

From the *Presbyterian* we learn that Rev. D. M. Gordon of Ottawa, on behalf of Mr. Patterson, Convener, read the Returns to the Remit, from which it appeared that eight Presbyteries voted yea, three sent no returns, and that none had voted nay. Eight Kirk Sessions had voted yea, twelve nay, and forty-six had made no return. Ninety-five Congregations voted yea, ten nay, and forty-five had made no returns. The report was supplemented by a verbal statement to the effect that additional returns had been received since the making up of the report from one Presbytery, nine Congregations and five Kirk Sessions, all voting yea. A number of protests against the terms of the proposed Union were then read from individual members of Congregations, when Mr. Gordon moved, seconded Dr. Jenkins:

"That the Synod having heard the report of the Committee appointed to examine the returns to the Synod's remit on Union, do now adopt the preamble, basis and resolutions contained in the said remit as the articles of Union between the four negotiating Churches, viz: the Canada Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, the Church of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, and do now resolve to consummate the Union on the ground of these articles after the next meeting of this Synod in June, 1875, provided the necessary legislation with regard to the Church and College property with a view towards the consummation of Union shall by that time have been secured."

In supporting this motion the mover claimed that the non-reporting Presbyteries and Congregations should be considered as adhering to the opinions expressed by them at the last meeting of the Synod, and that thus the case would stand as follows:—Eleven, or all the Presbyteries, voting yea; 102 Kirk Sessions yea, and 16 nay; 20 making no returns. Of the congregations, 120 voting yea; 13 nay, and 17 sending no returns.

Against this action, fifteen gentlemen entered their protest.

Mr. Thomas McLean next submitted a very lengthy amendment to the effect,

That this being an adjourned meeting of

Synod, it was *ultra vires* to take up the returns to the remit at all, and that because the proposed distribution of the Temporalities Fund is a departure from the resolution of the Synod of this Church agreed to in 1855, and from the fundamental principle then laid down "that all ministers who have a claim to the benefits of the Fund, shall be ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and that they shall cease to have any claim to any share of it whenever they cease to be ministers in connection with said Church." And that whereas it is contemplated by the proposed union to sever the connection of this Church with the Church of Scotland, and to divert the Temporalities Fund to purposes different from those intended by the donors and beneficiaries of such Fund, and without their consent, that all ministers of this Church uniting with any other Presbyterian Church thereby sever their connection with the Church of Scotland and deprive themselves of the right to participate in the Fund; and further, that it is not competent for the Synod of this Church, without the consent of all the ministers interested in the Fund, to make any disposition of the same for any other purposes than those expressed in the original resolution of 1855 referred to, and that therefore the Synod do hereby resolve to sist procedure.

Although the hour was very late, the debate was continued by a number of speakers, among whom was Rev. Gavin Lang, who warned the Synod that their application to Parliament for the legislation that had been referred to, would meet with the strenuous opposition of the minority, and concluded a long speech by moving the following amendment, seconded by Rev. Robert Dobie:

"That notwithstanding that the Report now submitted shows that a considerable majority of Presbyteries, Kirk Sessions and Congregations has returned "Yea" to the Remit on Union, this Synod, in view of the many difficulties, legal and otherwise, which surround the question, and especially of the expressed determination of a large number in both this Church and that of the Lower Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland to remain in that connection, and resist the alienation of the property presently held by these Churches, deem it expedient to suspend the negotiations with the other Presbyterian Churches, and meanwhile, with the object of promoting a healthful union sentiment and action, appoint a Committee to confer with Com-