

November. In opposition to this, however, it was moved by Dr. Bayne, seconded by Principal Willis—"That inasmuch as the basis now under consideration contains no statement on the leading applications of the principle contained in article fourth, or on the province of the civil magistrate within which he is to serve and confess Christ—subjects on which unsound and unscriptural views are often held by those who admit the foresaid principle itself—a union on such a basis would virtually involve a compromise of principles, for which it has been the distinction and glory of this Church that it has hitherto contended." This being supported by a small minority, Dr. Bayne and nine other Ministers and one Elder dissented. A Committee was appointed with reference to the commemoration of the Tricentenary of the Reformation in Scotland next year. A communication from Dr. Ryerson relative to religious instruction in schools was submitted. The Synod regarded it as a private document and not calling for special consideration, but they referred to their previous action on the subject, and appointed a Committee to watch over legislation respecting it. In accordance with the Act of the Legislature incorporating Knox College, the Synod passed a resolution respecting the doctrines to be taught in the College, viz.: those of the Confession of Faith and Catechisms. With reference to the French Canadian Mission a Committee was appointed to consider the best mode of carrying on the work of evangelisation in Lower Canada. It was agreed that the Foreign Mission Fund at the disposal of the Synod be applied to the furtherance of the gospel in Vancouver's Island and British Columbia, and a Committee was appointed to manage the business. The Committee on Colportage reported that there were funds on hand to pay all the creditors except Nelson & Sons, whose account without interest was more than \$8,700. The Committee had assets, which should they be realised, would nearly liquidate all the debts, and it was agreed that a collection should be made throughout the Church. The Synod recommended that public and private prayers should be offered up with reference to the harvest and the state of the country. Reports were given in respecting the Widows Fund, Statistics, American Indians, Sabbath Observance, Sabbath Schools and the State of Religion. Various pieces of routine business were transacted and the Synod adjourned on Friday, 24th June.

---

SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA SCOTIA.

This Synod met at New Glasgow on Tuesday, 28th June. The opening sermon was preached from 1st Peter, iii. 8, "Be ye all of one mind." There were present thirty-eight Ministers and twenty Elders. The Rev. Professor Smith was chosen Moderator. It was agreed that a testimonial, expressive of the Synod's respect for the late Dr. Keir, Professor, should be inserted in the Minutes. The Committee on Colportage reported, that 4356 volumes had been added to the stock during the year, and that the Colporteurs were now paid by a per centage on the sales, and gave security for the property in their hands. It was agreed, "that the books circulated by the Committee must, in all cases, be in accordance with the standards of our Church." The Seminary Board reported that thirty-six Students had attended the Classical and Philosophical classes, and seven the Divinity Hall. It was agreed that a fee of Two Pounds, exclusive of necessary expenses, should be paid by every Student attending the Classical and Philosophical classes. The Committee on Union presented an extract from the Minutes of the Free Church Synod, intimating that they had adopted *simpliciter* the Basis as formerly agreed to in 1846. Said Basis was then taken up *seriatim*, and unanimously approved of, with slight alteration. It was agreed to accept the name proposed by the Free Synod, viz.: "The Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces." And it was resolved that thanks be tendered to the Free Synod for their courteous offer to receive the Theological Students to attend the Divinity Hall on the same terms as their own. A deputation from the Free Synod was then received, and addresses were delivered and devotional exercises conducted. The Board of Foreign Missions reported, and it was agreed that 3,000 copies of the