

clerk wrote his minutes with the bowl of the pipe resting on the table and the other end in his mouth. The women were in the gallery; and the men who were present as spectators stood on both sides of the Church, all smoked vigorously. Coffee was at intervals kindly handed round by the female servant of the minister. But the business proceeded—"ex fumo dare lucem"—with great order, decorum, and apparent intelligence. The president has a wooden hammer (a thing which might with advantage be imported,) and when a member is about to speak, he gives a knock on the table and announces the name. When a question of importance is under discussion, or a vote is to be taken, the President calls the names in succession, accompanying each call with a knock of the mallet. When this is the case the members rise and deliver their opinions. But when the President does not knock with his hammer and call the names, the members speak sitting, carrying on the discussion in a conversational way. The president speaks much oftener than is allowed in our moderator; and it seems to fall to him to gather up the sense of the court, and to propose the deliverance. The impression which was produced upon the minds of the deputies, as to their mode of doing business, was exceedingly favourable. The members seemed to attend to the matter before them, to speak their minds frankly and fully—elders as well as ministers, and to be anxious to maintain the truth and the purity of discipline. There is obviously life and vigour among these men. They have the cause of Christ at heart; and if guided and blessed, they will yet do great things for a pure gospel in Holland.

"THE FORMAL RECEPTION OF THE DEPUTIES.—At four o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, the three professors came to the hotel and conducted the deputies to the Synod, who were warmly welcomed, and placed on the right hand of the vice-president, all the members standing. The church was again quite filled. The 133d Psalm having been sung, Dr. Thompson addressed the Synod. He specified the links which, in an ecclesiastical and literary point of view, formerly connected Scotland with Holland, and which still induce us to take a special interest in them; adverted to the similar origin, character, and aims of the two churches; urged the value of an educated ministry, to which he was glad to learn they were attending; dwelt on the importance of preaching the doctrines of free grace, as has been done in all our pulpits; spoke of our independence of State control and disapproval of State endowments; intimated how thankful he was to know that they were resolved to uphold the entire Sanctity of the Sabbath, the fence and bulwark which has been placed around the church of God; and concluded by reference to the contemplated union between the Free and the United Presbyterian Churches. Another psalm was then sung and Dr. Somerville addressed the Synod. The aim of his address was to show that the church of Christ, set up by God on earth, is intended to be 'the light of the world'—the source of spiritual life and riches to all classes and kindreds of men: that with this its diffusive character is connected the special promise of Christ's gracious presence: that in order to answer its end, the Church must hold and teach the truth 'as it is in Jesus!—must have love, that love which is the fruit of faith, love to Christ love to Christian brethren, and love to all men, and must have the true spirit of prayer—the source of its strength and success: that where these three things exist, the Church is a light and a blessing, and there will ever be growth and expansion; that the Lord will prosper and enlarge the Church just in proportion to what it does for the ignorant, whether at home or abroad; that as commerce enriches nations, so does giving to the destitute multiply the resources of Christ's people; in proof of which assertions the missionary experience of our Church was described; and the brethren were called upon, in reliance on divine aid, to fill Holland with a pure gospel, and at the same time to take their place, as means and opportunities offered, among those evangelical agencies that in obedience to Christ's parting command are seeking to enlighten the dark places of the earth. The addresses—which we have every reason to believe were faithfully translated, were heard