

ample of Christ and the claims of religion. The Sabbath School and family should be pressed into the cause of temperance, and both made a means of disseminating the principles of the Bible on this subject far beyond what they have been in times past. There should be prayer constantly offered in the Sanctuary for those engaged in the traffic in intoxicants, that their eyes might be open to behold the misery they cause, and their hearts and consciences to feel right in reference thereto. Let ministers and elders demonstrate to those among whom they rule in the Son, that they understand the principles on which the temperance reform should be advocated, that they are deeply and solemnly impressed by their power, sacredness and wisdom. And your Committee believe, that it might be the means of doing much good were this court to issue a Synodical Letter containing an exhibition of the Scriptural principles applicable to this whole subject.

But while advocating what is right, let us guard against running into what is wrong. Your Committee feel that the Scriptures do not allow us to enforce the foregoing principles of sobriety by ecclesiastical disabilities, that the man who is not enlightened enough or religious enough to see and feel his duty in the premises, is not to be placed under the ban of the Church. If God has received him, notwithstanding his error on this point, so ought the Church. Still he is to be re-monstrated with, the nature and aggravation of his sin is to be shown to him, and his duty clearly pointed out; he is to be left to God and his conscience in the matter. Nor yet is it consistent with the principles that govern the use of this class of objects, to hold that we are bound to make and use wines because our Lord did so. In these particulars, as in every other, He did whatever pleased His Heavenly Father. But as the rightness or wrongness of making or using wine depends on circumstances, he who pleads that he may do as our Lord did, must show that he is in the same circumstances that Christ was. Forgetting this principle, while he may in letter imitate Christ, he may in truth oppose Him, and place the apostle who said, that he would not drink wine, in antagonism with His Lord.

This Report was received and recommended to the careful consideration of our people. The following resolutions were adopted unanimously:—

On motion of Dr. McCulloch:

“That it be an instruction to the Committee, to call the special attention of Sessions to this subject, with a view of bringing it under the consideration of our people, for

the purpose of devising such remedy as local circumstances may demand.”

On motion of the Clerk:

“That in view of a season of political excitement at hand in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the Synod earnestly recommends all Sessions of the Church in these Provinces to consider without delay what measures can be adopted for warning and guarding our people against giving any sanction or countenance, directly or indirectly, to the use of intoxicating liquors in connection with such times and contests.”

On motion of Rev. John Forrest:

“That the ministers of the Church be recommended to preach to their people on the subject of Temperance, on the 4th Sabbath of December, specially warning them against the drinking usages connected with our Christmas and New Year season.”

Deputations.

Rev. Mr. Robb, Deputy from the United Presbyterian Church of the United States, and Rev. Drs. Thompson and Magie, and Hon. John A. M., Deputies from the Presbyterian Church of the United States, appeared before the Synod and conveyed fraternal salutations.

The following resolutions were adopted by Synod:

“The Synod welcomes among them the esteemed Representative of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, reciprocates, with the greatest cordiality, the brotherly sentiments to which they have listened, and expresses the highest satisfaction at the evidences of life, prosperity and progress which that honoured church so abundantly exhibits.”

“That this Synod desires to express its great satisfaction in welcoming the Deputation from the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, in receiving their fraternal greetings, in reciprocating the same, and in hearing of their operations, success and continuous growth; that we are glad to know that the Union between the two great bodies of which that church is composed has been productive of the happiest results, and that we cherish the hope that the same spirit which has blessed that church in the past will continue to pervade it and bless it in all future time.”

The Synod also received a Deputation from the Wesleyan Conference with friendly christian salutations.