

unanimously affirming the desirability of such a Council.

That such a meeting as the above should have been held during the Conference of the Evangelical Alliance, and under the auspices of the men who did most to bring the Alliance to New York, is very significant. It shows that there is no inconsistency between the closing up of our scattered ranks as Presbyterians, and the closing up of the broken columns of Protestantism to present a common front to common foes. The one is indeed the complement of the other, just as when the camp of Israel was to move forward, all the families connected with each tribe gathered under their own standard, before the tribes advanced as one body. Yet, strange to say, the only opponents to an union of Presbyterians in this Dominion profess to favour an ideal union, embracing in one swoop all Protestants in Canada, as Wesleyans, Baptists, Independents, Episcopalians, and it is to be presumed—Unitarians and Universalists; but an union of Presbyterians *per se*, no—not by any manner of means. That is, let us fly up (or down) the whole flight of steps at a bound, but let no single step be taken. This sort of oceanic sentimentality (oceanic without any rivers running into it) is absolutely unintelligible. But we commend to the particular notice of the opponents of union, that the keenest antagonists of the movement in the Canadian Church have nothing stronger to advance in support of their antagonism than that they desiderate a yet larger union than the rest of the brethren see their way at present to contemplate.

D. G.

## Committee Minutes.

### Minutes of Committee on Christian Life and Work.

Session Room, St. Matthew's Church,  
Halifax, Oct. 16, 1873.

Which time and place the Committee on Christian Life and Work, appointed at last meeting of the Synod, held its meeting. Present:—Rev'd. Messrs. Thomas Duncan, Convener, James Fraser Campbell, Vice-Convener, and

William McMillan, and M. M. Lindsay, Esq. The meeting was opened with prayer. Rev. D. Neish being present, was asked to sit and deliberate. The Chairman read the overture and resolution of Synod appointing this Committee and specifying its work, and also explained that copies of the Reports of the Committees of the Church of Scotland and Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland had been obtained, and were now before the Committee.

The Committee then proceeded to select queries to be sent to the ministers of the church, when the following Subjects and Questions were prepared:

#### I.—EXTENT OF YOUR FIELD.

Would you mention the extent of your field of labour, and the probable number of adherents, including such as attend no particular Church, but are nominally connected with the Church of Scotland.

#### II.—CHARACTER OF FIELD.

What of the Spiritual Life of the Congregation? (1)—How many are in full Communion with the Church? (2)—Do professing Christians seem growing in Spirituality and earnestness? (3)—Does interest in personal religion seem to be growing among others?

#### III.—ORDINANCES.

(1)—What of attendance on Public Worship? (2)—On Prayer Meetings? (3)—Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes? (4)—Have you any suggestion to make, and would you indicate your practice on the subject of Baptism? (5)—What of admission to the Lord's Supper? (6)—What of frequency, &c., of its administration?

#### IV.—FAMILY LIFE.

(1)—What of Family Worship? (2)—What of Parental Instruction?

#### V.—RELIGIOUS WORK.

(1)—What are your opinion and practice anent pastoral work? What dealings have you with those who have made no public profession of their faith? What other means of instruction, if any, do you employ, besides Preaching the Word? Have you any special services for the young? (2)—What share do the Elders take in the work of the