

principles contained in the Resolutions previously agreed upon by the Committees, to certain great practical questions. It was determined to take up the three following questions:—1. State endowments of Religion. 2. The use of the Bible in Common Schools; and 3. The appointment of days of Public Humiliation and Thanksgiving by Civil authority.

Upon the first of these points there was much diversity of opinion, but after long deliberation, the Committees unanimously agreed to Report to their respective Synods in the following terms:—

1. The Committees find that the brethren of the Presbyterian Church of Canada hold that there are circumstances in which the State may lawfully offer endowments, and that the Church may lawfully accept of them; and that the brethren of the United Presbyterian Church maintain that the acceptance of endowments is, in all cases, inconsistent with the spiritual independence of the Church, and the allegiance which she owes to Christ her Head.

2. That, however, no specified declaration of opinion on the above questions, or its bearings, is demanded as a term of Communion in either of these Churches.

3. They therefore recommend that, in the event of the Churches being united, the same practice in reference to this question should still be followed in the United Body, that is now followed in the two branches, in their separate state; and that the same forbearance should therefore continue to be exercised.

On the 2nd of the above questions the following Resolution was readily agreed to by the meeting, namely:—

The Committees are unanimously of the opinion that it is highly important that the Bible should be used in the Common Schools of the country, and that the Church should constantly aim at this object; and that, for the accomplishment of this end, it is the duty of Civil Rulers to afford every facility for the use of the Bible in the Common Schools, and while abstaining from the enforcement of it on any who may be opposed to it, to provide that no obstacle shall be thrown in the way of those who may desire to use it.

On the 3rd of the above questions, the following deliverance, after mature deliberation, was unanimously adopted:—

The Committees hold that there are times in which days of National Humiliation and Thanksgiving ought to be observed; and that, in order to secure a general concurrence throughout the nation, the Civil Magistrate may with propriety nominate the day, and recommend the observance of it by all under his rule; at the same time he has no right to prescribe the religious exercises to be observed.

A joint meeting of the two Committees was again held in Knox's Church, Toronto, on the 14th and 15th of April last, at which the following proceedings took place:—

A very lengthy conference was held regarding the duty of the Church, as such, to approach the Civil Magistrate with a view to secure the proper observance of the Lord's day; and in case of such a step being taken regarding the extent of the liberty of dissent allowed to a minority. Ultimately, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, viz. —

That while it is the duty of the Civil Magistrate to protect the sacred character and obligations of the Sabbath, it is also the duty of the Church to bear her testimony in favor of God's holy day, which she