

ments for the issuing of *One Record* from Jan. 1st, 1876.

The Committee has met, and it is expected that its recommendations will be in print on the table of Synod in St. John. We were in the act of preparing a brief analysis of the work, for the present *Record*, when we received the subjoined fuller statement from Montreal, being a portion of the proof sheets in advance of the Oct. No. of "*The Presbyterian*" which is the Periodical of the late Church of Canada in connection with the Kirk of Scotland, edited by Mr. James Croil, the able and highly esteemed Agent of that body. We publish it nearly in full, that all reading conclusions of the Committee, may be in the hands of our Ministers and Elders in the Maritime Provinces before the approaching meeting of Synod.

The Committee of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, appointed by the General Assembly, constituted in this city on the 15th June last, to mature measures for the next Assembly, met in St. Paul's Church on the first of September, and, after deliberating for eight days, concluded its proceedings at a late hour on Wednesday evening, the 8th instant. The subjects which engaged the attention of the Committee were varied and important, having reference to the following matters, namely: Ecclesiastical Procedure, Parliamentary Legislation, Synodical Functions and Business, Missionary, and other schemes, Colleges, Education for the Ministry, Examination of Students, Admission of Ministers from other Churches, Amalgamation of Ministers' Widows' and Orphans Funds, Agency, Periodicals, Clerkship of the General Assembly, Mode of Electing the Moderator of the Assembly. Upon these and other subjects the Committee received instructions to consider in detail and report to the next annual meeting of the General Assembly such recommendations as might appear to the Committee to be of practical importance and utility.

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The subjects appointed by the General Assembly for consideration having been announced by the Chairman, it was agreed to take them up consecutively for discussion, and, that, when the Committee should be seized of the whole matter and had received such explanations as the members were able to give of the practices heretofore followed by the respective churches previous to the Union, that then it should

be remitted to Sub-Committees to consider in the light of the information thus obtained, and having also the mind of the whole Committee upon the various subjects—the different matters in detail, and to embody their conclusions, in a report to be submitted to the general Committee and by it to be reconsidered, clause by clause, before its adoption.

For example, in regard to the question of establishing a Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund for the united Church, statements were made by parties officially connected with the several pre-existent Funds, setting forth their respective capitals and other sources of revenue, their modes of administration, the number of annuitants, the amounts paid to each, &c. With such data, the Committee were in a position to discuss the merits of each and arrive at certain conclusions. With these for their guidance, the Sub-Committee proceeded to formulate the outlines of an equitable plan for the United Church. This in turn being considered by the General Committee, and amended, was finally adopted, and ordered to be sent up to the General Assembly in the form of a recommendation.

THE RESULTS.

It follows, necessarily, that the work of the Committee was simply of a preparatory nature. It had not the power to make a single enactment. But, taking for granted that its membership fairly represented the mind of the different sections of the Church, it will be found that important and valuable service has been rendered by the suggesting of practicable measures, and thereby facilitating the transaction of business at the next meeting of the Assembly, when there will in all probability be present a constituency so large as to be otherwise unmanageable for overtaking the amount of business that will be brought before it. The following are understood to be some of the more important recommendations of the Committee:

1. That the mode of electing the Moderator of the General Assembly be by an open vote of the members composing the court at its first sederunt. (In the Church of Scotland branch, use and wont had vested the nomination of the Moderator in a so-called College of ex-Moderators. In the C. P. Church the Presbyteries had the privilege of nominating.)

II. HOME MISSIONS.

That there be one Board of Management for the whole Church, consisting of forty-five members, of whom one-third shall belong to the Synod of the Maritime Provinces and the remaining two thirds to