

respecting an organic union of the Churches named, would reverently and gratefully recognize the token of the Master's presence as evidenced by the cordial, brotherly spirit and earnest desire for Divine guidance maintained throughout the entire session.

While recognizing the limitations of our authority as to any action that would commit our respective Churches in regard to a proposal that is yet in the initial stage, we feel free, nevertheless, to say that we are of one mind that organic union is both desirable and practicable, and we commend the whole subject to the sympathetic and favorable consideration of the chief assemblies of the Churches concerned for such further action as they may deem wise and expedient."

The finding thus arrived at was duly reported to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church at its meeting in St. John, N.B., in the following June, and to the Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec and the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in the months of June and July respectively, and committees were appointed by these two Churches to confer on the subject of Church Union with the committee previously appointed by the Methodist Church.

The conveners of the committees thus appointed were: Presbyterian, Rev. Principal Caven, D.D.; Methodist, Rev. Dr. Carman; Congregational, Rev. Hugh Pedley.

It was decided by these conveners that the first joint meeting of the three denominational committees should be held in Knox Church, Toronto, on Wednesday the 21st day of December, 1904.

Previous to that date, the Rev. Principal Caven was removed by death, and his place on the Presbyterian section was taken by the vice-convenor, the Rev. Dr. Warden, who was unanimously chosen to preside over the deliberations of the first conference of the three committees. Two days, of three sessions each, were spent in these deliberations. At the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in June, 1905, Dr. Warden was appointed convenor of the Assembly's Committee on Church Union, and Principal Patrick, vice-convenor.

When the Joint Committee met for its second conference, in December, 1905, the convenership of the Presbyterian section was again vacant through death; and the vice-convenor, Principal Patrick, was called upon to fill the place of the late Dr. Warden, as Dr. Warden, one year previous, had been called upon to take the place of the late Principal Caven. The deliberations of the second conference occupied two days and were presided over by the Rev. Dr. Carman.

The Convenor of the Congregational section, Rev. Hugh Pedley, of Montreal, being in England when the Joint Committee met for the third time, in September, 1906, the Rev. J. W. Pedley was called to the chair. At this meeting, to which three days were devoted, the Executive reported that, in accordance with a resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in June, 1906, it had been decided "to address a friendly letter to the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England in Canada, and to the Chairmen or Presidents of the various Baptist Conventions, explaining the action already taken by the Joint Union Committee, and extending to the authorities of the Churches named a cordial invitation to send delegates to participate in their discussions, should they consider it advisable to do so." This action of the Executive was cordially approved by the Joint Committee.

The Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec, in their reply to the invitation addressed to them, set forth the distinctive principles of their Church, and stated that, because of these principles, they considered it "necessary to maintain a separate organized existence," and "to propagate their views throughout the world."

In view of the cordial and brotherly replies sent by the representatives of the Church of England, a special committee was appointed to confer with any delegation that might be appointed by that Church. The question of appointing delegates to