

other Presbyterian bodies and to report both to the next meeting of Synod; and the Synod do in the meantime enjoin on all the office-bearers of this Church to cultivate a friendly and brotherly spirit with the office-bearers of other Presbyterian Churches, agreeing with us as they do in all points essential in doctrine, worship, and ecclesiastical order, and that ministerial communion and interchange of pulpits be authorized when it is found convenient and desirable.

"The discussion consequent on the reading of papers on the matter of union yesterday was resumed. It was moved in amendment to Dr. Cook's motion, by Mr. Mackerras, and seconded by Mr. Walker, That the report of the Convener of the Committee on Union having been read, the Synod, while adhering to the past declarations of this Court as to the desirability of union among the Presbyterians of Canada who are agreed in doctrine and discipline with the Church of Scotland, yet finding that in present circumstances the proposed union cannot be entertained without disturbing the harmony of this Church, take no action on the report and do not reappoint the Committee on this subject, but the Synod express their earnest trust that though a visible union is evidently impracticable at present, all branches of the Presbyterian bodies in Canada may avoid unseemly rivalry and cultivate a spirit of Christian charity. The question was put, motion or amendment? when the latter was carried by a vote of 29 to 20, and the Moderator declared accordingly.

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#### UNION IN CANADA.

We take the report which follows from the *Presbyterian Witness* :—

"A full hour before the proceedings commenced every pew, every aisle, every corner was crowded, and the enthusiasm was such that even the space reserved for the Synods was so largely encroached upon that when they arrived it was found almost impossible to accommodate them all. The U. P. brethren suffered most in this respect, as they arrived last.

The meeting was opened a few minutes past 7 o'clock by Dr. Thornton, the U. P. Moderator, giving out the 102nd Psalm, verses 13—17. Prayer was offered up by the Rev. Mr. Greig, the Free Church Moderator. The Rolls were then called—the last minutes of the two Synods and the Basis of Union were read; the Moderators then announced that the Union was consummated, and that their respective Synods were merged in the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church. Then followed a general and most cordial shaking of hands, amid the irrepressible plaudits of the vast audience.

Dr. Thornton then declared the first Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church duly con-

stituted, and Mr. Greig offered up prayer. The 100th Psalm was then sung to the tune of *Old Hundred*—the great volume of melody filling the house like the noise of many waters, thus giving fit utterance to the one overwhelming emotion of gratitude and love absorbed every other thought and feeling.

With equal justice and grace the Rev. Mr. Clark of Quebec moved, and Dr. Jennings seconded, that Dr. Taylor of Montreal be Moderator of the United Synod. The motion was put by the Rev. Mr. Greig, and carried by enthusiastic acclamation. Dr. Taylor, arrayed in Geneva gown and bands, was then escorted to the Moderator's Chair by the two late Moderators. He delivered a most eloquent speech, breathing the very essence of Christian unity, love and devotion. An appropriate and comprehensive prayer was offered up by the Rev. Mr. Inglis of Hamilton. Rev. Mr. Ure then delivered an elaborate address on the nature of union. Dr. Ormiston followed with an address on the advantages likely to accrue from union. Dr. O. is one of the most brilliant men in Canada, and on this occasion he did justice to his reputation. Then came our good and venerable friend Dr. Burns, who addressed the meeting on the living character of the Church of Christ. There he stood, heart and soul in the union, and speaking with all the elasticity and vigor which characterised him when, thirty years ago, he was wont to engage in field days in the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr. The only regret was that he was cramped in his treatment of the subject by the lateness of the hour.

A vote of thanks to the Wesleyans for the use of the Chapel was passed, and the proceedings of this most interesting night were brought to a close at 10½ o'clock. Montreal being in the main a Roman Catholic city, the union thus auspiciously accomplished did not fail to excite an interest even among them; and the prevailing sentiment among Protestants is not only favorable as regards what has been done, but astonishment is expressed that any Presbyterians should stand aloof from such a union. We learn, therefore, with great gratification that the subject underwent a lengthy and warm discussion in the Synod of the Church of Scotland in Canada which met a few days ago in Quebec, and that when the subject was put there was a *minority* of from twenty to twenty-nine in favor of union.\* This minority has been steadily increasing, and we make no doubt it will soon be a *majority*. Young Canadians are almost to a man in favor of union, and the opposition comes from fossilized Scotchmen. This by the way.

The Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church now consists of about 250 ministers and 300 congregations. It is aggressive, zealous, hardworking; and we sincerely trust that the union just consummated will enable it to press forward in the career of Christian