

the most active in bringing about the union effected in the spring of 1871, and was the President of the already existing church organization in the South, with which Madrid and the North were then invited to join. A consistory was formed, of which Senor Carrasco, of Madrid, was chosen President, and he has continued in office during the two succeeding years, acting as Moderator at the Assembly of 1872, till the present meeting, when the honour has again been conferred on Cabrera. In the paucity of men fitted for this responsible position in Spain, it is difficult in the meantime to get out of this narrow circle.

Needless to say the number of churches constituting this union is as yet small, although it includes generally those of most importance numerically. Besides the various congregations which do not accept the Presbyterian form, there are one or two Presbyterian churches which have not yet seen their way to join. From ten in 1871, last year the Spanish Christian Church comprised sixteen different congregations, four of which were situated in Madrid. This year six of the above number were not represented, from various causes, whilst four new congregations were represented, one being a church already established, and three in course of formation. Several of the churches were represented by two delegates, and some foreign friends interested in the evangelization of Spain, or connected with other churches in Madrid, were invited; so that the entire number present this year was of delegates twenty-two, and four besides, invited to take part in the discussions, but without vote in the Assembly.

As the Confession of Faith was the principal work of the Assembly of 1872, so the Code of Discipline was the task devolving on the present Assembly. There was other work before it, such as the Directory of Worship, the Catechism, and the Hymn-book, on all of which the respective sub-commit-

tees, and chiefly Senor Cabrera, had wrought diligently and presented the results of their labours to the Assembly. But it soon became evident that the Code of Discipline alone, drawn up by Cabrera, would be more than sufficient to occupy all the time that could be devoted; so the result of this year's meeting has been to adopt, after minute discussion, paragraph by paragraph, the Code which is to rule for the future the practice of the Spanish Christian Church in all its principal parts, leaving some sections yet unexamined, from want of time. Apart from this, there was naturally other business before the Assembly connected with the internal concerns of some of the churches, besides an important proposal for the establishment of a school of theology for the training of students for the ministry. In addition to this, it was deemed fitting to apply the divisional system provided for under Presbyterian government, particularly necessary in a country like Spain, where the provinces are separated by wide distances. As a result, Spain was mapped out for the present into four presbyteries, the churches of Andalusia gathering around Seville, those of Catalonia, Arragon, and the Barbaric Islands having Barcelona for their centre; whilst two presbyteries were assigned to Madrid, the one embracing the churches north of the capital to Santander, and the other those south as far as Cartagena and Alicante.

Whilst the different ministers from the provinces were thus assembled in Madrid, there was the natural interchange of pulpits, which was pleasing to all; besides this, the brethren united, and partook in common of the Lord's Supper towards the close, the Church members of the different congregations in Madrid being invited to join in this act of Christian brotherhood and love. There were also meetings at private houses of a more social character, and especially one attended by about fifty persons, including the wives of the friends assembled, and embracing not