

and Messrs. Robson, Maclean and Blanchard, Elders. The matter is now sent down for the consideration of the churches in the following terms:

The Committees on Union appointed last year by the Supreme Courts of the four Presbyterian Churches of British North America, having reported that a Union between the negotiating churches is practicable, desire further to ascertain in some degree the mind of the church in general. The Synod therefore submits the following questions to Presbyteries and Sessions, with the request that they shall return an answer to the Convener of Committee on or before Aug. 31st ensuing.

First.—Is a Union of the negotiating churches desirable?

Secondly.—Are you willing that it should be carried into effect on a basis such as is published on Page 10 of these minutes."

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Clerk read the report, which is as follows:

Report of Board of Foreign Missions, 1871.

TRINIDAD.

When our last report was submitted to Synod we rejoiced together in the conviction that one missionary, Mr. Blue, whom we had never seen, would even then have reached the New Hebrides, and might be occupying the post vacant by the death of the devoted Morrison; and that another, Mr. Grant, who was with us, would, before the close of the year, strengthen the mission to Trinidad, and encourage the heart of our missionary there. In the first expectation we were disappointed, in the last our hopes were realized. Mr. Blue withdrew from ill health and could not go to the work. Mr. Grant went from Synod to visit the churches connected with the body in New Brunswick, and aided by the brethren chiefly of the Presbytery of St. John, accomplished his work speedily, comfortably, and most successfully. Everywhere welcome the visit of himself and associates, Messrs. McKay and Houston, proved in this Province, as a similar visitation had proved in Prince Edward Island, cheering to themselves, refreshing and stimulating to the churches.

Besides this tour the Board asked only closing prayer-meetings in a few centres in Nova Scotia. The irrepresible zeal of your missionary, however, led him either to accept invitations or to volunteer services to such an extent that with only a few exceptions he visited the churches from Yarmouth to Halifax on both sides of the Province, besides Stewiacke, Truro, and many con-

gregations in Pictou county and beyond it, extending from Antigonish eastward to Tatamagouche westward. He was thus employed up to the last week, and almost to the last day of his stay in his native land. The farewell prayer-meetings held in Pictou, New Glasgow and Halifax, were occasions of great interest, from the numbers attending, the spirit of fervent devotion prevailing, and the deep interest manifested alike by the ministers and people, as evinced in speeches, prayers and tears. The hearts of the people were with the missionary. His words stirred their souls and their prayers followed him.

After a comfortable passage Mr. and Mrs. Grant and son reached San Fernando on Sabbath morning, Nov. 19th, all in good health, save that our missionary felt and showed the exhausting effect of the prolonged strain to which his strength and nervous system had been subjected by months of travel, of visitation, of incessant public speaking, and of trying farewells. The strain was too great, and while we hope and pray that no permanent injury may follow, we must learn to guard the health of our missionaries in future with a more jealous care.

THE COOLIE MISSION.

Having thus accompanied our young Brother to Trinidad, we may as well present our Report on that mission field at once, and with as great brevity as possible.

MR. MORTON'S WORK.

With Mr. Morton's field it may be presumed that the Church, and especially the Synod, is somewhat familiar, and that at present it requires no description. His work, however, may be briefly sketched. On every Lord's day he holds three Coolie services, and one for the small English congregation under his charge at Iere. The early morning service is at some distance, and alternately at the Palmyra estate or at the Lothians. At the first of these the attendance is about 24, and at the other probably about the same. Here, however, there is a class of about 15 learning to read, to which Mr. M. gives lessons every Wednesday evening. The English diet of public worship, and the main, or central one, for the Coolies, are held at the Iere chapel, while another for Coolies is also held at Malgretoute estate, near to San Fernando, with an average attendance of about 30. During the week he has the superintendence of the Coolie school taught by Soudeen, who continues to give great satisfaction as an instructor, and also in his general conduct. Mr. Morton's presence there, however, is only necessary occasionally. Besides the Wednesday afternoon lessons to young Coolies at the Lothians, he on Thursday gives instruction at the Ward