

phrases and Hymns, were now in use in the Canada Presbyterian Church ; that the Basis of Union in 1861 provided for the administration of worship in the Church, as had hitherto been observed by the two branches comprising the United Church ; that the Hymn book of the United Presbyterian Church was used in certain of the congregations, while others were not at liberty to use it ; and praying the Synod to take such steps as it might see fit to extend the same liberty to all the congregations, with respect to Hymns, and to prepare a Hymn book based if deemed proper, upon that already recognized. Messrs. McVicar, and Inglis, were heard in support of the ministers. The subject was discussed at great length. The following motions were brought forward with a view to settle the question.

1st. It was moved by Mr. Waters, seconded by Dr. Thornton, that a committee be appointed to correspond with sessions and Presbyteries, on the subject of the overtures, and to report to next Synod.

2nd. Mr. Cochrane, moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Burns, that the Synod having considered the overtures from the Presbyteries of Hamilton and Montreal in regard to the desirability of uniformity in the worship of God in the congregations of this Church, approve generally of the object contemplated by those who advocate a revision of the hymns and paraphrases at present used as part of public praise, and appoint a committee to consider maturely the whole subject, correspond with Presbyteries and Kirk sessions, and report to next meeting of Synod.

3rd. Mr. McLaren, seconded by Mr. J. Fraser moved that the Synod having heard the parties in support of the overtures on Psalmody from the Presbyteries of Montreal and Hamilton, agree that they be laid on the table till the next meeting of Synod.

4th. It was moved by Mr. William Inglis, seconded by Mr. Turnbull as follows : The Synod, having heard the overtures and the pleadings of the Presbyteries of Montreal and Hamilton in their support, resolves that, whereas as by the very constitution of a Presbyterian Church it is impossible that any congregations within its bounds should have special spiritual privileges and others should labour under particular disabilities ; and whereas the large majority of the congregations of this Church are now using one or other of two collections of Hymns, and which have already been sanctioned by the Synod, it is not in present circumstances deemed necessary to take any step in the direction indicated by these overtures.

On a vote been taken the motion of Mr. Cochrane was carried, and a committee was appointed in terms thereof. From this finding several members dissented.

REPRESENTATION OF SESSIONS.

It was agreed to send down for the consideration of Presbyteries the following questions with reference to the representation of sessions in the superior courts, the subject having been by overture brought before the Synod.

1. When two or more district congregations, having separate Sessions are under the care of one pastor, should each of such congregations have a representative elder in Presbyteries and Synods ?

2. Shall the practice hitherto obtaining in this Church of allowing Sessions to choose others than their own members as representatives be continued ?

BEACHVILLE CHURCH DEBT.

A verbal report was presented as to what had been done with reference to the Beachville Church debt, to the effect that correspondence had been had with several parties, but that nothing of consequence had been accomplished. The Synod received the interim report, and again referred the matter to a Committee to prosecute it further, and to report to next meeting of Synod.