

Episcopal Church met in the same city at the same time. It was ascertained, also, that arrangements had been made for the Union Committees of the Primitive Methodist and Bible Christian Churches to assemble in Hamilton at the same date for conference with other bodies in the interest of union. It was evident, therefore, that this was now a live question that could not be ignored, nor could it be settled by vague resolutions that meant nothing. A time had arrived when a simple yes or no would be demanded, for there was a general conviction that union must be now or never. At an early period in the sessions of the Conference of the Methodist Church a large committee was appointed to which all matters pertaining to union were referred. This committee met the committees of the other churches, and by a unanimous vote the discipline of the Methodist Church of Canada was accepted as a basis of negotiation. In reporting back to the Conference, the committee stated that in regard to doctrines, general rules, usages, and constitution of the lower courts, no difference of opinion was expressed, but that on some other points mutual concessions would be necessary, especially in regard to general superintendency and lay representation in the Annual Conferences. The representatives of the Methodist Episcopal Church attached great importance to the principle of superintendency, but not necessarily in the form to which they had been accustomed. The representatives of the Primitive and Bible Christian Churches, while not advocating the principle, were willing to concede it, provided the other bodies would concede the principle of lay representation in the Annual Conferences in some form. The General Con-