

being in possession of large properties for carrying out the objects for which they were formed. In the Old School there were five boards: Domestic Mission, Education and Publication in Philadelphia; Foreign Missions in New York; Church extension in St. Louis; the Freedmen's Committee in Pittsburg, and the Disabled Ministers' Fund, managed by a Committee of the Trustees of the General Assembly. The New School had Committees of Home Missions, of Education and of the Church Erection Fund in New York; of Publication and of Ministerial Relief in Philadelphia. The foreign work of their Church was managed by the American Home and Foreign Mission Society in New York.

The last Assembly consolidated these into six Boards, three to be in Philadelphia—Education, Publication and Ministerial Relief; the other three to be in New York, namely, Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Erection. The Freedmen's Committee, which it was expected would be only temporary, remained at Pittsburg. A Committee of twenty-one was appointed, however, to prepare a permanent plan of Church organization, and to report. It is understood that they recommend four boards—one for foreign work; another for home work, including home mission, education, church erection, freedmen and ministerial relief; a third to be the Board of Publication, conducted as a business operation, and being deprived of collections from the churches for its colportage and missionary work, except such as may come from donations and bequests; and a fourth to be a Board of Benevolence and Finance, to consist chiefly of business men, who shall have charge of all the funds for the home and foreign work of the Church, and to meet the drafts of each of the boards as far as the funds have been received. A Treasurer to be appointed by this committee, to whom all funds shall be sent.

It is further provided that there shall be a general commission on the benevolent work of the Church, to be composed of five delegates from each of the four boards, together with a delegate from each of the synods of the Church. This commission to meet twice a year, and have a general supervision of the Church, subject to the ordering of the General Assembly, receiving reports from synods and presbyteries, and rendering a report to the General Assembly. Each presbytery is to appoint standing committees on the benevolent

work of the Church, and each synod is to appoint a synodical committee of the same kind. The synodical committees are to supervise the work of the presbyterial committees, and to collect information for the general commission.

The Boards of Home and Foreign Work, and the Board of Finance and Benevolence, to be established in New York, and the Board of Publication in Philadelphia. The committee recommend that the work for freedmen be at once incorporated in the home mission work.

Such are understood to be the recommendations of the Committee. It is not, at the time we write, positively known, as the report has not been presented, but there seems little reason to doubt the statement is substantially correct. Unfortunately they threaten to give rise to an acrimonious state of feeling which may lead to an interruption to the good feeling the reunion of the two Churches was expected to establish. The representatives from Philadelphia complain that all the Boards, with one exception, have been concentrated in New York, and that this is detrimental to the interests of the Church, for two reasons. One of these is, that Philadelphia contains within its city limits more than double the number of congregations than are contained in New York and its surrounding cities and suburbs; the other, that Philadelphia from its geographical position in relation to the great body of the Church, makes it the centre from which its operations should be conducted. So far as these particular points are concerned, it does not affect us in any degree, being merely a local question, but the tone and temper of the discussion will undoubtedly be watched with interest.

In the nominations for the office of Moderator, the most unusual step was taken of proposing ex-Governor Pollock, of Philadelphia, a ruling elder. Objection was made that he was a layman, but no discussion arose on that point, which is one of some interest. Dr. Humphrey, of Philadelphia, was elected Moderator.

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We have to acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Sermon preached at Calcutta, by the Rev. J. Macalister Thomson, M.A., the Senior Chaplain of St. Andrew's Church there, on the occasion of the death of the Rev. Dr. Ogilvie.