

prosecute their studies at the ancient seats of learning, and rub off their rust by friendly attrition with the great men of the mother country. The scheme looked well on paper, and received the approval of good men on both sides of the sea. It was undoubtedly good for the boys, and for a time, promised well for the church.

While this experiment was in progress important changes were taking place in the relations of the other Synods. Community of methods led imperceptibly to community of feeling. No one could tell how it happened, but brethren found themselves wistfully looking towards one another. They stood around the embers of old camp fires, and scars here and there reminded them of bitter conflicts. But the demons of dislike and mistrust had gone out. Friendly offices were exchanged, and proposals and terms of union were discussed. The way was found more practicable and easy than the most sanguine had dared to hope. There are a few yet left who can recall that happy day in October 1860, when on the hill above the town of Pictou the union was consummated. At the hour appointed a solemn procession emerged from Prince St. Church, and, in single file, moved up towards the tent. When it reached Knox Church it was joined by another procession. The moderators and clerks were at the front. The fathers followed, and the younger brethren brought up the rear. With every heart throbbing and many eyes streaming, we silently locked arms—moderator with moderator, clerk with clerk, and fathers and brethren with fathers and brethren. Oh! what a going up was that! In this order we entered the tent and took our seats. Prayer was offered. The final minutes were read. The moderators clasped hands, so did every man with his brother, and the union was pronounced complete. The vast concourse assembled to witness and take part in the historical scene gave expression to its pent up feelings in singing the 133rd psalm. The new Synod was constituted and the business of the united church proceeded.

One of the immediate fruits of union was the increased efficiency of the college. The combination of the teaching force of the two Institutions resulted in a very effective staff of instructors. The cumulative duties by which under preceding arrangements, Professors were almost crushed, were now distributed; and a broader field of sympathy and support was provided, and men wondered why they had not thought of consolidation years before.

Six years later, in 1866, the New Brunswick Synod was merged into the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, and the spirit of the larger Union, since happily accomplished, began to make itself felt. The limits of this paper forbid a detailed recital of the steps which led to it. It may be stated, however, as an index of the trend of union