

thing definite on this subject. We merely come down to consult on this and other matters, and perhaps you will be prepared, at our next meeting, by your deputation which we trust you will send, with some measure which may lead to this desirable object.

Rev. Dr. Mathieson said:—Moderator and brethren, I cannot allow this occasion to pass away, without expressing my grateful thanks, for the very kind way in which my brother and myself have been received by this venerable court. It is one of the happiest days of my life this, sir. It is an object which I have long desired, and which I had resolved to put in practice, to visit my brethren in these Provinces long before this. Circumstances have prevented that, chiefly the immense quantity of labour devolving upon us, in consequence of the fewness of our numbers. It has long been the desire of my heart, to see my brethren here face to face—for I have been almost intimately acquainted with them by report. In communing with you upon matters that concern us both, the object of our Synod is to strengthen the hands, both of this Synod and of the Synod of the Canadas. We are one body, we are essentially one body, and it has long been desired by them, that this bond of union should be more closely drawn.

We are instructed to keep in view a closer, a more intimate connection between the two Synods than at present subsists. Our church, though not latitudinarian, is catholic. It embraces the whole christian body, but especially those who are connected by the same ties, the same standards of Christian faith, the same constitution and discipline, and, as union is strength, it has long been desired by us, that we should unite together, in carrying forward that great work, for which hitherto there have been so few labourers in this part of the country. Our Parent Church has done much, perhaps as much as she could do in the circumstances in which she was placed, and to her we must still look for assistance and advice. But it must be evident to our brethren in this part, as well as to us, that in order to supply the immense wastes, there must be young men raised up among ourselves, and this point we were instructed to bring before you—to encourage you to look out among yourselves young men, who, through the instrumentality of Queen's College, might receive as good a training for the services of their heavenly master, as can possibly be given in the circumstances. So far as our experience has gone, the young men attending that institution, have received as good an education there as in any other University, to the extent to which that education was carried. It is true there is not a full complement of Professors yet, but the fewness of the students have enabled the Professors, to devote themselves more closely to the young men. Those who have been sent out are really a credit to our College. The young men from this Province have acquitted themselves with honor, they were diligent and successful students.

It is particularly delightful to me, to come among you as in a friendly way. I know how much your hands were strengthened, and your hearts encouraged by the deputations from the Parent Church. We also received great encouragement and advice from these Rev. Gentlemen. They came with the spirit of their master, and after a Deputation that preceded them, reviling the church of their fathers, and was from the kindness and gentleness of their spirit that success attended them. Coming, as they did, with kindness and good will, and encouraging their brethren in their

difficulties, many who were wavering stuck fast to the church of their fathers; many who were misled have returned, and, from the evidence that experience now gives both of the zeal of the Parent Church, and of her energy, for I believe she was never more energetic than at this day, and from closer connection with one another, this work will be carried forward, with perhaps greater success in these Provinces, than has hitherto been done. I come here to throw myself entirely upon this court, for your direction and guidance. Any thing that lies in our power we are ready to do for you. And we would carry back your good wishes for our Synod, which I am sure, will be received with great gratitude. If this deputation has been successful in leading us to closer union, I consider our time has been well spent in coming here, and a great work accomplished. Moderator, I thank you sincerely, and, Brethren, I thank you.

Rev. W. Snodgrass, briefly stated the joy he experienced, at the presence of the deputation from the Synod of Canada, and the interest he felt in all the statements and proposals, to which it had been their privilege to listen. He also spoke of the advantages that would certainly result, from the formation of a General Assembly, embracing all the British North American Provinces; and concluded, by saying that that was not only a matter upon which the members of Synod must feel and might speak warmly, but that it was a subject for them all to remember at the throne of God.

Rev. A. Pollock, said:—Moderator, I am sure it must give all the members of Synod the highest possible satisfaction, that we have the privilege of seeing these gentlemen before us—these respected men who have come from the same church to which we belong, and that too from a great distance. We are aware that these brethren have been at great trouble—they have subjected themselves to many inconveniences to be present with us here.

We must confess that of times in the past, we have been under a feeling of abandonment. A dark cloud has indeed passed over us. But we must add, that that cloud is still resting to a great extent upon us, and we need sadly the support, encouragement, and sympathy of our stronger brethren. The promise made that our friends will remain with us for some time, must be a source of the highest satisfaction. With the greatest pleasure and pride we will receive them in our several districts, and certain we are, that they shall find the feeling of attachment to our Church, as well as Christian feelings in general, are by no means wanting to the brethren of the church of Scotland in Nova Scotia. And further it would be a source of satisfaction, to hold such conferences with our brethren as will tend to a closer union. Much do we need better counsel, and more matured wisdom than we possess. And should the church here, and the church in Canada come together in a General Assembly, certainly such a measure shall be felt beneficial in every part of the church, and we ourselves should find our labour easier. I do hope that this visit will issue in the best possible results.

Rev. Geo. W. Spratt: Moderator, I entirely agree with the sentiments expressed by my brethren, who have preceded me. I was writing last mail to Scotland, to a very dear friend, and I spoke with trepidation of our present meeting, because of the fewness of our numbers, and the smallness of our business. But from the first to the last, our proceedings have been most interesting, and I trust that this is the beginning of better days. The most pleasing feature is this which has taken place to-

day—the arrival of our brethren from the Synod of Canada. We are deeply indebted to the Church in Canada, for this testimony of their sympathy and love. It appears to me, that all the suggestions, thrown out by our brethren, at the deputation are most excellent. I was delighted to see, that the measure of a General Assembly was taken up by their Synod. It would give our Church another and a better stand. The moral influence of our Assembly would be vast indeed. We often feel our own smallness, while if we were closely united with this vast institution, although we might still be sensible of our weakness, it would greatly revive our drooping spirits. What obstacles now exist in the way of travelling will, in a few years be removed. By tending to the support of this one Assembly, it would do a great deal of good. It would undo the subordinate Synods in unity of action, for the accomplishment of important ends. I think the question of a General Assembly should be taken up at once. I trust we shall show, that we are happy to join hand in hand in any such measure. There is a great work before the Church of Scotland in these Provinces. I feel that we stand upon firm ground, and upon questions which may be agitated before long, that is, questions relating to what justifies divisions and separations, I believe that we have an element in our favor, which will give us a position in these questions not possessed by others. I cannot express the full satisfaction which I feel.

Rev. John Scott moved, that the Moderator return the thanks of the Synod, to the Deputation from Canada for the interesting statements just delivered—which motion being carried by acclamation.

The Moderator, addressing the Deputation said, It gives me sincere pleasure to return to you the thanks of this Synod, for your presence, and the expression of your kindly feeling towards us, and your anxious desire to render us all the assistance in your power.

Rev. Dr. Mathieson replied. Moderator and brethren, we shall bear to the Synod of Canada your thanks, which I am sure will be received by them most cordially.

Rev. Geo. W. Spratt: Moderator, I would like to ask, if it is the understanding of the court, that these matters will come before us at a subsequent sederunt.

The clerk: unquestionably.

Rev. A. McKeay: Moderator, we are weak, but we are very important from our position and connections. A vast number of people have been committed to the care of a few, and in this sense our brethren must see we have a great work to do. Feeling the honor conferred upon us, and seeing present, Mr. Edmonstone, a member of the Lay Association of Montreal, I would suggest that, if disposed, he may be allowed to address the court.

Mr. Edmonstone, stated that arrangements had been made with the church in Canada, with reference to the clergy Reserves, and that although the church had not received her full portion, still it was gratifying that a settlement had been come to, by which, what the church now holds cannot be wrenched from her. He spoke also of the advantage of these Reserves, as applied to the maintenance of clergymen in poor localities, where the people could give almost no assistance, to the building of manse, and the purchasing of globes.

Home Mission Fund.

The discussion on this overture, which had just been entered upon at the previous sederunt, was here resumed. Mr. Martin, on motion,