

and Principal Snodgrass spoke in tones of patriotic and Christian fervour that stirred all hearts. One of the best speeches was by a son of Pictou we all are proud of—Rev. D. M. Gordon of Ottawa. Emphatically he said that the fact that the Union would secure the benefit of regular services to outlying districts where congregations of the two Churches were not sufficiently strong for each to maintain their own Church, would outweigh every argument against it. The Union would manifest throughout the Dominion the virtues of their pure faith and simple practice, and would show that the old burning bush was not consumed.

The ablest representative of the small minority was Rev. Gavin Lang of Montreal. His chief fear was that the united Church would exercise social tyranny. "In the course of his ministerial visitations he liked to visit in no formal and stiff manner, but liked to see his people in all phases of their social customs. If they eat, or drink, laugh, dance, or sing, he believed it was possible to do so, and yet to worship the Lord." Mr. Lang has singularly mistaken the country he has come to, if he fancies that Church Courts are likely to persecute him. All the forces of public opinion are too decidedly the other way. However, the elder from Mr. Lang's own Church, Mr. J. L. Morris, brother to the Governor of Manitoba, answered him very ably. He said that "the people had spoken, and it was clear what their expression of opinion meant. The point under discussion was not what had occurred in 1843. Those were dead issues, and should never be disturbed. There was a grand and noble motive before the Synod, and he trusted they would consider the present and future, and not disturb the dead issues of the past. He respected the Church of his fathers, and would give way to none in his attachment to it, and in true loyalty to it he looked forward to the promotion of the interests of the Church in the future."

The Canada Presbyterian General Assembly marched in a body, their Moderator at their head, to St. Andrew's Church, and held a fraternal conference with the Synod. The right hand of fellowship being thus extended, the Synod returned it by going on another

day to the Assembly. Both bodies sat together at the Lord's table in St. Andrew's Church.

One or two changes were made in the basis and resolutions, all of which seem to be manifest improvements. One is that the name should be "the Presbyterian Church in Canada." Now that P. E. I. is part of the Dominion, this is just what it should be called. Just as our Mother Church is called the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, ours should be the Presbyterian Church of Canada. A preamble has been introduced which Dr. Cook rightly styled "suitable and becoming in itself, and entirely in accordance with the style and language of the Church of Scotland on all great and solemn occasions."

On account of these changes, the basis as amended has been sent down to Presbyteries, Sessions, and Congregations, with instructions to report at an adjourned meeting of Synod to be held at Toronto in October; and a committee on legislation is to lay before that meeting a draft of any measure which they deem necessary to the proper consummation of the Union. It is expected that everything will be arranged by that time, and, as the Assembly also meets in Toronto at the same time, that they will be enabled to adjourn to meet in Montreal next June with the Synods of the Churches of the Maritime Provinces, and consummate the Union, and have one Church from ocean to ocean based on the standards of the ancient Church of Scotland. May the Great Head of the Church bring it to pass! He has already made mountains that were in the way into plains, and if it is of Him it will surely come to pass.

CHURCHMAN.

### The General Assembly of the Church of New South Wales.

The ninth session of the General Assembly opened on the 28th October, 1873. The past Moderator, Rev. Dr. Lang, preached from 1 Cor. i. 22-24. The Rev. John Kinross, B.A., of Kiama, was unanimously elected Moderator; and, having taken the chair, addressed the court. The business of the Assembly was disposed of in a satisfactory manner, and a good tone prevailed.