

result of the deliberation of these Supreme Courts respectively on all the subjects to which the consideration of this court is invited. In the Assembly the only Basis of Union was accepted by an overwhelming majority, only eight members dissenting, and all the resolutions were passed as recommended by Joint Committee.

In the Synod the only point of controversy was that in which the other negotiating Bodies have always disclaimed any right to judge, and have always manifested approval of the arrangement which the Synod or their Committee have presented. The arrangement as given in the minutes of the Joint Committees was adopted finally with the exception that the salary of \$200 shall in the case of ministers, who shall hereafter with the consent of the Church, retire from the active duties of the ministry from old age or inability, be increased from \$200 to \$400.

It is thus quite evident that so far as the negotiating Supreme Courts in Ontario and Quebec are concerned, the Union must be regarded as settled, and that there is but one course for the Synods of the Lower Provinces to pursue and this course, your Committee would strongly recommend this Synod to adopt, leading down to Presbyteries, Sessions and Congregations the Basis and accompanying resolution for their favourable consideration and with instructions to report at next meeting of Synod.

By order of Committee,
JAMES BATNE, D. D.

Action of Synod.

The Report was received. The recommendations of the Committee were then taken up one by one. In dealing with the Basis,

Article I. Passed.

That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, being the Word of God, are the only infallible rule of faith and manners.

Article II.

Rev. Dr. MacLeod moved, seconded by Rev. D. B. Blair, that article second be amended as follows:

"That the Westminster Confession of Faith together with the Larger and Shorter Catechisms shall be regarded as the subordinate standards of the Church—it being distinctly understood that nothing contained in the aforesaid Confession or Catechisms regarding the power and duty of the Civil Magistrate, shall be held to sanction any principles or views inconsistent with full liberty of conscience in matters of religion."

It was moved in amendment, by Rev.

Professor McKnight that the article pass as it is, when the amendment was adopted by a vote of 89 to 14, viz.:

"That the Westminster Confession of Faith shall form the subordinate standard of this Church; that the Larger and Shorter Catechisms shall be adopted by the Church, and appointed to be used for the instruction of the people it being distinctly understood that nothing contained in the aforesaid Confession or Catechisms, regarding the power and duty of the Civil Magistrate, shall be held to sanction any principles or views inconsistent with full liberty of conscience in matters of religion."

Article III was then adopted unanimously.

"That the government and worship of this Church shall be in accordance with the recognized principles and practice of Presbyterian Churches as laid down generally in the "Form of Presbyterian Church Government," and in "The Directory for the Public Worship of God."

Article IV was then adopted.

"That this Church while cherishing Christian affection towards the whole Church of God, and desiring to hold fraternal intercourse with it in its several branches, as opportunity offers, shall, at the same time, regard itself as being in such Ecclesiastical relations to Churches holding the same doctrine, government and discipline with itself, as that Ministers and Probationers from these Churches shall be received into this Church, subject to such regulations as shall, from time to time, be adopted."

The Resolutions of the Joint Committees on the subject of the Headship of Christ, of State Grants to denominational Colleges and on modes of Public Worship were successively adopted without amendment as follows: On the Headship:—

"That the Committee having heard the Minutes of Conference regarding this subject, which have been read, does now express its satisfaction with the unanimity of sentiment which is exhibited in the documents therein referred to."

On State Grants.—

"The Committee claims for the respective Churches represented by it the fullest forbearance as to any difference of opinion which may exist respecting the question of State grants to Educational Establishments of a Denominational character, and does not see, in such diversity of sentiment upon a subject on which uniformity of opinion is not enforced within any of the negotiating bodies, anything which need