

need not say, the above is a mere outline. The Rev. Dr. Wickson and Rev. J. T. Pattison, conducted the devotional exercises. At the close of the service the Union came to order to receive the report of the temporary committee on Nominations.

THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Was delivered on Thursday morning, by the Rev. H. Wilkes, D.D.; at a subsequent meeting the cordial thanks of the Union were presented for this timely and valuable address. We have also the pleasure of presenting it to our readers in this number of the *Canadian Independent*, a request for its publication having accompanied the acknowledgment of its value. At the close of Dr. Wilkes' address the Rev. J. Robertson addressed the Union and led in prayer. The remarks of this venerable servant of Christ gave special prominence to the necessity of ministers being revived themselves, and then they might expect a revival in the Church. He gave it as the result of sixty years experience, that the grand secret of success is to live near to Christ.

After the minutes of the previous day had been read and confirmed, and the roll called, the Union proceeded to ballot for a new Chairman, which resulted in the election of the Rev. A. Lillie, D.D.

The remaining portion of the morning session of Thursday, was occupied in the election of the Missionary Committee, and other matters of business. The afternoon of Thursday was devoted to the meetings of the *Business, Membership, Finance, Nominations, Public Service, and Missionary* Committees.

SOCIAL MEETING.

A social gathering took place in the basement of Zion Church, on Thursday evening, at which, by request of the Chairman, Dr. Wilkes presided. The character of the meeting was apparent from the friendly salutations, and free intercourse kept up at different stages of the proceedings among the assembled brotherhood. The greetings of sisterly affection were no less welcome, and no less powerful. Ample justice was done to the generous provision of the hosts of the Union in Montreal, in the despatch of iced creams, cakes, &c., bountifully supplied for the refreshment of the guests.

At this meeting it had been resolved to hear the delegates from corresponding bodies. Accordingly, the Rev. T. Atkinson, of Wesport, Conn., the Rev. Jacob Cummings, Exeter, New Hampshire, and the Rev. D. Dyer, of Albany, New York, delivered fraternal addresses. They viewed the state of religion in the States they represented as encouraging. The effects of the gracious work of God in '57-'58 were now seen. It was stated that the Churches had not gone back to the state in which they were previous to that visitation of mercy. Greater attention was now given to Sabbath Schools, to Temperance, to Christian Young Men's Associations, and other great movements. The delegate from New Hampshire, emphatically referred to the use of intoxicating drinks and tobacco by ministers, and stated that none of his brother ministers in that State used either. The reminiscences of Mr. Atkinson, who had formerly laboured in Quebec, and of Mr. Dyer, at one time pastor of the Church in Hamilton, in regard to the Canadian field, were calculated to inspire with hope, patience and courage, in the prosecution of our work in Canada. After prayer by the Rev. W. F. Clarke, the assembly broke up, to meet at the hour of prayer on the following day.