

the minute book. Yet I am not able to report any final action on the matter, for these reasons: The time of the Committee at this sitting was consumed in hearing my statement and other verbal explanations; the schedule for 1861-2 was already adopted, and any action to be now taken would be in time, if communicated before our next Union Meeting; and in the interval, it was hoped that Dr. Wilkes might meet with the Committee, so that they and we might have the benefit of his knowledge and experience in shaping the conclusions to be arrived at. The force of these considerations I could not gainsay, although personally very desirous to have the object of my mission definitely secured. In this shape, therefore, the matter lies at present. I have made a motion; Dr. Wilkes is expected to second it; after which, there is good reason to hope that the Committee will adopt it.

In the course of the preceding discussions, and still more decisively as they proceeded, there was developed a great difference of opinion between the Committee of the Colonial Missionary Society and ourselves, in regard to the mutual relations of that Society and the Canadian Congregational Missionary Society. It speaks well for the spirit that has pervaded all the correspondence of the past eight years, that not until now has this difference been discovered! But brethren on this side will remember that the resolve conveyed to us, that the new sliding scale "must be enforced," troubled us as much, if not more than the nature of that principle itself. From first to last, the language of all our reports, and our own estimate of our position as expressed in every possible form, was, that we were *equal partners* with the Colonial Missionary Society, in conducting the work in Canada, in one word, co-ordinate. It was distinctly laid down, in the preliminary "explanations" of the first Report of our Society (1854), as now organized, that "the connection between it and the Colonial Missionary Society was rather a relation of co-ordinate bodies than that of an auxiliary to a parent." The last Report (p. 12), speaking of recent correspondence, says, "It should be emphatically noted, that no so-called 'veto power' was assumed in this correspondence, the whole was candidly submitted for our consideration as a society co-ordinate in position with themselves." Nor will any one who was present at our Union Meeting, in Kingston, forget the genial manner in which the Secretary-Treasurer of our Society—the author of these reports and the negotiator of the union between the Canadian and British organizations—in presenting the matter to us "from a Blomfield Street point of view," explained that alarming "must" to mean only a little "emphasis" in wish and opinion, but that "authoritative requirement was in no wise intended."

Judge, then, of my surprise when I found that "must" meant "must;" that our brethren had from the beginning regarded us as merely *auxiliary* to them; and that no member of the Committee had ever understood the matter otherwise!

In proof, there was quoted a phrase from a circular issued by the Committee of the Congregational Union of Canada, after their first meeting, in Kingston, October, 1853, announcing the full organization of the new body, in which, among the "advantages" expected from the changes there made, it was stated, that "the (Canadian) Society, *being auxiliary to the Colonial Missionary Society*, the whole of our work here could be brought before the British Churches in the reports of the latter." (I cannot lay my hand upon the document, but, though some words may vary, I am clear as to the general