

From "The Presbyterian" for September.

THE UNION.

ACTION OF THE FOUR NEGOTIATING CHURCHES.

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There are four parties interested in the pending negotiations for Union: our own Church and the Canada Presbyterian, in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, "the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces of B. N. A.," and "the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and adjoining Provinces." At the meeting of their respective Supreme Courts, held in 1870, committees were severally appointed to consider the desirableness and practicability of an organic Union of these different members of the Presbyterian family. From that time until now Committees on Union have been annually appointed by each of the Churches and the great question itself has, during four years, furnished the chief topic of discussion in the various Church Courts. The proceedings in this matter may now be said to have reached the final stage. It is, therefore, interesting and important in the highest degree to ascertain the mind of the parties concerned. We can only judge the mind of the great body of the people by the voice of their re-

presentatives, and it is to be remembered that all the Supreme Courts as well as the Presbyteries are composed of an equal number of laymen and clergymen.

[At its last meeting the Synod of the Kirk approved of the Basis of Union by a vote of *eighty-eight to ten.*]

If there was any vote taken in the assembly of the C. P. Church in regard to sending the revised Remit down to Presbyteries and Sessions, it has escaped our notice. In regard to the main question, the assembly was well believe all but unanimous, the only expressed dissent being in regard to the Resolution on "modes of worship," to which exception was taken by five Ministers and one Elder. Among the ministers were Rev. John McTavish and Rev. John Ross. The former, it is well known, has publicly stated that, although he has not got all he wanted in this Remit, his opposition to the Union is at an end.

It will be seen from the subjoined extracts that both the Churches in the Lower Provinces through their respective Synods have approved the Remit, and consequently the proposed Union, without a single dissentient voice.