

Missions. Dr. Nicholson, (my own minister), offered prayer for our own Association and all connected with it, at home and abroad. The only thing I felt wanting was your presence, or your brother's. But you and the members of your Congregation were not forgotten. Their large-hearted liberality and earnest Missionary spirit were held up as an example to our Congregations at home, and, though we fear there are not among us many such as Miss Johns, still I trust there are many willing to go at the Master's bidding. I think our friend left us very favorably impressed with the earnestness of the friends she met, and again I have to assure you that the best thanks of the Committee are due to you for offering such a lady to us. We pray that she may long be spared to labour in the Foreign field, and be greatly encouraged in all that she undertakes.

I have written to the Chaplain, Mr. Walker, to have everything comfortable, and to make arrangements for receiving her when the steamer arrives, and I trust that journeying mercies may be granted her, and that, iii. John, 2nd, may be our dear friend's experience in all its fullness.

Excuse this hurriedly-written note. This is our Communion Fast-day, but I did not wish to miss a mail in writing to you of our dear friend's visit to us, so very pleasant.

With every good wish, believe me yours, very sincerely,

ANNIE SANDERS, Secy.

[Miss Johns' address at present is, "care of Revd. Mr. Walker, Chaplain, Church of Scotland, Madras."]

We have been requested to give space to the following communication, which appeared in the *Colonial Standard* of the 10th ult :

To the Editor of the Colonial Standard.

The Minority of the Church of Scotland Synod.

To many who were not present, and consequently did not hear the discussion on the subject of Union, at the late meeting of Synod, those who remained "as they were" when the vote was taken, are, by statements emanating from the majority and their sympathizers, placed in an unfavorable light, as "not preserving their own consistency," and wilfully obstructing the Union movement. A few lines from "one of them" may

help to put them right with the right thinking public.

Whether *wisely* or *otherwise*, the Synod Resolved to submit the Basis and accompanying Resolutions to Kirk Sessions and Congregations,

1st. To ascertain the minds of the people on the question of the proposed Union of the Presbyterian Church throughout the Dominion, and

2nd. By inference, to be governed, to a reasonable extent at least, by the *ascertained mind* of the people, or, otherwise, why stultify the Synod, and mock at the wishes of the people?

On the matter being submitted to the people, the all but unanimous voice of a very considerable and admittedly important section of the Church, was either opposed to Union, or urging delay. In these circumstances, those who had the spiritual oversight of congregations, that had not yet come to see the necessity or desirability of making any change in their connection with the Mother Church, had a right to expect that, by virtue of their opinion being asked, their wishes and suggestions in the matter would be respected.

It was, on the other hand, argued by the majority, that the Congregations which *they* represented, were all unanimously in favor of Union, and were urging them on to an immediate consummation of it, and that, indeed, they were *pledged* to it.

You will observe, then, shrewd, impartial reader, that the minority whom the majority allow are "all honorable men," craved for *delay* on the very same grounds on which the majority avowedly pressed for final steps "towards its consummation," viz : *respect to the wishes of the people*, so that, if the majority was consistent, it is difficult to see on what grounds the minority is charged with "not preserving their own consistency."

If the majority did not intend to keep faith with the minority, who, at an early stage of the negotiations for Union, warned the Synod of difficulties foreseen by them with reference to it, it would have been more consistent then to have *voted* that it should not be submitted to the people at all, than, after it had been submitted, and unfavourably received by a very influential and important section of them, to press on with a determi-