

APPENDIX.

[No. I.]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON UNION.

To the Rev. the Moderator, and Members of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, to meet in Toronto, on the 13th day of June, 1859, the Committee on Union beg to report:—

That in following out the instructions given to them at last meeting of Synod, they requested that a joint meeting of your Committee and the Committee appointed by the Presbyterian Church of Canada, might take place. Said meeting was held in Toronto, August 18, 1858, and after much deliberation, articles were unanimously adopted by both Committees as a Doctrinal Basis for the Union of the two Churches; and it was agreed that they should be presented to their respective Synods for their approval.

These articles were printed, and copies sent to all the Ministers and Sessions, with a request that they should report on them, to the Convener of this Committee, with as little delay as possible, in order to determine whether a special meeting of Synod, as was at one time suggested, should be called in October, to decide upon them.—The number of reports which the Convener received up to that date was so small, and opinion so much divided respecting the propriety of calling a special meeting of Synod, that it was not thought expedient to request the Moderator to summon one. So that the whole question now remains for the action of this Court in the state in which it is presented in the findings of the Joint Committee.

A tabular statement of the replies received from Presbyteries and Congregations is presented along with this Report; from which it will be seen that replies have been received from four Presbyteries and thirty-eight Congregations. Of these, the Presbyteries of Flamboro' and Canada East, approved of the Articles as a Basis of Union, the Presbytery of Brant approves upon the whole, and the Presbytery of Wellington disapproves. Of the Congregations, 21 approve of the Articles as a Basis of Union, 6 approve on the whole, 6 would have other conditions added, and 5 disapprove. This gives a very large majority in favour of Union, so far as the Reports go.

Your Committee are again happy to have it in their power to report that throughout the anxious and protracted meetings of the Joint Committees, the utmost harmony and good feeling prevailed, with scarcely an exception. They would look upon this as a token from God for good; and judging from this, and from the strong desire for Union expressed in the replies that have been received from Presbyteries and Congregations, they indulge the hope that this most important question is now in such a state that it may be satisfactorily disposed of by this Synod, and our negotiations brought to that happy issue which the Church earnestly desires.

All of which is submitted, on behalf of the Committee,

W. TAYLOR, *Convener.*

P.S.—Since the above Report was closed, I have received (June 11) a reply from the Presbytery of London, disapproving of Union on the foregoing Basis. It will be seen, however, that several of the Congregations of the Presbytery have reported in favour of it.

W. T.

BASIS OF UNION.

BASIS OF UNION WITH THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, ADOPTED BY THE SYNOD OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA, ON THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF JUNE, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-NINE YEARS: