

REPLY OF THE MODERATOR OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH SYNOD OF NEW  
BRUNSWICK.

*Dalhousie, N. B., June 15th, 1861.*

REV. SIR,—I am in receipt of your communication on the subject of Union between the different Presbyterian Bodies in the Lower Provinces, together with a copy of the Minutes of the United Body now known as "the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces of British North America" and which contains the basis of Union now cemented between them. I shall not fail to lay the same before the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick in connection with the Church of Scotland, which meets at Fredricton, on the second Wednesday of August next.

I have the honor to be Rev. Sir,

Yours truly,

WILLIAM MURRAY,

The Rev. J. L. Murdoch, Con. of Com. on Union with other Presbyterian Bodies.

REPLY OF THE SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA, &C., IN CONNEXION WITH THE  
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

*St. Matthew's Church, Halifax, June 29, 1861.*

DEAR BROTHER,—In reply to your kind and fraternal letter of 6th of June last, which has been listened to by this Court with the utmost attention, it affords us very great pleasure to reciprocate the friendly feelings to which you have given expression. We do assure you that we entertain sentiments of sincere affection towards the members of the large and influential Synod which you represent. We cheerfully accord this honor, to which at least a portion of the united Body is clearly entitled, of being the first in this important field and the first to plant the principles and practices of Presbyterianism among the scattered and scanty population that at an early period inhabited this province. We honour and love you for the wondrous and self-denying efforts which you have put forth to render yourselves a Missionary Church—efforts, which, while they have opened the hearts of your people to devise liberal things in connection with your Home Mission field and particularly your *Seminaries of learning, have received so many marks of the Divine favour and converted the wilderness of Heathenism into a fruitful field.* We gladly stretch out the hand of affection to those of your brethren, who have not been separated from us long enough to forget that we have in former times subscribed the same standards, long revered and uttered familiarly the same honoured names, cherished the same hallowed and thrilling associations and laboured in the same portion of the Lord's vineyard.

These are sincere feelings on our part, and we desire to give them practical expression, lamenting that much has occurred on both sides in past times as well as recently, to disturb the harmony that ought to prevail among bodies which possess so much in common. With the above view, we are of opinion that we ought to co-operate in general measures and cultivate brotherly feeling by more frequent exchange of pulpits. It is quite evident to us, that if in God's providence a Union take place such as we would desiderate, it must follow as the result of such a course of preparation.

Reminding you, that in our reply of last year we stated that a matter of so important a character would require serious deliberation, and that we had then enjoyed no opportunity of ascertaining the feelings and opinions of our people, we have now to inform your Synod that, after a sufficient interval of