

Supper dispensed to her in the house. After deliberation it was agreed that the Presbytery express their Christian sympathy with said member, but that they do not see their way to the giving of their sanction to such an innovation on the practice of the Presbyterian Church as that requested.

A Home Mission report was given in by Mr. Crozier and considered in detail. The stations of Hanover and West Bentwick were constituted a vacant congregation.

Mr. Duff requested leave of absence for three months in the coming summer, on account of his health, which was granted.

The remit on Union from the General Assembly was taken up. It was moved by Mr. Duff, seconded by Mr. Crozier, That the basis of union be approved of. It was moved in amendment by Mr. MacMillan, and seconded by Mr. Turnbull, as follows: 1. That this Presbytery recognizes the duty and propriety of union among all branches of the Christian Church, and rejoices to know that some of them are so much in harmony in matters of doctrine, government, worship, and discipline, that formal union may soon be expected to take place between them. 2. That it is glad to find, from the remit of Assembly now submitted, that this harmony largely exists between the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland and the Canada Presbyterian Church, now proposing to unite. 3. But that, inasmuch as the doctrine of Christ's Headship over the Church, and the Church's liberty of action and freedom, is so indefinitely stated in the Confession of Faith that the interpretation and application of it has all along been a source of difficulty and division in the Presbyterian Church, as seen in the fact that each of these Churches now negotiating union found it necessary, in addition to the Confession of Faith, to have and to hold for their protection, and for conscience sake, a special and definite deliverance or declaration as to the understood doctrine and teaching of the Confession of Faith on said points, this Presbytery regrets to find that in the basis of the proposed union between the aforesaid Churches these deliverances on the one side and the other are excluded, and that thus it is proposed to commit the United Churches to a more indefinite and exposed position than either of these Churches now holds, and that such a position, judging from the past history of Presbyterianism, might prove injurious to the future unity and harmony of the United Church, and be productive of strife and division; and this Presbytery, while anxious for union, considers it unsafe to consummate the union on the present basis, and therefore respectfully rejects it, and earnestly commends that further efforts be made to secure a more definite statement of such doctrine in the basis, similar in substance, at least, to what these Churches claim now to hold, that the union may, when accomplished, secure for the United Churches a well defined position, and by the blessing of God, a future history of unity and prosperity. The motion was carried by nine to five. In regard to the resolutions the following motion by Mr. Moffat was carried: That inasmuch as we believe that the proposed distribution of the Temporalities Fund, in regard to Ministers and Probationers, may cause very serious trouble in the future, and place the Ministers and Probationers of our other Churches, present and future, in a very unfavourable and unjust position, we cannot agree to said plan of distribution in said resolutions. Returns to the remit were given in from eight sessions, three approving of the remit, two of the basis, two not approving of the basis, and one not approving of the basis and resolutions. There were returns from eight congregations, five approving and three not approving.

The following Commissioners were appointed to the General Assembly, namely: Messrs. Blain, Moffat, Cameron, and Morrison, Ministers; and Lauder, Nesbitt, Scott, and MacMillan, Elders.

Mr. Thomas McPherson, Stratford, was nominated Moderator of the General Assembly.

Mr. MacMillan was nominated Moderator of Synod.

WM. PARK, *Pres Clerk.*