

"church." They had never held out any hopes of reconciliation ; had made no overtures for re-union ; were, in fact, doing all they could to break up the congregations of the Church of Scotland in Canada, and they subsequently used the ill-advised, however well meant, proposals of Dr. George and his friends as an instrument for their own aggrandizement. The minute of the Synod of 1861, on the subject, reads as follows: "A document *purporting* to be "a report of the Committee on Union between this Church and the "Presbyterian Churches in the Province, and a minute of a meeting "*purporting* to be a meeting of the Committee on Union, were read." Why these terms were used will plainly appear by the resolution which follows: "It was moved by *Dr. Cook*, that Dr. George's "report be received, and that the thanks of the Synod be given to "Dr. George, for his attention to the business entrusted to him by "the Synod, *for his judicious conduct in calling to his aid, in AB-* "SENCE OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE SYNOD, *so many able* "and tried friends of the Church, and forso decidedly refraining from "committing himself or the Synod to any basis or terms of union, "while yet ascertaining that there was a friendly spirit open to "further and more definite negotiation in the other Presbyterian "bodies in the Province ; appoint a Committee to prepare such basis "of union for this Church to agree to, and to receive any communi- "cation or overture on the subject of union which *may be sent* to "them from committees of other Presbyterian bodies," and so on. Next day the motion was discussed and rejected, an amendment that the Committee be not reappointed having been carried.

In Dr. Cook's motion, two points are noticeable. One, that the members of the Committee appointed by the Synod at the previous meeting, under the circumstances already stated, did not consider themselves authorized to do anything by virtue of the remit made to them, and Dr. George had, therefore, taken counsel with certain unnamed individuals, described in the motion as "able and tried friends of the Church." (To the minutes of the seceding body I am indebted for a knowledge of the fact that Mr. Bell alone appeared before them.) The other is, that no movement whatever had been made by the other Presbyterian bodies towards reconciliation.