

2. That we express our desire that Union should be consummated as soon as possible between the churches locally convenient, namely, the two bodies in the Upper and the two bodies in the Lower Provinces.

3. That while feeling ourselves essentially one with our brethren of the Upper Provinces and desirous to see our way clear to an incorporating Union under one General Assembly, yet we feel unable to say that we regard such incorporation as desirable until we have fuller information as to the practical advantages to flow from it, and as to the extent to which our Missionary and Educational operations will be affected by it.

Rev. A. Stuart moved, and Mr. H. B. Webster seconded the following amendment:

That the Presbytery agree that the Union of the negotiating churches is desirable on the proposed basis.

After discussion the Presbytery divided, when Mr. Cameron's motion was preferred to Mr. Stuart's by a vote of 11 to 3.

To prevent misapprehension it is proper to say that all the members declared their approval of Mr. Stuart's motion as far as it went, but they felt that something more was required to do justice to the case.

The Presbytery resolved to visit all the congregations not visited last year; beginning with Upper Kennetcook on the first Tuesday of October.

Presbytery of St. John.

The Presbytery met in St. David's Church on the 1st August. The Rev. J. C. Burgess was elected Moderator for the current year and took the chair.

Rev. S. Houston submitted his report as Treasurer of the Presbytery Fund up to July 1st, showing receipts \$54.22, and expenditures \$25.62, leaving a balance of \$1.60 in the Treasurer re-appointed, and the thanks of the Presbytery tendered to him.

Rev. James Bennet reported that he had not visited Grand Falls and Tobique as appointed—that he had met Mr. Beveridge in the city a short time ago and obtained from him all the information he thought could be gained by a visit to the district. Mr. Beveridge and his brother are willing to guarantee \$250 and board for a young man of good abilities who should labor there for a year. The Presbytery desiring more minute information regarding the field, and the prospects of success in attempting a mission there, instructed Mr. Bennet to carry out his visit and collect information, and Ministers in the City of St. John were appointed a committee to arrange the matter as may appear expedient.

The Clerk read a communication from David Main, Esq., St. Stephen, presenting

charges against the Rev. John Home. On motion a commission consisting of Revs. James Bennet and N. McKay was appointed to proceed to St. Stephen and preognise this matter and examine the charges and probable proof, in order to ascertain whether an investigation by Presbytery is necessary.

The Moderator and Clerk were appointed to visit Nerepis and Jerusalem at any early day, and endeavor to secure some better organization among our people there, and to endeavor to stir them up to a deeper interest in matters of religion.

Rev. S. Houston submitted a report of deputation to visit the congregation of Springfield and English Settlement.

Having just accomplished a visitation of the above places under the pastoral care of the Rev. Mr. Jack, your committee beg leave to submit the following report. Our appointment was made for Springfield on the morning of July 19, at 11 o'clock. On arrival we found a large congregation had assembled, some having availed themselves of the opportunity by travelling a long distance. After a sermon by the Rev. Mr. Burgess, the representatives of the congregation were called to stand forward. These comprised the pastor, Rev. Lewis Jack, Daniel McLaughlin, Peter Ogilvie, Alexander Duff, Charles Stewart, Thomas and Donald McLaughlin, members of session; and as trustees, Daniel McLaughlin, Peter Ogilvie, Andrew Taylor, Thomas Murry, John Robinson, John King, and Neil Stewart. The pastor then answered as follows:—

He endeavours to preach the gospel faithfully, does not hold diets of examination, visits the congregation ministerially once a year; visits the sick attentively; is regular and conscientious in his attendance on Church Courts; he administers the sacrament of baptism in an orderly way, and when in private houses has the consent of the session; in this section does not administer baptism to infants whose parents are not members, and has a Bible-class with an average attendance of about 20 persons. He preaches in this section on alternate Sabbaths in the morning, and in the afternoon at the out-stations.

The Elders answered that they do not regularly visit, advise and pray with the families of their district; that they do watch over the members carefully; are generally attentive in visiting the afflicted; regularly attend the meetings of Session and Synod but not of the Presbytery, and generally attend and take part in the proceedings of prayer meetings.

The Session answered that they have a competent number of Elders, but there is not a district allotted to each; are careful not to admit to sealing ordinances persons