,
 Alexander, Elizabeth Miss,
 Albro, Mary E. Mrs.,
 Allen, Jabez,
 Allen, Jabez Mrs.,
 Ames, Harriet Mrs.,
 Arnold, Mary O. Mrs.,
 Avery, Nathan F. D.,

Barrows, Solomon S.,
 Barrows, Abby Mrs.,
 Barstow, John P.,
 Barstow, Abigail T. Mrs.,
 Barstow, Elizabeth R. Miss,
 Barstow, George Mrs.,
 Barstow, Charles T.,
 Bill, Henry,
 Bill, Julia O. Mrs.,
 Bishop, S. B.,
 Bishop, Ellen L. Mrs.,
 Blackman, Eliza A. Mrs.,
 Blackman, Lucy A. Miss,
 Blackman, Antoinette Miss,

Blackman, Elizabeth Miss,
 Blackman, Cornelia E. Miss,
 Blackman, Benjamin B.,
 Blackstone, Emily Mrs.,
 Bliven James B.,
 Boswell, Mary Miss,
 Brainard, Betsey A. Mrs.,
 Brainard, Rosalia U. Miss,
 Brakenridge, William S.,
 Brakenridge, Minerva Mrs.,
 Briggs, Daniel G.,
 Brown, Jane A. M. Miss,
 Bubier, Eliza C. Miss,
 Buckingham, William A.,
 Buckingham, Eliza R. Mrs.,
 Buckingham, I. M.,
 Buckingham, Lydia A. Mrs.,
 Bunhill, Elizabeth Miss,
 Bussey, James Jr.,
 Carrier, Sarah W. Mrs.,
 Carter, Sarah M. Mrs.,
 Carter, Eleazer,
 Caswell, James,
 Caswell, Margaret B. Mrs.,
 Caswell, Mary S. Miss,
 Caulkins, Elizabeth H. Mrs.,

- Caulkins, Mary E. Miss,
 Caulkins, Emma J. Miss,
 Chapell, Nathan C.,
 Chapell, Mary A. Mrs.,
 Champlin, Louisa D. Mrs.,
 Champlin, Happy C. Miss,
 Chapman, Elizabeth Miss,
 Chester, Lucy C. Mrs.,
 Child, Calvin G.,
 Child, Alice H. Mrs.,
 Child, Alice H. Miss,
 Clark, Mary D. Miss,
 Coit, William W.,
 Coit, Nancy Maria Mrs.,
 Coit, Edward,
 Coit, Richard H.,
 Coit, Caroline L. Mrs.,
 Coit, Jane M. Mrs.,
 Colburn, Richard,
 Colburn, Caroline Mrs.,
 Colton, Mary H. Mrs.,
 Converse, Alonzo,
 Converse, Elizabeth Mrs.,
 Congdon, Caroline Mrs.,
 Cole, Harriet Miss,
 Cook, Cushing E. Mrs.,
 Coombs, Jane Miss,
 Cooley, Henry E.,
 Corbin, Sarah A. M. Miss,
 Corbin, Jane Miss,
 Cox, George H.,
 Cox, Eliza Mrs.,
 Cox, Emma T. Miss,
 Crandall, Harriet H. Mrs.,
 Crandall, Harriet E. Miss,
 Crocker, Mary Mrs.,
 Croskrow, Thomas,
 Croskrow, Maria Mrs.,
 Currier, Anna R. Mrs.,
 Cutler, Louisa G. Mrs.,
 Danielson, Charles L.,
 Davis, Jeremiah,
 Davis, Harriet Mrs.,
 Dewing, Nancy A. Mrs.,
 Dorrance, Francis A.,
 Dorrance, Mary T. Mrs.,
 Dorrance, Mary R., Miss,
 Dowd, Maria Mrs.,
 Dyer, Abigail C. Mrs.,
 Dyer, Charles E.,
 Eaton, Lydia Mrs.,
 Edwards, Lewis,
 Edwards, Maria E., Mrs.,
 Edwards, Elisha,
 Edwards, Laurette A. Mrs.,
 Elliott, William S.,
 Fargo, Jane M. Mrs.,
 Fay, Maria H., Mrs.,
 Filson, Robert,
 Filson, Elizabeth Mrs.,
 Finley, Nancy Miss,
 Fisher, Nathaniel A.,
 Fisher, Ophelia N. Mrs.,
 Force, Albert N. Mrs.,
 Francis, Isaiah W.,
 Frazier, Elihu M.,
 Frazier, Esther Mrs.,
 Furgerson, Robert,
 Furgerson, Janette Mrs.,
 Gager, Othniel,
 Gager, Eliza Mrs.,
 Gager, Oliver A.,

Gallup, Emily C. Mrs.,
 Gallup, Ellen C. Miss,
 Gallup, Amelia C. Miss,
 Gallup, Emily C. Miss,
 Gallup, Julius C.,
 Gallup, Alexis F.,
 Gallup, Alexis F. Mrs.,
 Gallup, Sarah C. Mrs.,
 Gardner, Louisa F. Mrs.,
 Gould, Lyman,
 Gould, Harriet Mrs.,
 Greene, William P.,
 Greene, Theodosia D. Mrs.,
 Greenman, James,
 Greenman, Sarah L. Mrs.,
 Griswold, Leander,
 Griswold, Lydia Mrs.,
 Griswold, Henry,
 Griswold, Naomi, Mrs.,
 Gulliver, John P.,
 Gulliver, Frances C. Mrs.,

Harris, Betsey H. Mrs.,
 Hawes, Isabella E. Miss,
 Hebard, Mary A. Miss,
 Hebard, Mary L. Miss,
 Hewett, Ann M. Miss,
 Hewett, Lydia E. Mrs.,
 Hinckley, Eliza C. Mrs.,
 Hinckley, Mary L. Miss,
 Hitchcock, William R.,
 Hitchcock, Martha R. Mrs.,
 Hempstead, Mary E. Miss,
 Holly, Henry W.,
 Holly, Emily T. Mrs.,
 Holm, Louisa Mrs.,
 Holyoke, Mary Mrs.,
 Holt, Abby Mrs.,

Holt, Lydia Miss,
 Howard, Lucy M. Miss,
 Howard, George F. Mrs.,
 Hovey, Emily W. Mrs.,
 Hunt, Jane E. Mrs.,
 Hunt, Elizabeth Miss,
 Hunt, Mary J. Miss,
 Huntington, Charlotte Miss,
 Huntington, Mary P. Miss,
 Huntington, Joseph H.,
 Huntington, Ellen F. Mrs.,
 Huntington, Henry G.,
 Huntington, Sarah R. Mrs.,

Jackson, Esther Miss,
 Jackson, Julia Miss
 Jennings, Nancy Mrs.,
 Jewett, Lee L.,
 Jewett, Nancy L. Mrs.,
 Jillson, Seth,
 Jillson, Seth Mrs.,
 Johnson, Mary A. Miss,
 Jones Gurdon A. Jr.,
 Jones, Caroline F. Mrs.,
 Jones, Anna Mrs.,

Kane, James H.,
 Kellogg, Fidelia B. Mrs.,
 Kellogg, John C.,
 Kies, George W.,
 Kies, Ellen C. Mrs.,

Ladd, Mary S. Miss,
 Latham, Albert,
 Lathrop, Harriet M. Miss,
 Leach, John T.,
 Leach, Olive C. Mrs.,
 Leach, Julia L. Miss,
 Leach, Eliza J. Miss,

- Leach, Margaret E. Miss,
 Leavens, Jedediah,
 Leavens, Frances J. Mrs.,
 Leavens, Kirk H.,
 Leavens, Maria Miss,
 Leavens, Lucy G. Miss,
 Learned, Edward H. Mrs.,
 Ledyard, William E.,
 Leonard, Martin L.,
 Lester, Mary E. Mrs.,
 Lester, Elizabeth W. Miss,
 Lester, Sarah E. Miss,
 Lester, Mary A. Miss,
 Loomis, Dolly S. Mrs.,
 Lyon, Samuel Backus,
 Manning, Nancy M. Mrs.,
 Martin, Harriet Mrs.,
 Martin, George H.,
 May, Gertrude R. Miss,
 McCall, Marcus,
 McCurdy, Theodore F.,
 McCurdy, Caroline H. Mrs.,
 McCarty, Harriet Miss,
 McMurry, Janette Miss,
 McNulty, Martha C., Miss,
 Meech, Sarah Miss,
 Murrey, Ann Miss,
 Murrey, Jane Miss,
 Neff, Arabella Mrs.,
 Nelson, Peter,
 Nickol, Alexander,
 Nickol, Isabella Mrs.,
 Niles, Hannah F. Miss,
 Norton, Emeline F. Mrs.,
 Norton, Mary Eliza Mrs.,
 Norton, Emeline F. Miss,
 Norton, Mary F. Miss,
 Noyes, Bridget P. Mrs.,
 Oliver, Henrietta V. Miss,
 Osgood, Artemas,
 Osgood, Salome Mrs.,
 Osgood, Jane E. Miss,
 Otis, David P.,
 Otis, David P. Mrs.,
 Park, Sabra Mrs.,
 Parlin, Simon R.,
 Parlin, Melvina A. Mrs.,
 Peck, Seth L.,
 Perkins, Eliza P. Miss,
 Peterson, Ellen Miss,
 Phillips, Thomas S.,
 Phillips, Maria A. Mrs.,
 Pierce, George,
 Pierce, Harriet N. Mrs.,
 Platt, Charles B.,
 Platt, Olive W. Mrs.,
 Porter, Edward P.,
 Pollock, Benjamin F.,
 Pollock, Charlotte B. Mrs.,
 Prentice, Amos W.,
 Prentice, Hannah E. Mrs.,
 Prentice, Lucy Mrs.,
 Prentice, Mary B. Miss,
 Randell, J. A. Mrs.,
 Ransom, Henry G.,
 Ransom, Frances A. Mrs.,
 Ransom, George R.,
 Ransom, Emeline T. Mrs.,
 Ransom, Eunice Mrs.,
 Ripley, Hannah G. Mrs.,
 Ripley, Hannah L. Miss,
 Ripley, Harriet Miss,
 Ripley, Emily L. Miss,
 Ripley, Elizabeth Miss,
 Rix, Russell,
 Rix, Esther Mrs.,

Rix, Charles L.,
 Robinson, Ursula F. Mrs.,
 Rogers, Caleb B.,
 Rogers, Elenora H. Mrs.,
 Rollins, Mary G. Mrs.,
 Rood, George H.,
 Rood, Frances A. Mrs.,
 Ruggles, Henry,
 Rush, Eliza Miss,

 Scarlet, Caroline B. Miss,
 Scholfield, Phineas,
 Scholfield, Happy R. Mrs.,
 Selden, Joseph,
 Selden, Caroline S. Mrs.,
 Selden, Mary A. Mrs.,
 Setchel, Mary A. Mrs.,
 Shepard, Charles,
 Shepard, Mary H. Miss,
 Simmons, Abel H.,
 Skinner, Lucy Miss,
 Smith, Sarah A. Miss,
 Spalding, Emma Mrs.,
 Stanton, Lewis E.,
 Stevens, Henry E.,
 Stevens, Nancy W. Mrs.,
 Sterrett, Adeline Mrs.,
 Sterry, Lucy E. Mrs.,
 Starr, Eunice Miss,
 Story, Sarah E. Miss,
 Sturtevant, Henrietta L. Miss,
 Swan, Julia A. Mrs.,
 Swift, Henry F.,
 Swift, Angelina B. Mrs.,
 Sykes, Dorson E.,

 Taylor, Robert,
 Taylor, Robert Mrs.,
 Tarbox, Phebe Mrs.,
 Thompson, Mary Mrs.,
 Thompson, Parthena Miss,

Thompson, Edward R.,
 Throop, William L.,
 Throop, Lucretia D. Mrs.,
 Tiffany, M. V. B.,
 Tiffany, Mary A. Mrs.,
 Tiffany, Eliza A. Miss,
 Tompkins, Benjamin W.,
 Tompkins, Eliza A. Mrs.,
 Tracy, Mary Ann Miss,
 Tracy, Elizabeth Miss,
 Tracy, Uriah,
 Tracy, Freelove E. Mrs.,
 Tracy, L. H.,
 Tracy, Eunice L. Mrs.,
 Tracy, Mary L. Miss,
 Treadway, Frederic W.,
 Treadway, Sarah C. Mrs.,

 VerPlank, Julia S. Mrs.,

 Ware, Asa B.,
 Ware, Catherine Mrs.,
 Ware, Emma C. Miss,
 Ware, Edmund A.,
 Watrous, Sophronia Miss,
 Webb, Fanny G. Mrs.,
 Webb, Mary E. Miss.,
 Welsh, Maria W. Miss,
 Whittemore, Sarah C. Mrs.,
 Whiton, Ann Mrs.,
 Whittlesey, George W.,
 Wetmore, Almira J. Miss,
 Whipple, Sally Mrs.,
 Whipple, Sarah Miss,
 Willes, Horatio,
 Willes, Eliza P. Mrs.,
 Willes, Henry A.,
 Williams, Lydia H. Mrs.,
 Williams, Sarah E. Mrs.,
 Williams, Lydia W. Miss,
 Woodhull, Mary A. Mrs.,
 Woodhull, Elizabeth B. Miss,
 Woodward, Mary L. Miss,

The first of these is the
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 third is the
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 seventh is the
 eighth is the
 ninth is the
 tenth is the
 eleventh is the
 twelfth is the
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 fourteenth is the
 fifteenth is the
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 nineteenth is the
 twentieth is the
 twenty-first is the
 twenty-second is the
 twenty-third is the
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THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH POLITY.

[The rapid increase of Congregational Churches outside of New England, and the prospect that, in our renovated condition as a nation, that increase will be still greater in the future, impose upon the members of our churches, an especial obligation to study and understand the principles of our Church Polity. The Pastor has therefore added this appendix to the Church Manual, for the purpose of calling the attention of the members of the Church to such points as seem to have, at this time, a peculiar importance and prominence.]

The object kept in view by the Fathers of Congregationalism in England was the restoration of the Scriptural and Apostolical forms of church order, in their simplicity and integrity. In this they differed from many of the German and English reformers, who were willing to accept only a partial change of the Romish ritual. The principles established by their investigations are fully stated in their published works. At an early period in the history of New England, (1648) these principles were embodied in the Cambridge Platform, which was then adopted by all the Congregational churches of the country. Since that time, this platform has been regarded an authoritative exposition of principles by all our churches, except the "Consociated" churches of Connecticut. The modifications adopted by these churches may be found in the Saybrook Platform of 1708.* In addition to these elaborate platforms, the usages of the churches in the application of the principles therein stated, especially as established by the decisions of Councils, have the force of authoritative precedents in our commonwealth of churches. These usages, as well as the general

* See "Congregational Order," published under the direction of the General Association of Conn., Hartford, 1845.

principles upon which they are founded, are embodied in such works as the following : Upham's *Ratio Disciplinae* ; PUNCHARD on Congregationalism ; Cummings' Congregational Dictionary ; EMMONS' Platforms ; Bacon's Manual, and other works. It is the manifest duty of Congregationalists to make themselves familiar with these principles and usages, to examine their Scriptural foundation, to weigh their historical value, and thus to perpetuate the blessings they have conferred upon the world, for future times. For this purpose, a few of the leading principles of Congregationalism are here stated, with their application to some usages at present in vogue among us.

I. The New Testament furnishes a Divinely authorized model for the organization and government of the Church.

Camb Plat., ch. 1. PUNCHARD, pp. 30-37.

This view stands opposed, first, to the view of those who believe that the Apostolical churches had no fixed form of church order ; and secondly, to the view of Romanists, and, to some extent, of Episcopalians, that no perfect rule of worship and discipline can be learned from the Scriptures, except as these are *supplemented* by the writings of the uninspired Christian Fathers.

II. That the model thus given is designed to be permanent and universal in its essential features and principles, but not necessarily in its minuter details.

Camb. Plat. ch. 1. PUNCHARD, p. 35. Cong. Dic. p. 323.

The weight of Congregational authorities is decidedly in favor of the view that the New Testament gives a perfect model of church order, and one which Christian churches in all countries and in all ages are *bound* to follow. By some, this view is held with certain modifications which are rather apparent than real. (*Cong. Catechism, ch. 5*). All agree that no departure from the great principles laid down in the Bible is justifiable, and that any modification of details is only to be justified by a manifest corresponding modification of the circumstances of modern churches, as compared with those of ancient times. There are but three points in which Congregationalists have felt themselves at liberty to depart, even in details, from the Scriptural model, viz: in respect to "the discontinuance of a plurality of elders or bishops in individual churches, of deaconesses, and of the weekly administration of the Lord's Supper." (*Cong. Catechism, p. 83 ; PUNCHARD, p. 78*) They hold that the office of the inspired Apostles was discontinued, from the nature of the case.

III. That any departure from the Scriptural model, however unjustifiable and injurious it may be, does not invalidate the claim

of a church to be considered a true church of Christ, unless the fundamental character and design of the church be thereby destroyed.

Cong. Catechism, pp. 11-82.

Hence Congregationalists cordially extend their fellowship to all organizations which are made up of such, and only such as "are to be saved," and withhold their fellowship only so far as it is evident that the principles and usages of any church organization either exclude true Christians from the church, or receive the unconverted into it.

IV. The object of a church organization is "to gather together in one, the children of God that are scattered abroad," for their mutual edification, for the public worship of God, for the celebration of Christian ordinances, and for the advancement of Christ's kingdom in the world.

Camb. Plat., ch. 3. Punchard, pp. 3-7.

It is manifest therefore that no unconverted person can be a member of the Church of Christ. He has not entered "by the door," but has "climbed up some other way," and is but a "thief and a robber." It is therefore the duty, not of a *session*, nor of a *minister*, but of the CHURCH, (Matt. 18) as soon as his true character is discovered, to sever his nominal connection with them, and to let him become unto them "as a heathen man and a publican." On the other hand, it follows from this principle that no church has a right to refuse admission to any individual who gives satisfactory evidence that he is a true follower of Christ. Any church which deliberately and systematically excludes from its fellowship those whom it acknowledges to be true Christians, thereby impairs its standing as a Christian church, and may, in extreme cases, be excluded from the fellowship of other churches, in the manner provided for in the *Camb. Plat., ch. 15, sec. 2.*

Recent cases have led to the distinct affirmation of this principle. See especially "Proceedings of a Council of Congregational Churches, relative to the Church of the Puritans, New York, and the privileges of the members thereof."

V. The word translated "Church," in the New Testament, has two distinct meanings, which Congregationalists carefully observe.

1. The Church *universal*, comprising all the true followers of Christ in the world, this being "visible," so far as it is made up of those who have publicly united with particular churches, and "invisible," so far as it includes, with these, all true Christians.

Camb. Plat. chap. 2.

2. The *particular* or *local* church, comprising a company of true Christians, united by mutual covenant to maintain the worship and ordinances of God.

Camb. Plat., ch. 2, sec. 6. Heads of Agreement, ch. 1, sec. 1.

VI. The particular or local church is the only *organized* church spoken of in the New Testament. Consequently, it and it alone, is competent to appoint its own officers, to regulate its own worship, and to discharge all church functions. This power no church can transfer to any Bishop, Classis, Conference, Presbytery, Conso- ciation, or to any territorial or national assemblage of churches, which may be termed "The Church" of such district, or nation, without abandoning the Scriptural principles of church order and consenting to a usurpation.

Camb. Plat., ch. 3, sec. 4. Heads of Agreement, ch. 1, sec. 1.

While, therefore, a Congregational church may seek and receive the *advice* of neighbor churches concerning its internal concerns, and in case of disagreement among its members, may consent to abide by their decision as *referees*, it can never transfer *permanently*, to any outside body, the control of its affairs, without vacating its functions as a Congregational church.

VII. While the local church is thus independent in all matters pertaining to itself, it is bound by the principles of Christian fellow- ship, and by Apostolical example, to consult sister churches in all matters of common interest, such as the settlement and dismissal of ministers, and to consider, with great respect, their advice in the premises.

Punchard, p. 177.

The recognition of this principle distinguishes Congregationalists from the Inde- pendents, and Brownists of England, who license, ordain, install, and dismiss ministers, and do all other business, however much it may concern other churches, by the action of the local church alone.

VIII. Sister churches are consulted by the local church through the medium of Councils, constituted upon the general principles recognised in the 15th chap. of Acts.

The functions of a Council of Churches are defined by the terms of the "letter missive" from the local church.

1. The church may invite a council to consider and pass upon the propriety of its action in relation to its own *internal affairs*, or to advise concerning such action, as did the Church at Antioch. Thus, it is very common for churches, after having elected a pas- tor, to invite a council to review their action, as that action affects themselves exclusively, and in case of approval, to install the can- didate.

If it should so happen that a large and influential minority

of the church are opposed to the pastor elect, a council may take up the whole subject of the expediency of the call given in such circumstances. It is competent in such a case to decline to install the candidate, solely with reference to the best interests of *the church itself*.

2. The church may invite a council to consider and pass upon the propriety of its action, as that action affects the *commonwealth of churches*. Thus, a church having invited an unordained licentiate to be its pastor, may call upon a council to consider his fitness to enter the authorized ministry of *all* the churches, as well as the pastoral office of that particular church. In such a case, the council acts, in behalf of the commonwealth of churches in the ordination, and in behalf of the particular church, in the installation of the candidate.

At the same time, even in installing a minister once ordained, a council acts for the neighboring churches in deciding concerning his fitness to enter the pastoral office, *in that neighborhood*. Hence, the candidate for installation is subjected to the same examination as the candidate for ordination.

In this usage, Congregational churches differ from Baptist churches, whose custom is to call councils for the ordination, but not for the installation of ministers.

But with us, the installation of a pastor by the action of the church alone, would be a gross irregularity.—See “Result of the Council called by a majority of the brethren of the South Congregational Church, New Haven.”

3. In case of a division in a church, the opposing parties may unite in calling a mutual council to act as *referees*, agreeing to abide by its decisions. This is the nearest approach to a juridical power outside of the local church, allowed by the Congregational system. Even this was opposed by many of the chief Fathers of Congregationalism, who claimed that the right of a church to determine its own action, was sacred and could not be relinquished, even temporarily, for purposes of reference. The usage is now, however, well established, and is as easily distinguishable from the functions assumed by “Church Courts” and “Standing Councils,” or “Consociations” as the functions of a permanent and authoritative State Court from that of an ordinary referee.

4. A council may be summoned to give *advice* in a case presented. This is the chief office of councils in our system. Their

power in such cases is wholly a moral power. As Mather expresses it, "*The decree of a council hath so much force as there is force in the reason of it.*" Yet this power is found in practice as effective as it is simple and safe.

5. The Congregational system provides for the calling of *ex parte* councils by a church, or a minority in a church, or by any individual member, who may be aggrieved: *provided*, first, that the party calling the council has invited the opposing party to join in a mutual council, which invitation has been refused; and, secondly, that the party calling the council has not already refused to unite in a mutual council.

Punchard, p. 112.

These provisions remove all danger of the calling of one *ex parte* council upon another, since a party who has once refused a mutual council is cut off, by that refusal, from calling an *ex parte* council. It was the disregard of this principle respecting *ex parte* councils, which created the supposed necessity of introducing the Consociational system in Connecticut.

IX. The principles already stated define the relation of the local church to the "Ecclesiastical Society" connected with it, to be a relation of co-operation for a well defined end, and not one of dependence and subordination.

The "Ecclesiastical Society" in the form in which it now exists, as a voluntary organization, is a comparatively recent invention of the civil law,—since the union of Church and State in New England was abolished,—designed to facilitate the communication of the churches with the civil government, and to give to non-church members, who aid in the support of public worship, a voice in the management of ecclesiastical affairs.

The system which guards so jealously the independence of the church against the encroachment of sister churches, should certainly be so administered as to guard that independence from the inroads of all organizations outside of the church. That every voluntary association has the right to elect its own officers, is a dictate of common justice and common sense, which has pre-eminent application to the Church of Christ. By a just and proper courtesy, however, the "Ecclesiastical Society," which may include all who contribute to the support of public worship, is, by universal custom, admitted to a concurrent vote in the choice of a pastor, and to the entire control of the ecclesiastical funds. That the existence of such a power outside of the church involves great peril to its purity is evident from the nature of the case; and unhappily the history of our New England churches proves that the peril is not altogether an imaginary one. Instances have occurred in which an irreligious majority in the ecclesiastical society have ejected from the pulpit the pastor of the church, taken possession of the church edifice and introduced there "another gospel;" and this action has been

sustained by the courts on the ground that by long usage the society had acquired the right to control the church property,—ecclesiastical usages having, in many cases, the force of law, in the civil courts†. These facts suggest the following precautions:

1. It should be distinctly understood that the "Society" is simply a financial agent or trustee for the church, and that all property under its control is to be administered *for the church*, and *in the methods demanded by its established forms and faith*.

2. In the election of a pastor, the action of the church should uniformly *precede* the action of the society, which latter action should be simply concurrent with the former.

3. During the vacancy of the pastoral office a *church* committee, and not the society's committee, are the proper body to introduce candidates, or to provide a temporary supply.*

By a uniform observance of these usages, the church will retain control of its own affairs, and render *illegal* any hostile or revolutionary action of a society, should such be attempted.†

* See a report presented by Rev. L. Bacon, D. D., to the General Association of Connecticut, at its session in Hartford, June, 1863, on "The proper way of supplying vacant pulpits, &c," with the subsequent discussions.

†Extracts from the Statutes of Connecticut concerning Ecclesiastical Societies:

CHAP. IX, SEC. 133.—"Whenever any person shall desire to join any religious society or congregation which has been or shall be incorporated by law, or owned by voluntary association, he may lodge with the clerk of the same, or, if there be no clerk, with any other officer thereof, a written declaration, subscribed by himself, expressing his desire and intention of becoming a member of such society or congregation, and thereupon he shall become a member thereof, entitled to all the privileges and liable to all the duties of a member, *unless a majority shall at their next lawful meeting, manifest their dissent thereto.*"

SEC. 136.—The members of religious societies * * * in their lawful meetings, shall have power to settle ministers *according to the usage of the denomination of Christians to which they belong, etc., etc.*

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