

the established religion of the kingdom.—The island was divided into parishes, each with its manse and settled minister, and raising a total income of £4,000 a year for the maintenance of their pastors. * * *

We found a complete system of native common schools at work, every Hawaiian child taught in its own language reading, writing and arithmetic, and the principles of Christianity as held by the American Congregationalists."

Well may the *New York Observer* remark on this strange confession:—

This is truly a remarkable obstacle to success in missions! The Bible and common schools and general education are strange hindrances to be mentioned by one who professes to be a minister of the Gospel. But if they stood in his way, he might have gone a little farther among the islands of the sea, and he would have found plenty of real heathen to whom he could proclaim his doctrines and unfold his plans for their salvation. This, however, would not suit his purposes. He must needs go to interfere with the labours of those who had preached the Gospel in its simplicity, and try to persuade their sheep to leave their shepherds and the fold. He aimed at supplanting the doctrines of the Cross and the simple rites of the New Testament with mummeries, and by his own confession, he found the people too well instructed to be led away. So may signal failure attend all who go upon a similar meddling and false mission.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR UNION.

We thankfully record the pleasing fact that the negotiations at Montreal for a Union of all the Presbyterian Churches in British America, were conducted in a most amicable and brotherly spirit. We subjoin the authorized Minutes of the proceedings:—

MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN THE PROVINCES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, ON THE SUBJECT OF UNION.

At Montreal, and within St. Paul's Church there, on the 28th September, 1870, the Committees appointed on the subject of Union by the Supreme Courts of the following Churches, viz.: The Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland—The Canada Presbyterian Church—The Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Pro-

vinces met, according to the call of their respective Conveners of these Committees.

Present, The Rev. Dr. Cook, the Rev. Principal Snodgrass, D.D., Ministers, with the Hon. Alexander Morris, Mr. James Croil, and Mr. Neil McDougall, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland; The Rev. Dr. Taylor, the Rev. Robert Ure, the Rev. Dr. Topp, Ministers, with the Hon. John McMurrich, Mr. David Mackay and Mr. Thomas McRae, Elders of the Canada Presbyterian Church; The Rev. Allan Pollok, the Rev. G. M. Grant, and the Rev. Donald McRae, Ministers, with the Hon. John Robertson, the Hon. John Holmes, and Mr. James J. Bremner, Elders of the Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland; The Rev. Dr. Bayne, the Rev. James Bennet, and the Rev. G. Christie, Ministers, with Mr. Henry Webster, and Mr. David Laird, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

The Rev. Dr. Cook was appointed Chairman, and Rev. Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The meeting was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Taylor.

Extract minutes of the Supreme Courts of the various Churches appointing the Committees were read, as also the letter of Rev. Dr. Ormiston of Hamilton, on the ground of which, and of the sentiments expressed therein, the said action of these Churches was taken.

The Chairman opened the business by referring to the desirableness and expediency of Union between the Churches represented by this meeting, inasmuch as they hold the same doctrine and government and discipline.

I. All present were of opinion that for many and strong reasons, it was desirable to have a union of the Presbyterian Churches within British North America, and that there was on the ground of principle no obstacle to said Union, if it were accomplished on the basis of the Holy Scriptures, as the Supreme Standard of faith and manners, with the Westminster Confession of Faith, as the Subordinate Standard, it being understood, that full liberty of opinion in regard to the power and duty of the civil Magistrate in matters of religion, as set forth in said Confession, be allowed; and 2. That the use of the Shorter Catechism be enjoined as an authoritative exposition of doctrine for the instruction of our people.

II. With regard to the name by which the United Church shall be known, it was proposed and unanimously agreed to, that the name should be "The Presbyterian Church of British North America."

III. The meeting also resolved to record.