

there was no reason to be discouraged about the present condition of the Continental Churches. Weak though they were, they were far stronger and far more hopeful now than at any other period in this century. He heartily sympathized in the proposal before the meeting. The Waldensian Church had Presbyterian forms centuries before the Protestant Churches were born. Episcopalian friends whom they loved had tried to make Italian Protestantism assume their form of Church government, but the attempt had failed utterly.

Dr. Harris, of the Welsh Presbyterian Church, said that their General Assembly had given this subject in charge to a Committee. "We are courting you quietly," he added, "for we feel that we must unite, or be eaten up. All that is needed to make persons holding the one faith unite is to bring them face to face. A Jewish Rabbi in Columbus, Ohio, said to me the other day, 'I believe that if Moses and Jesus had lived in the same age, they would have been the best friends.'"

Rev. Mr. Fliedner, Spanish Evangelist, son of Dr. Fliedner, of Kaiserswerth, urged immediate action. Our Spanish Church is, on the whole, Presbyterian; though we have not adopted the Westminster Standards; so much so indeed that the Irish and Scotch Churches in Spain have united themselves with us. Episcopalianism has been tried with the Protestants of Spain, and has failed. "This movement," he continued, "cannot be considered as in the interests of Sectarianism; for the larger a Church is, the wider the views of its members must be. Questions of great importance come before us in the founding of our Church in Spain, and we feel ourselves inadequate to their solution. We may take narrow and local views of them. Help us by giving us the counsel of a wise and impartial, because universal Conference."

Dr. Cole, of the Reformed Dutch Church, Yonkers, spoke fervently.— "The desire for a closer union with brethren has been growing on me for the last ten or twelve years till now it amounts to a passion. This longing is universal in our day, and is the work of the Holy Spirit. Some of us are disturbed at the idea of changes. The

Lord has intended that there should be changes in His Church. Remember how Stephen shows this to be the fact even in the history of the Jewish Church, and the rage of his hearers at such an idea. They could not tolerate any change. In the history of the Church of Christ we have had in succession the Apologetic period, the Dark Ages, the Reformation, and the Age of Creed-making. We are now to have the Age for the consolidation of the Church."

Dr. Arnot, of Edinburgh, thought that such a Council would do good. It was a rule that the greater the comprehension the less the extension; and the greater the extension the less the comprehension. This Council would embrace so many different Churches that it could not insist on likeness in all points. He thought that it might include Evangelical Episcopal Churches, churches whose bishops acted somewhat as the Superintendents that were found to be necessary in the early history of the Church of Scotland.

Professor Krafft, of Bonn, said, "Our Gallican Church is founded on the Presbyterian basis, and I believe that our ancient Synods would send delegates to such a Council." Dr. McCosh said that this was the most important announcement that we had heard in the course of the evening.

Rev. J. Murray, of P. E. I., thought modern Presbyterianism had gone back from the idea of the old Reformers, viz., the consolidation of the Church in opposition to Romanism.

Professor Smyth, of Londonderry College, thought that we should not at once commit ourselves to anything definite. Presbyterianism implied two principles, the parity of ministers and the right of appeal from one Church Court to another. Will not the second principle be invaded by the formation of such a Court, or are you proposing a Supreme Council that is not to be supreme? He would prefer a Convention.

It was explained that no one intended the establishment of another Church Court.

Dr. Hall, of New York; Greer late M. P. for Derry; Berkely of Ireland; Rev. G. M. Grant of Halifax, and others having spoken, a resolution was passed