

At the evening service in Morningside Established Church, Principal Snodgrass, of Kingston, officiated. Here we found the psalmody led by a very fine organ and choir.

The venerable Dr. Adams, of New York, presided over the closing meeting of the Council on Tuesday evening, the 10th July. The Hall was filled to its utmost capacity, and the proceedings which lasted to a late hour were particularly solemn and interesting. On motion of the Chairman, seconded by Dr. Hoge, of Richmond, an address to the Queen was enthusiastically adopted. Resolutions conveying the thanks of the Council to Dr. Blaikie, his staff of assistants, and the people of Edinburgh, were respectively carried by acclamation.

Dr. Oswald Dykes, of London, afterwards delivered an eloquent parting address. It was announced that the next General Council would meet in Philadelphia, in September, 1880. Then the vast audience united in singing the last three stanzas of the 122d Psalm,—“Pray that Jerusalem may have peace and felicity,” etc., and, with the Apostolic Benediction, this Council was dissolved.

The majority of the Delegates met again the following day in circumstances of peculiar interest, the particulars of which, however, must be deferred till next month.

### Encouragements.

**SEVENTEEN** years ago, there were four separate Presbyterian Churches in the Maritime Provinces and three in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario. In 1860 two of the four churches of the Maritime Provinces became one. In 1866 two more united, and in 1875 all became one except the Anti-Union Presbytery of Pictou. In old Canada two churches effected a harmonious union in 1861 and all were embraced in the happy union of 1875, except the Anti-Union party. There has been rapid and steady growth in all the Provinces, with the prospect of accelerated rapidity of increase in

the future. This consolidation of our forces, this healing of old breaches, this wiping out old dividing lines and vestiges of fraternal strife cannot surely but mean that the Lord has a great work for our Church to do in this Dominion and throughout the world. Had God intended to fling us aside as having no more need of us, He would no doubt have given us a spirit of strife and division, of jealousy, narrowness, suspicion, and self-righteousness. Blessed be His name that He has given us a spirit of peace and brotherly love.

It requires no considerable exercise of memory to recall a time when we had not a College in the whole Dominion, when we had no Professor, when we had not a single student preparing for the Ministry. Now we have our five Colleges in the older Provinces, and a sixth in Manitoba. Our students are increasing in numbers and are filled with the spirit of self-sacrifice and zeal in the work of the Lord.

Twenty-five years ago, we had but one missionary labouring among the heathen: to-day we have our Missions in China, India, the New Hebrides, and Trinidad. Then our annual contributions for the evangelization of the Heathen were not more than £400 or £500: now we require an annual expenditure of \$30,000. It is not too much to say that thousands have already been gathered into the Redeemer's fold by our Foreign Missionary operations; but more are under instruction this year than ever before, and we touch the vast dark mass of Heathenism at a larger number of assailable points.

Twenty-five years ago, our Home Missionary operations were very limited in their scope; the agents were few and the amount of money raised for the purpose was very small. Many of our ministers had to spread their labours over vast districts of country and to “endure hardness” in ever-toilsome and often perilous pioneer work. We have now well-organized Home Missions extending from Newfoundland to the vast and newly opened West. Our annual expenditure in this department alone verges on \$40,000.