

great enterprise in which the church of Christ is engaged both at home and abroad, there is obviously the greatest encouragement patiently to continue, and not to faint—nay, every success, every demonstrated want cries loudly to the disciples of the Son of Man to hasten forward, to work and pray unceasingly, for the night cometh in which no man can work. One only discouragement presses upon them. The cry for labourers has gone through the land. But few have responded to the call. Is it that the church of Christ has yet to learn her dependence on the Divine hand? Is it that the consecration of the Lord's servants to His service is calculating and cold, shrinking from the needful sacrifice? The Committee ask the solemn and prayerful attention of the Society to this feature of their work. Most emphatically must they repeat the words of the Captain and Leader of our salvation—'Lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest.'

#### THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE

Which met on the 24th of last month, in the town of Picton, granted a second £100 to be spent in promoting the attainment of a Canadian Maine law. The body also granted a premium of £25 to be awarded to the writer of the best Maine Law tract of not more than eight pages. Competitors to forward their manuscripts to the awarding committee, by the first of August next. The Treasurer's report shows a balance in his hands of £40 16s. 2d. The next session of the Body will be held in Bytown, commencing on the 27th of next October.

3,500,000 members are now found in the Evangelical Church of the American Union, giving for the past 50 years an *eight fold* increase, while the augmentation of the population has only been *four fold*.

### Transactions of Public Meetings.

#### UNION.

At a meeting of Members of the Free and United Presbyterian Churches, held this day, at Mr. William Matthewson's—after engaging in devotional exercises, Mr. William Dow was unanimously called to the chair, and Mr. John Ratcliff having been requested to act as Secretary—the following Resolutions were submitted, and unanimously adopted:—

1st. Moved by John Ratcliff, seconded by William Heron, and

*Resolved*—That a Union between the United and Free Presbyterian Churches is not only highly desirable, but a duty, which these Churches owe to the cause of Christ, and the moral and the religious interests of this country.

2nd. Moved by Robert Gardiner, seconded by William Agur, and

*Resolved*—That we firmly believe it to be the duty of the minister and members of these denominations to consider, and we hereby call on them prayfully to consider how much truth they hold in common; how many of their differences are misconceptions, and do not involve principles, and whether such differences can warrantably constitute terms of communion.

3rd. Moved by John Hepburn, seconded by William Matthewson, and

*Resolved*—That, to comply with the requirements of Christ, in regard to the unity of his people, and the general spirit of apostolic injunction, and with a view to meet the necessities of the thinly scattered Presbyterian population, where are often now two churches, where there is only support for one, and to avoid that

spirit of rivalry which is sure to be engendered thereby; and also that we may present a more united front to the mass of ungodliness, infidelity, and popery, that surrounds us, we pledge ourselves to do our utmost to promote the above contemplated union, in the hope that more influential parties will take up the matter, and push it to a happy consummation.

4th. Moved by James Burns, seconded by Thomas Thornton, and

*Resolved*—That the above Resolutions be sent for publication, to the *Ecclasiastical and Missionary Record*, the *Canadian Presbyterian*, and *Canadian United Presbyterian Magazines*, in order that the subject may be brought before the people of the United and Free Presbyterian Churches, with the hope that other branches of the Church of Christ may be stimulated to join with us in this effort for union.

The following Committee (being equally taken from both churches,) were then appointed to carry out the spirit of the foregoing Resolutions, viz:—William Heron, William Matthewson, Robert Gardiner, James Burns, Alexander Dalziel, Robert Ratcliff, John Heron, John Ratcliff, John Hepburn, and Hugh Fraser. William Heron, Convener; John Ratcliff, Corresponding Secretary.

The chairman then concluded the meeting by committing in prayer the cause to Him who ruleth among the nations, and turneth the hearts of the children of men.

Thus appropriately terminated the most brotherly meeting, which, considering the opportunity for intimation, was numerously attended. Throughout the entire interview, not a jarring word was heard, but one feeling seemed to animate those present, as if there were but one heart in the whole assembly, and that heart warmed with love for the Redeemer's cause, and zeal for the honor of his name. As each Resolution was put from the chair, every individual present testified his approbation, and love and harmony characterised the whole proceedings. We trust that many others in different parts of the country will meet and compare their views, and that glory to God in the highest, and peace and good will to men will be the result.

WILLIAM DOW, *Chairman.*

JOHN RATCLIFF, *Secretary.*

WHITBY, 18th April, 1854.

—*Presbyterian Magazine.*

#### MISSIONARY CONVENTION IN NEW YORK.

The missionary meeting, designed for conference with the Rev. Dr. Duff, for which arrangements were made some time since, convened in the Lecture Room of Rev. Dr. Jas. W. Alexander's church, New York, on the 4th inst. Some two or three hundred of the prominent friends of Missions were present, including officers of the voluntary and various denominational organizations—seven evangelical denominations being represented. It will be understood, that there was no design to break down denominational distinction, nor to encourage the idea that all can be fused into one or more general organizations. The effect of this conference is precisely the reverse of this; it shows that however much the various branches of the church may insist upon carrying on their operations distinctly, they are yet aiming at the same great end, and can still confer with each other as to the most efficient methods of accomplishing it; in other words, that distinctive organizations do not argue uncharitableness, or hostility and conflict. The following is a condensed report of the proceedings:—

"At 10 o'clock the meeting was organized by the Hon. Luther Bradish, as the presiding officer, and the Rev. Mr. Patterson of Philadelphia, and John Paton of New York as secretaries.