

United Presbyterian Synod, expressing at the same time the earnest hope that these resolutions may meet with the approval of our brethren of the United Presbyterian Church."

At this stage it was agreed that the Synod should engage in devotional exercises, accordingly prayer was offered up for the Divine blessing on the step now taken towards union, and the Synod united in singing the closing verses of 122nd Psalm.

GENERAL UNION OF PRESBYTERIANS.

With reference to the subject of Union, we may here state that a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland,—the Rev. G. Bell, of Clifton, was introduced and addressed the Synod, expressing the desirableness of Union among the Presbyterians of the Province on the ground of the Westminster Standards.

It was unanimously agreed to record the satisfaction with which the Synod had listened to the sentiments of Mr. Bell, and the hope that, in the Providence of God, the way may be opened for the union of Presbyterians in the Province.

It was also, in accordance with an overture transmitted to the Synod, agreed on a subsequent day, that the Committee on Union be instructed to hold themselves in readiness for affectionate Christian intercourse with brethren of other branches of the Presbyterian Church, with a view to the removal of obstacles, and facilitating an approach towards union in truth and love with all the members of the Presbyterian family in this land.

COURTESIES FROM PUBLIC BODIES.

It is right to notice the courtesies which were shown to the Synod by Public Bodies in the City of Hamilton. A letter was received from the Committee of the Mechanics' Institute inviting the members of Synod to visit at any time the Library and Reading Room of the Institute. There was also a letter from the Commissioners of Water Works, inviting the members to witness the play of water from the fountains and hydrants. Both these communications were acknowledged in respectful terms.

REFERENCE FROM PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG REGARDING CONGREGATION OF OTONABEE, AND REV. F. ANDREWS.

This case was before last Synod in another form. On Friday morning it again came before the Synod. Papers were read and parties were heard. On Saturday consideration of the case was resumed. Ultimately four notices were submitted:

1. It was moved by Rev. J. Laing, seconded by Rev. W. T. McMullen,—That the reference be sustained, and a commission of Synod be appointed to visit the congregations of Keene and Westwood to make further inquiry, and finally to dispose of the matter.

2. It was moved in amendment by Principal Willis, and seconded—That the Synod sustain the reference from the Presbytery of Cobourg, find that the Synod has not before it materials for a final judgment in this case, to warrant a dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Minister and congregation of Otonabee, especially in the summary way pointed to in the reference. At same time recal the judgment of the Presbytery, on the question whether there

is or there is not ground of 'libel'; but inasmuch as most of the offences charged were not alleged till long after the fact, and under circumstances which admit of the supposition that the former were aggravated if not originated by prejudice, the Synod appoint a committee to visit Otonabee to complete the expiation of the case, so far as may seem best, and make an end of the matter, either by accepting Mr. Andrews' resignation, or accepting such mutual expressions of regret, and of restored confidence as may give hope of the pastoral connection being continued with edification; or finally, if there appear ground for libel, that the Commission shall so conclude, reporting its judgment to the Presbytery of Cobourg, to which this notification shall be a warrant for proceeding according to the rules of this church.

3. It was also moved by Rev. J. Gillespie, seconded by Mr. Wilson: That the Synod having read the documents, and heard parties in the case, dismiss the reference. Finding however, from the papers in the case, as well as from the parties at the bar, that indiscretions have taken place on the part of Mr. Andrews, and irregularities on the part of the Presbytery of Cobourg, the Synod admonish all parties concerned to follow after the things which make for peace, and the things whereby one may edify another.

4. It was also moved by Mr. Kemp, and seconded—That the Synod having heard parties and read documents, sustain the reference without approving of the proceeding of the Presbytery in the case, and find that Mr. Andrews has acted with a want of due regard to the character of a father in the Ministry, and further, while the Synod have no evidence that the allegations of an affidavit submitted are true, yet it appears that Mr. Andrews has not been sufficiently circumspect in his conduct towards the person therein concerned.

On a division taking place the first motion was ultimately carried, and in terms of it the Synod appointed the following as a commission of Synod to visit the congregation of Keene and Westwood, make further inquiry, and finally dispose of the matter, viz: Dr. Willis, Messrs. Topp, Scott, J. K. Smith, Dr. Irvine, Messrs. Gillespie, T. McPherson, Wilson, Kemp, A. Smith, McMurich, Sherwood, and Mr. G. Robertson,—Dr. Willis, Convener, in his absence, Mr. Topp.

TRI-CENTENARY OF REFORMATION.

At the afternoon diet of Friday, the Committee on the Tri-centenary celebration of the Reformation in Scotland presented a Report. The Report referred to a communication received from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, intimating that said Synod had instructed all the ministers of the Church to direct the attention of their people to the character and results of the Scottish Reformation on the 16th Dec. 1860, expressing also a desire that the Synods of other Presbyterian Church in the Province should adopt a similar arrangement. The Committee recommended to the Synod to issue a recommendation to all the ministers of the Church to bring the subject under the attention of their congregations, with suitable confession of sins, and acknowledgement of the Divine goodness. The Committee also recommended that the

Synod grant a commission to the Rev. Dr. Burns, now in Scotland, to represent this Church at the meeting to be held in Edinburgh for the celebration of the Tri-centenary of the Reformation, and a similar commission to Rev. Principal Willis, if in Scotland at the time. The Committee also recommended that on Monday evening, 18th inst. the Synod should hold a public meeting for the purpose of engaging in devotional exercises and hearing addresses on the subject of the Scottish Reformation, submitting at the same time a programme for the meeting referred to.

The Synod sustained the Report and adopted its recommendations.

We may add that on the evening of Monday the Synod in terms of this resolution held a public meeting with special reference to the Reformation in Scotland. Devotional exercises were conducted by several members of Synod, on the call of the Moderator. Principal Willis delivered an address on "the Theology of the Reformation;" the Rev. A. F. Kemp on "the Polity of the Reformation," and the Rev. T. McPherson on "the Effects of the Reformation."

REFERENCE FROM PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

The Synod took up a reference from the Presbytery of Brockville, with reference to Mr. Robert Kennedy, formerly a student of Knox College and now engaged in evangelistic labors. The papers in the case were read, and the Rev. A. Melville was heard in explanation of the reference.

The two following motions were submitted:—

1. It was moved by Rev. A. Kemp, and seconded by Rev. R. Ure—that the Synod dismiss the reference and decline to give any deliverance in the case.

2. It was moved by Rev. W. T. McMullen, seconded by Rev. W. McLaren—that the Synod sustain the reference from the Presbytery of Brockville, and in reply, find that while particularly anxious to guard against throwing any obstacle in the way of Mr. Kennedy's usefulness, yet this Synod sees no ground to warrant it in sanctioning Mr. Kennedy as an Evangelist in connection with this church.

MINISTERS INVITED TO SIT WITH THE SYNOD.

The Synod unanimously invited the following Ministers to sit with the Synod viz: Rev. T. Lowry, Rev. W. S. Ball, Rev. R. Wallace, Rev. D. Anderson, Rev. J. Rennie, Rev. J. Irvine, Rev. W. McIndoe, Rev. R. D. McKay, and Rev. R. Jamieson.

MINISTERS APPOINTED TO PREACH ON SABBATH.

The following arrangements for preaching on Sabbath as reported on by the Presbytery of Hamilton were sanctioned by the Synod. For Knox's Church—morning, Rev. A. Topp, afternoon, Gaelic service, Rev. J. McMillan; evening, Rev. W. McKenzie.

For McNab Street Church:—Morning, Rev. W. T. McMullen; afternoon, Rev. A. Young; evening, Rev. George Lewis.

STUDENTS TO BE TAKEN ON TRIALS FOR LICENSE.

On application regularly made, the Synod granted leave to the following students for