

REPORT, &c.

The Rev. Mr. STRANG, the Chairman, commenced the proceedings by reading as follows :

" Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is to be distinctly understood by the present meeting, that it has been called in compliance with a requisition to that effect, respectably signed by members and adherents of the Presbyterian Congregations in Galt, and addressed to the Reverend Mr Bayne and Dr. Liddell, expressly for the purpose of obtaining from the former a friendly explanation of his reasons for dissenting from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the established Kirk of Scotland, and from the latter, his reasons for remaining in connection with that Body. And further let it be clearly manifest, that this meeting takes place upon the very best terms of feeling on both sides, and not on account of any challenge, or other unnecessary formality ; but simply because of an expressed and well-known desire that exists amongst many deeply interested in the question, to hear from the two Reverend Gentlemen before you a calm, plain and straightforward statement of the Truth.

The Rev. Chairman added—

It has been further agreed to limit the Opening Speeches of the two Reverend Gentlemen to an hour and a quarter each, and their Replies, one from each speaker, to half an hour. I have also to state that every manifestation of applause or disapprobation will be immediately checked, by the Speaker stopping, and the disorderly person being expelled ; and if the meeting will not support the Chairman in the exercise of this power, then it will be forthwith dissolved. Let me remind the audience, that they are not here in the quality of judges, nor are they called on to give any opinion ; but they are here as listeners only, anxious to be informed and enlightened on certain great truths which are about to be discussed. In this spirit, and with these cautions, let us pray to have our minds quieted and our hearts illuminated by the Almighty Grace, for which let us humbly address our Saviour in prayer.

The Reverend Gentleman then put up a solemn and affecting petition that the Almighty would vouchsafe his blessing on their meeting, and make it advantageous to all for the elucidation of