

Rev. Mr. Bain, Rev. Mr. Reid, Hon. A. McLean,

Rev. Dr. Ormiston was called to the chair, and Messrs. Reid and Bell were appointed clerks.

Rev. Principal Willis, on call of chairman, engaged in prayer.

Statements were made as to the action of the respective Synods with reference to the question of union among the different bodies of Presbyterians in the Province.

It was then agreed to engage in a friendly conference to ascertain each other's views, it being distinctly understood that no discussions or conclusions of this meeting shall be held as binding any of the Synods in any way whatever.

After a lengthened conference of the most friendly character, it was found, that, on most of the questions discussed, there was a substantial and most gratifying harmony of sentiments and feeling. On some points there was a diversity of opinion frankly expressed, which yet did not appear to preclude a reasonable hope that, through the blessing of God, the ultimate removal of all serious difficulties in the way of a general union, may be the happy results of further negotiation.

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOT- LAND.

The Rev. H. Mc Lennan, late of Paisley C. W. has been inducted to the charge of the Congregation in Whitby. A new and handsome edifice has been erected, chiefly through the liberality of a Mr. Laing. Mr. Mc Lennan has a large and important field in and around Whitby, and if the arrangements for the contemplated union of the Presbyterian bodies were consummated Whitby would furnish one large Presbyterian Congregation.

--From a very sensible speech delivered to the Students' Missionary Association by the president, we learn that in this Church Catechists are required to write out beforehand whatever expositions or exhortations they may offer to the people, and to hold themselves in readiness to submit all such written expositions or exhortations to the Presbytery when called for. We regard this as a most important arrangement not

only for the sake of soundness of doctrine but also for the interest of students themselves.

—A great man in connection with this church in Scotland has fallen. The Rev. Dr. Robertson of Edinburgh has been early gathered to his fathers, and has left few behind in this Church as companions for talent, energy and devotedness.

—It is not unfrequently remarked that no life, however useful or illustrious, is indispensable; and the saying, though trite, is true. When an unfortunate workman gets entangled and crushed to death by a large piece of machinery, the great wheels go on revolving as if nothing had happened; and, when any one falls in the world by disease or accident, the world with its roaring traffic goes on the same as ever. Death, cold and cruel, sweeps the generations of mankind away, and we are never missed, no more than the leaves which the wind sweeps off the tree. Some of us die in the dark winter-time, and, before the summer is green, we are clean forgotten, except perchance by one or two loving hearts. Men are born and men are buried. Nations rise and nations fall, but the absorbing plan of Providence is independent of every vicissitude on the crust and surface of the Earth. It keeps rolling and unrolling by night and by day, evolving the Divine purposes without stop or hindrance.

Three things are called precious in the Scriptures: "precious faith," (2 Peter, i, 1); "precious promises," (verse 4); "precious blood," (1 Peter, i, 19). All our precious mercies twine to us in precious blood, as may be seen by comparing these Scriptures together: Romans, v, 9; Ephesians, i, 7; Colossians, i, 20; Hebrews, ix, 7, 14; 1 John, i, 7; Revelations, i, 5. It was an excellent saying of Luther, "One little drop of this blood is more worth than heaven and earth." Christ's blood is heaven's key.—[Brooks.

I have read of a fountain that at noon-day is cold, and at midnight it grows warm; so many a precious soul is cold Godward, and heavenward, and holinessward, in the day of prosperity, that grow warm Godward, and heavenward, and holinessward in the midnight of adversity.