

ordination will therefore follow almost immediately. Those stations have been without a settled pastor since Mr. Thompson's departure to Olympia, though they have been supplied on Sundays by the Rev. Hugh McMillan. We believe that under Mr. Campbell's ministry they will be built up into a strong and living Congregation.

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## Intelligence.

### Conference of Committees on Union at Montreal.

The four Committees met at Montreal on Sept. 26th, but on account of the absence of the Maritime Provinces' delegates, did not proceed to the transaction of business till the next morning. Thereafter the Sessions lasted nine hours each day till the evening of Oct. 2nd. Thirty-two members were present, 11 being from the Kirk in Canada, 10 from the C. P. Church, 7 from the P. C. I. P., and 4 from our Synod. The deliberations were earnest, dignified, and thorough, and almost entire unanimity marked the conclusions on the various subjects discussed.

The first two days were spent in discussing the basis. To all appearance it has been considerably extended, but this is only in appearance. The Larger Catechism, the Directory of Public Worship, and the Westminster Form of Chure's Government have been added, but the Confession of Faith is the only doctrinal basis, the only test of orthodoxy, the only document to be subscribed. There is a great advantage in including all the Westminster Standards. Since that great Assembly of Divines met, the church has never had an opportunity of meeting in its collective capacity and giving forth its testimony as to faith and worship. And it is well known that the Assembly aimed at compiling and did compile forms of Catechising, of Public Worship, and of Polity, as well as a Confession of doctrine;—and now that the scattered branches of the old church are re-uniting, they find on looking round that those four documents drawn up more than two centuries ago express generally and substantially their present

position. So what better can they do than thus go back to the old Standards, and hold by them until an opportunity is afforded of revising and abbreviating them? A noble testimony is thus given to our essential unity, to the steadfastness of Protestant churches to the faith, and to the history and present position of our Mother Church. On such a basis as this, what true son of the Church can decline to unite?

The question of Queen's College and of Theological Halls occupied a great deal of time. Two things were clearly seen; first, that Queen's was insufficiently equipped to keep up the two Faculties of Arts and Theology as they ought to be kept up to attract students;—and secondly, that if the United Church retained the five Halls now owned by the various contracting parties, there would only be a nominal union, as the old lines of division would be maintained, and jealousies and irritations fostered in the bosom of the Church. Hence the joint Committee proposes a scheme of concentration based on compromise and concession all round. The Kirk is to strengthen Queens as a Faculty of Arts, giving it about the same number of Professors and a similar division of subjects as in Glasgow or Edinburgh; the united Church is to have its tutorial work also done there; that is, facilities are to be afforded there for the general training of young men studying for the ministry who are unable to take the regular Academic Course; the theological department of Queens, and the Halls at Montreal and Quebec are to be united into one, (situated at Montreal, but to be the theological department of Queen's,) with Dr. Cook as its head, and with at least four Professors;—the Halls at Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax are to be affiliated to Queen's. By this arrangement, the Church will have all that it requires both in literary and in theological training.

As to other matters, it is proposed that the basis of representation to the General Assembly be one in six, that the Assembly meet once in the Lower for twice in the Upper Provinces, that Home Mission work should be left chiefly to Synods, that Foreign Missions should be adopted by the whole Church but the headquarters be in Nova Scotia, &c., &c.

The C. P. General Assembly is to