

But, in 1875, at Montreal, on the 15th June, a beautiful, bright day, took place the last and grandest union of all. After the necessary preliminaries, Dr. McGregor, still to memory dear, had the honour of declaring, amid loud applause, the formation of *The Presbyterian Church of Canada*. The vast assembly in Victoria Hall then joined hands and burst out with one accord in singing the 133rd Psalm. A thrill of joy passed through every soul, but alas! there was one note of sadness! A few of the Kirk ministers declined to enter the union! The Synod of the Maritime Provinces in 1875 consisted of eleven Presbyteries and about 145 ministers. This union has proved an unspeakable blessing. The healing of old breaches, the wiping out of old dividing lines, the burial of old strifes, and the consolidation of our forces, have already worked marvels in promoting the prosperity and extension of the Church.

VIII. THE PRESENT STATE OF PRESBYTERIANISM.

Outside of the Synod of the Maritime Provinces there are, in 1891, three or four small Reformed Presbyterian congregations, two Presbyteries in connection with the Church of Scotland in Pictou county, with eleven congregations and eight or nine settled ministers, one large congregation in P. E. Island, under the pastoral care of Rev. J. Goodwill, and one congregation in Bermuda connected with the Free Church of Scotland.

There are in connection with our own Synod 202 regularly organized congregations. Of these 158 have regularly settled pastors, 12 have ordained missionaries, and 32 are vacant. There are also 45 groups of mission stations. Some of these would be ranked ordained missionary congregations, if ordained missionaries could be secured for them. Of our regular congregations, 131 are self-supporting, and 59 receive aid from the Augmentation Fund.

COMPARISON	1876	1881	1891
(1) Churches and Mission Stations.....	358	483	622
(2) Ministers on Roll.....	148	156	196
(3) Families	16,545	19,204	22,520
(4) Communicants.....	23,073	27,016	36,539
(5) Elders.....	969	1,151	1,403
(6) Number in Sunday Schools	20,785	20,545	27,851
(7) Total contributions.....	\$200,679	\$231,937	\$349,222
(8) Contributions to Schemes.....	\$21,068	\$30,323	\$46,277