

Our fellow christians in the older parts of the country will thus see the necessity of their aid and co-operation in sustaining the gospel ministry in the new settlements, and by so doing they will in no wise lose their reward.

Yours respectfully,

Derby, 18th April, 1859.

JAMES WEBSTER.

News of the Churches.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.

At a recent meeting of the United Presbyterian Presbytery of Toronto, the following motion on union with the Free Church, was adopted:—"That the Presbytery having received reports from all the Sessions in the bounds, except two, respecting the proposed basis of union between the Presbyterian Church of Canada and the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, find that all these Sessions are favourable to union; but that, with respect to the basis, there is considerable variety of opinion. And the Presbytery agree to state that they cordially concur with the Sessions in earnestly desiring union, and cherish the hope that it may soon be satisfactorily accomplished, but conceive that the basis ought not to be adopted by the Synod without important amendment. The Presbytery also take leave to state that they have seen a report of the basis adopted in Victoria, Australia, by the Synod in connexion with the Church of Scotland, by the Synod of the Free Church, and by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church; and respectfully submit that that basis ought to be brought under the consideration of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada as preferable to the basis proposed here."

The Australian basis is:—"We, the undersigned ministers and elders of the Synod of Victoria, the Free Presbyterian Synod of Victoria, and the U. P. Synod of Victoria, having resolved, after long and prayerful deliberation, to unite together in one Synod, and in one Church—do now, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and with solemn prayer for his guidance and blessing, unite in one Synod to be called The Presbyterian Church of Victoria, and resolve and determine that the following be the fundamental principles and articles of this union, and be subscribed by each of the members of the New Synod:—

"1. That the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, the Form of Presbyterian Church Government, the Directory for Public Worship, and the Second Book of Discipline, be the standards and formularies of this Church.

2. That inasmuch as there is a difference of opinion in regard to the doctrines contained in these standards, in relation to the power and duty of the civil magistrate in matters of religion, the office-bearers of the Church, in subscribing the standards and formularies, are not to be held as countenancing any persecuting or intolerant principles, or as professing any views inconsistent with the liberty of personal conscience, or the right of private judgment.

"3. That this Synod asserts for itself a separate and independent character and position as a Church; possesses supreme jurisdiction over its subordinate judicatories, and congregations, and people; and will receive all ministers and preachers from other Presbyterian Churches applying for admission on an equal footing, who shall thereupon become subject to its authority alone."

DONATION AT STANSTEAD.

Rev. Alexander Macdonald has received two donation visits lately, from the people of his charge. On the 1st March, the friends at Stanstead Plain called at his house, the company numbering 63, and including some Episcopalians, Methodists, Adventists, and Universalists, and leaving some \$80 worth of articles, and money. On the 16th another took place at Marlow, and though it rained, almost the same number met in the school-house,—result about \$40. Many kind friends testified their love to their pastor during the winter, in like manner.