

the course Mr. Clarke had seen fit to take, and said that his views were by no means an objection to his membership, and urged a withdrawal of the resignation. Mr. Clarke expressed surprise at the unexpected expressions of liberality in doctrine, and the kindly feelings manifested towards him. At a meeting of the Membership Committee held subsequently Mr. Clarke was induced to withdraw his resignation.

Rev. John Burton, of Toronto, also tendered his resignation on account of his retiring from his church at the end of June, and his possible removal from this part of the country. The Membership Committee afterwards recommended that no action be taken until Mr. Burton's path be made clearer. The members expressed the warmest regard for him, and instructed the secretary to give him a letter to any other body expressive of esteem and confidence.

Rev. John Salmon had also tendered his resignation, but was induced to withdraw it.

Rev. Samson Nicholls, of Olivet Church, Toronto, was received into the Union. The application of Rev. W. H. Madill, of Alton, Ont., was received and filed in the usual manner, to be acted upon next year.

The committee to meet the Dominion Temperance Alliance will consist of Rev. Messrs. Charles Duff, J. P. Gerrie, J. Morton, C. E. Bolton, E. C. W. McColl, J. T. Daley, and Messrs. George Pim, H. O'Hara, W. W. Buchanan, and J. R. Dougall.

Two strong resolutions were presented by Rev. J. Wood, of Ottawa, and were carried, condemning the permission of canteens on the camping-grounds of the volunteers, and the bar-room restaurant in the Parliament Buildings at Ottawa.

The Sunday School Committee reported 67 schools, with 953 teachers and 7,655 scholars, but many were unreported. The schools had raised \$2,966, nearly half of which had been given to home and foreign missions. Ten per cent. of the scholars were church members, 174 having joined in the past year.

The committee on "Church Union," as appointed on Monday, June 12th, is as follows, both shades of opinion being fairly represented:

Rev. Dr. S. N. Jackson (convener), Rev. Dr. Cornish, Rev. J. Wood, Rev. J. G. Sanderson, Rev. J. Burton, B.D., Rev. Chas. Duff, M.A., Rev. A. F. McGregor, Rev. J. Morton, Rex. W. H. Wariner, B.D., Rev. E. D. Silcox, Rev. Robt. Aylward, B.A., Rev. W. Johnson, Messrs. S. P. Leet (Montreal), J. M. Duff (Montreal, E. Cushing (Montreal), H. O'Hara (Toronto), C. J. Atkinson (Toronto), J. Goldie (Guelph), A. Alexander (Hamilton), J. White Woodstock, H. Yeigh (Brantford).

The following ministers were invited to sit as corresponding members:—Rev. J. A. Murray, Rev.

Dr. Antliffe, Rev. Ira Smith, Rev. Dr. Leonard, Rev. Canon Richardson, Rev. W. J. Clark, Rev. M. P. Talling, Rev. J. R. Gundy.

The committee on the Y.P.C. Endeavor Societies had received replies from only 38 societies, returning the number of members as 1,468, of whom 485 were associate. The average attendance at the meetings is 1,132; 788 are church members, of whom 118 were added last year. Ninety per cent. attended the Sunday services of the church, and about sixty per cent. the weekly prayer-meeting. They had raised an average of \$25.78 by each society, mostly expended on mission work. The hope was expressed that there would be a more general response next year to the circulars sent out.

Rev. W. McIntosh presented the greetings of the N. S. and N. B. Union in a happy speech, and hoped to see delegates to their Union from this body.

The principal address at the closing meeting in the evening was by Rev. Morgan Wood, of Detroit, on the subject: "Modern Missions of the Church," which he handled in an able and most interesting manner. The meetings for the year then adjourned.

OPEN AIR PREACHING.

Some people are so afraid of out-door preaching that they would need an expurgated gospel, for it is evident that the Lord Jesus took the opportunity of preaching to people wherever he found them. *That is the principle.* In carrying out this principle in our towns, we find, that whereas many men never go to church, we must find them on the streets, or not at all. As to the "dignity," or the want of it—of such exercises, the sooner the thought is let go the better. Is it right? "Yes." Will it do good? "Yes." Then take it up. The Congregational churches of London, England, are taking up this work vigorously. In fact they have never intermitted it, but at present it is much practised. A correspondent of the Chicago *Advance* thus writes:—

The Congregational churches are doing great good in holding street meetings. One near me has a street meeting at 5.30 p.m. on the Sabbath, and preaching in the church at 6.30, which is the usual hour in London for Sabbath evening services. At 8 p.m., they hold an after meeting, a very general rule in all churches on Sabbath evening, and after a half hour's service, in gathering up the fragments of the day's labors, and planning and pledging for other conquests, they go out and hold another street meeting. A walk of a few blocks will show the haunts of a number of these services in a single evening, on week day evenings as well as Sabbaths.