

tions under the usual presbyterial supervision: the General Assembly having considered the whole subject, and having regard to the unsatisfactory position in which the question now stands, while abstaining from direct legislative action, the whole subject should be left in the hands of Kirk-Sessions and Presbyteries, and congregations urged to make efforts for the better cultivation of vocal praise, and Presbyteries enjoined to take order that the substantial prosperity and harmony of congregations be regarded. It was moved in amendment by Mr. Macpherson, seconded by Mr. Hall, that, with all due regard to conscientious convictions, as well as to Christian liberty, and the right of private judgment, the Assembly should decline to sanction by ecclesiastical authority the use of instrumental music in the worship of God, and at the same time recommend all parties to exercise forbearance toward the views and conscientious practices of those who think differently from the majority on this and all kindred subjects. The votes being taken, were equal, and the Moderator's vote was given in favor of Dr. Waters' motion, and the Presbytery decided accordingly. At Mr. Gordon's request his dissent from this decision was recorded. Answers to questions on the State of Religion, were ordered to be forwarded to Mr. Boyd, Crosshill, before the 15th March. On motion of Dr. Waters, it was agreed that, it is the opinion of this Presbytery that no further steps in regard to Union should be taken until the Supreme Courts of the negotiating churches have taken action on the Basis of Union. It was agreed that the expenses of deputations of Presbytery should be paid out of the Presbytery Fund. Presbytery adjourned to meet for ordinary business, at Stratford, on the 20th inst, at 2 p. m.

JOHN FOTHERINGHAM, *Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA.—This Presbytery met within Knox Church, Ottawa, on the 6th and 7th Feb. 13 ministers and 4 elders were present. A more than usual amount of business was transacted. A long time was spent in a review of the whole mission field and considering the propriety of opening up new stations. In this connection it was decided to begin the cultivation of a new district on the Upper Ottawa, and that application be made to the next General Assembly for leave to call and ordain a missionary to labor in this field. It was also agreed to break new ground on the Upper Gatineau, in the Townships of Clarence and Cambridge, and in the Township of Wilberforce. It was decided to recommend some of these fields to the Students' Missionary Society of Knox College, and the College of Montreal. The Presbytery agreed also to resume the supply of Pakenham. Another step in the onward direction was the appointment of a committee to organize a station in Hull, opposite Ottawa city. A report of the visit of Messrs. Gregg and Smith was received, and the Presbytery agreed to record its satisfaction with the efficient manner in which they had discharged their duties.

A committee was appointed to conduct the examination of students and licentiates who may appear before the Presbytery from time to time—said committee to hold office for one year. The Rev. W. Fraser of Bond Head was nominated as moderator of the General Assembly, and the Rev. Prof. McVicar L.L.D., of Montreal, as the moderator of the Synod of Montreal. The following commissioners were appointed to the next meeting of the General Assembly: Ministers—By rotation, Messrs. McEwen, Bremner, and Joseph White; by election, Messrs. McLaren, Crombie, and Carswell. Elders—By election, Messrs. Hay, Hunter, Taylor, Riddell, Mutchmor, and R. Kennedy. The following parties were appointed to represent the Presbytery on the several committees of Bills and Overtures, viz.: of Synod, A. M.: Tait, Minister, and George Rutherford, Elder: of Assembly, J. Carswell, Minister, and A. Mutchmor, Elder.

The Remit anent Union was taken up, and the Presbytery unanimously agreed to Art. I. III. IV. of the Basis and to all the Resolutions. Instead of Art. II. of the Basis, it was agreed to substitute the following:—"That the West-