

to effect organic union at this time, but to promote christian fellowship and the spirit of union. There was significance in the selection of the place of meeting. Atlanta was a city of great importance from a military point of view during the Civil War of 1861-65. It was a stronghold called "The Gate City," and here many of the munitions of war were provided for the Confederate Army. It was a special point of attack by the Union army, and after its capture it was burned and left in ashes when General Sherman started on his famous "march to the sea." After the war it was rebuilt through the enterprise of both southern and northern business men. And now from the people of this stricken and rejuvenated city went forth the invitation to the Presbyterians of the north to meet with the Presbyterians of the south in these great Assemblies. The invitation was joined in by the civic organizations and citizens generally, the welcome given by them was most cordial and their hospitality was notably warm and generous.

The business sessions of the three Assemblies were held separately in different churches, but in the evening all joined together in union mass meetings in the city auditorium, seating nearly 10,000 people, where addresses were made by the ablest speakers and the singing was led by a large choir. In this one feature of special interest was the singing one evening by a choir of 250 colored women, all dressed in white, from a Young Ladies' Seminary in the city. In deference to the United Presbyterians, versions of the Psalms were used exclusively in the singing at all the union meetings.

The most impressive meeting of the Assemblies was the union communion service, participated in by 3,000 people occupying the main floor and two galleries in the Baptist Tabernacle in which the northern Assembly met. The distribution of the elements was participated in by ministers and elders from the three Assemblies, the singing was inspiring and the music on the great organ during the distribution of the bread and wine was peculiarly appropriate and touching. A holy hush came over the assembly and all hearts were deeply moved. It was a sweet communion of the followers of Christ, such as I never expect to enjoy again until I sit down at the marriage supper of the Lamb with "the General Assembly and Church of the first born, which are written in heaven."

Another incident that drew the commissioners closer together was the reception given by the Confederate veterans of the Civil