

therefore refuse to grant the same; and after full consideration of the subject, declare that the use of instrumental music in Public Worship is contrary to the principles and immemorial practice of this Church and is not to be permitted in any congregation connected therewith: And further, the Synod cannot refrain from expressing regret that, notwithstanding repeated recommendations, so little interest is taken generally with a view to the improvement of the service of praise in public worship, and again urge on Kirk sessions and congregations to consider their responsibility in the matter, and to be at pains and expense with a view to the improvement of this important part of public worship.

2. Moved by Rev. Dr. Irvine seconded by Rev. Mr. Melville,

That the Synod having heard the Report of the Committee on the remit of last year *anent* the overture and memorial of the congregation of Knox Church, Montreal, on instrumental music, and finding that five Presbyteries, and respectable minorities in some of the other Presbyteries are favorable to the prayer of the memorial, therefore the Synod resolves,

That it is inexpedient to forbid the privilege of instrumental aid in public praise to such congregations as may unanimously or by large majorities wish the same.

3. Moved by Rev. John Laing seconded by Rev. Dr. Ormiston,

Whereas although from the returns of a majority of Presbyteries of this Church, it is manifest that in their opinion "liberty to employ the aid of instrumental music in conducting Divine Worship in their Churches should not be granted to congregations;" nevertheless it does not appear that that majority affirms the use of instrumental music to be unscriptural.

Whereas also opposing opinions are strongly held within this Church as to the expediency both of using instruments as an aid in the service of praise, and of allowing them to be thus used in any congregation of this Church.

Whereas further to use instruments in connection with the worship of God or to allow their introduction is a departure from the present practice of this Church as hitherto understood.

Therefore resolved:

1. To declare that the use of instrumental music, as an aid in the service of praise is sanctioned by Scripture, and is not inconsistent with the standards of this Church.

2. That though the *general* introductions of organs into our Churches is not expedient nor desirable, chiefly in view of the strife and divisions which thus might be engendered; and the liability, through an improper use of the instrument, of interfering with the general singing of congregations; nevertheless the use or disuse of instrumental music is an aid in the service of praise, ought not to be made a term of communion in the Church of Christ.

II. With the view of protecting christian liberty of conscience and worship, and at the same time observing regularity of ecclesiastical procedure in making a change which affects the worship of the Church, to send down this deliverance to Presbyteries and Sessions in terms of the Barrier Act.—Proposing that the Synod grant liberty to congregations to use instrumental music as an aid in the service of praise subject to the following regulations:—

1. That congregations already organized and not in connection with this Church, which have been wont to use instrumental music as an aid in the service of praise, may be received into this Church without giving up such use of instrument.

2. That *congregations to be hereafter organized* may be permitted to use instruments as aids in the service of praise, provided that intimation of