

misapprehension on the subject, declare explicitly whether they had in their summary of common principles fairly represented the mind of the Church. In connection with the request thus made, a debate took place, which lasted over the better part of two days. Dr. Johnstone, of Limekilns, seconded by Dr. Cairns, moved what was in effect a formal recognition of the Articles of Agreement as containing the doctrines which were most surely believed among them; while, on the other hand, Mr. Hutton, of Paisley, proposed that 'the Synod decline to give any other declaration of the mind of the Church than that which is authoritatively contained in the standards, as modified and explained by the formulas for the ordination of office-bearers.' Most unfortunately, the division on this question at the close of the debate was taken by a show of hands, and even that was done so loosely that the hands were not counted. The result is, that nobody can certainly say how large the minority was. There is no dispute about the fact that Mr. Hutton was in a great minority, so that we have now the voice of the United Presbyterian Church uttered through its Supreme Court, deliberately endorsing the Articles of Agreement."

**REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.**—The Synod met at Glasgow on the 8th of May; the Rev. David Berry, of Wick, was chosen Moderator. Seven students were reported as attending theological classes. The Ministerial Support Committee reported that they hoped this year to raise the minimum stipend over the Church from \$600 with a manse to \$625; and from \$700 without a manse to \$725. The membership of the Church is 6,736, being an increase of 127 on last year. The amount raised for all purposes was \$47,226, being an increase of \$2,240. The Foreign Mission Committee stated that the mission in the New Hebrides was in a prosperous state, and urged the necessity of an addition to the mission staff. The great question here, as in the supreme courts of other Churches, was that of union. Dr. Goold gave in the Union Report, and Mr. Clazy submitted four resolutions, adopting the report, and finding that all the presbyteries have affirmed that there is no bar in principle to an incorporating union on the basis of the Confession as presently accepted by the negotiating Churches. The fourth resolution was that, in the event of the other negotiating Churches declaring through their presbyteries, and confirming such declarations through their supreme courts, that there is no difficulty in principle which should be permitted to interfere with the accomplishment of the proposed union, a great result, in the deliberate judgment of this Court, has been secured,—well worthy of the long and careful inquiries and conferences of past years, establishing, as it does, the virtual unity of the negotiating Churches, and laying them under additional obligations to aim at the consummation of outward and visible union; while it throws weighty responsibility on all who would obstruct it, and suggests an urgent motive to prayer for the effusion of the Holy Spirit, that prejudices and misconceptions may be removed, the spirit of Christian love and brotherhood fostered and promoted, and union in the end accomplished, without murmurings and disputings, under the promptings of gracious conviction, and in faithfulness to the cause and testimony of Jesus. Rev. W. Milroy, of Penpont, submitted an amendment, regretting that the Committee had not aimed at such a basis of union as would conserve the principles of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in respect to the mediatorial dominion over the nations, the doctrine of definite atonement, millenarianism, Presbyterianism, the obligation of the Covenants, and the purity of the Church's worship. Mr. Easton, of Stranraer, supported the amendment. Dr. Binnie closed the discussion in one of his ablest speeches. The roll was then called, when Mr. Clazy's motion was carried by 50 to 3,—the minority consisting of the mover and seconder of the amendment, and an elder from Darvel, who took no part in the discussion.

**ORIGINAL SECESSION SYNOD.**—The Original Secession Synod, says the *Presbyterian*, was also sitting about the same time, in their meeting-house, in Victoria Terrace. It, too, has a Union movement on hand, but not with any one