

sionary and benevolent operations of the several Churches, according to their respective claims, and that with regard to the practical work of the Church, and the prosecution of its Schemes, whilst, of course, the General Assembly shall have the supervision and control of all the work of the Church, and be the final Court of Appeal, yet the Committee recommend that the United Church shall have due regard to such arrangements, through Synods and local committees, as shall tend most effectually to unite in Christian love and sympathy the various sections of the Church, and at the same time to draw forth the resources and energies of the people in behalf of the work of Christ in the Dominion and throughout the world.

NAME.

It was resolved that the name of the United Church shall be "The Presbyterian Church of British North America."

At the 2nd sederunt on Wednesday morning, it was agreed to take up the consideration of the Articles of the Basis.

The First Article was read and agreed to as it stood in the Committee's report.

The Second Article having been read, it was moved by Dr. Topp, seconded by Mr. McPherson, That the former portion of the Article down to the words "for the instruction of the people," be adopted as read. It was moved, in amendment by Mr. McTavish, seconded by Mr. King, That the Article be not adopted, but be recommitted, so as to secure the place for the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, as Standards, which they presently hold in this Church. It was moved in further amendment by Prof. Inglis, seconded by Mr. J. Ross, That the second resolution be remitted to the Committee with a view to the following amendment, viz.,—Omit the words down to "for the instruction of the people," and substitute the following: "that the Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, are the Confession and Catechisms of this Church, and contain the authorized exhibition of the sense in which we understand the Holy Scriptures." Mr. McTavish withdrew his motion, and a vote was taken, when the motion of Dr. Topp was carried by a large majority. Mr. Ross dissented from the decision.

Dr. Topp, seconded by Hon. J. McMurrich, moved, that the latter part of the Article be adopted in the report of the Committee. Mr. McTavish, seconded by Mr. C. C. Stewart, moved that the following be substituted for the latter part of the Article: "That no interpretation or reception of such portion of any of these documents as regards the duties of the civil magistrate in matters of religion, is held by this Church, which sanctions persecution." On a division the motion of Dr. Topp was carried by a large majority.

At the sederunt at 3 p. m., on Wednesday, 5th, the Assembly proceeded to consider the Third Article in the Basis. The Article having been read, Dr. Topp, seconded by Mr. McPherson, moved its adoption. The motion was agreed to. The Fourth Article was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. J. Ross, seconded by Mr. McTavish, moved that the following Article be added to the Basis of Union: "That the Lord Jesus Christ is the only King and Head of this Church; that He has made her free from all external or secular authority in the administration of her affairs, and that she is bound to assert and defend this liberty to the utmost, and ought not to enter into such engagements with any party as would be prejudicial thereto." It was moved in amendment by Dr. Topp, and seconded, that the Four Articles already agreed to be adopted as a whole, and shall form the Basis of Union for the United Churches. It was moved in further amendment by Hon. A. Vidal, seconded by Mr. J. A. Thomson, "While the Assembly most cordially approves of and adheres to the statements embodied in Mr. Ross's resolution, it does not consider it expedient to add that resolution to the Basis of Union. A division was taken, when Dr. Topp's amendment was carried successively over the amendment of