

Intimation was given by extract minute of the Presbytery of Durham, that the call from Beaverton to Rev. Chas. Cameron, of Priceville, had been declined. A call from Wick and Greenbank, addressed to Mr. Anderson, was sustained. The Presbytery, according to previous notice took up the Assembly's remit on Union, and gave it much and careful consideration. Several motions respecting the "Basis of Union" were presented, but being mostly drawn up with a view to a certain ultimate finding, they were all gradually withdrawn in favor of the following presented by Mr. Smith and seconded by Dr. Thornton, viz :—

*Resolution I.*—That this Presbytery, desirous of union between the several negotiating Churches, and rejoicing in the substantial harmony which exists among them with regard to important points of faith and manners, would recommend a union simply on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical basis of our common standards, without being encumbered by any further additions.

The Bible and the Confession of Faith formed the basis of the recent union of Presbyterian Churches in the United States, and which is in the words following :—

"The union shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical basis of our common standards. The Scriptures of the old and new Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. The Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and a lotted, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures, and the government and discipline of the Presbyterian Church of the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity."

*Resolution II.*—In the opinion of this Presbytery, the first three articles contain all that is required for a basis of union, and inasmuch as these articles have been agreed upon by the Joint Committees, therefore this Presbytery would recommend that these three articles be the basis on which the negotiating Churches shall unite.

*Resolution III.*—That as the third and fourth resolutions (including the Act of Independence), are unnecessary, and as many think they may commit the Church to doubtful principles and practices, this Presbytery would recommend that they form no part of the deliverances of the negotiating Churches.

R. H. THORNTON, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—This Presbytery met in Central Church, Hamilton, on the 13th and 14th January, Mr. Wilson, of Caledonia, was Moderator. There were 17 Ministers and 10 Elders present. The Clerk was authorized to give to Mr. Seven, who returns to Scotland, a certificate of ministerial status. Mr. McClung was licensed to preach the gospel. A minute, expressive of the feelings of the Presbytery on the translation of the Rev. A. B. Simpson to Louisville, Ky., was adopted and engrossed in the records.

The Rev. Thomas McPherson was unanimously nominated for the Moderatorship of next General Assembly. A Committee, consisting of Messrs. McCall, Fraser, Fletcher and McBean was appointed to visit the congregation of Ridgeway, investigate and try to remove the existing difficulties therein, and report to next meeting of Presbytery.

The question of Union was taken up for consideration. By returns laid on the table it was ascertained that 13 Sessions approve and 5 disapprove of Union on the present basis, and that 16 congregations approve, and 3 disapprove of it. The several returns were read and ordered to be transmitted to the General Assembly. The Presbytery then proceeded to consider the matter. It was moved by Mr. McCall and seconded by Mr. Porteous, that the basis of Union be *simpliciter* adopted. It was moved in amendment by Mr. Laing and seconded by Mr. John Brown, Elder. 1. That Union among the Presbyterian Churches in the Dominion is desirable, if it can be accomplished in terms satisfactory to all parties concerned, with due regard to the principles held in common by the Churches, and to harmony of action; and that the Presbytery cherishes the