

for the first time wrought as harmoniously with one another as if they had never been connected with separate organizations. So far as the ministers are concerned, at least, the union is complete in spirit as it is in form; and though time may be required to completely heal the wounds which have been inflicted in particular neighbourhoods in former days, and to obliterate the memory of such a state of things, which happily exists no longer, the demonstration of the feasibility of the fusion of all the separated parts of our common Methodism into one homogeneous amalgam may be considered complete. There has been in each of the Conferences a gratifying increase in the membership of the Church, as compared with last year. The work of Church extension has been pushed forward with commendable zeal; and though in some few instances there has been a slight falling off in the funds, it is readily accounted for by the uncommon stringency of the money market, and the commercial depression which has prevailed throughout the country. Upon the whole, the year just closed has been marked by a gratifying degree of prosperity; and while, as a Church, we raise our stone of remembrance, and put upon it the inscription, "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us," we have a right to "thank God and take courage," in the confident assurance that "the Lord of Hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge."

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.

After years of earnest, and, we believe, prayerful deliberation and negotiation, the union between the "Canada Presbyterian Church" and the "Presbyterian Church of Canada" has at length become an accomplished fact. With the exception of possibly a dozen of congregations, connected with organizations in the United States, and a congregation or two heretofore connected with the "Auld kirk," who seem to be disposed to carry their opposition to union to the

extreme, Presbyterianism throughout the Dominion is one. Already this great and powerful Church has received, as it deserves, the congratulations of Protestant Christians of all denominations. Even the Anglican Synod, a body proverbially cautious about doing anything which would imply a recognition of any other Church than that which it represents, carried away by a generous enthusiasm, which every true Protestant cannot but admire, did itself the honour to adopt, by acclamation, a resolution expressive of the great pleasure with which it regarded the consummation of the union. Presbyterianism has set a noble example in this matter of union to the other denominations, and deserves their thanks as well as their congratulations. The Presbyterians were the first to enter, in an earnest and practical way, upon the work of healing the divisions existing among themselves, and they have been the first to arrive at complete unity. As Methodism has followed their example to the extent of not only taking one important step in the process of the unification of our own denomination, but has also entered upon preliminary negotiations which look to nothing less than uniting the *dissecta membra* of Methodism throughout the Dominion into one compact and powerful body, may wisdom and grace be given us to persevere until this grand consummation be reached.

DOMINION DAY.

The First of July, which we suppose is to be regarded as our national birth-day, was observed as a holiday throughout the Dominion; but whether the full significance of the event which we celebrate on that day has yet wrought itself into the minds of any very considerable part of the Canadian people is doubtful. It certainly has not produced any very remarkable degree of enthusiasm. The confederation of the Provinces, in which the foundation of our nationality has been laid, was