

The overthrow of the Ashantee power by British arms has, no doubt, prepared the way for further extension of civilization and Christianity in West Africa. The work to be accomplished is immense. The evils to be overcome are the growth of ages. Let us pray for poor Africa; and as we read of the untold horrors of heathenism let us cheerfully make sacrifices for those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.

In the month of June the four Presbyterian Churches of the Dominion became one; in the month of July a step was taken which will, we trust, lead to the federal union of all Presbyterian Christendom. An "Alliance of Reformed Churches" was constituted, which is likely to have an extensive influence for good. It is evident that the era of brotherly feeling and union has dawned upon us, and that the Presbyterian family is among the first to feel its influence. The Conference met in Regent Square Church, London 20th July. On all hands," says the London, *Record*,

Church of England paper, "were to be seen venerable men, whose names are familiar to every Presbyterian, but who until that evening, were known to each other only by name. The meeting was opened by singing the Psalm—

"Behold how good a thing it is and how becoming well together such as brethren are in unity to dwell."

"It was an imposing sight when these representatives of millions of Presbyterians, to a great extent the leaders of their local Churches, rose to given utterance to the time-honored words."

Drs. Duff, Blaikie, Begg, and other eminent Scotsmen were present. Ireland represented by Dr. Porter and others.

The United States sent a powerful contingent, and Canada sent, among others, Topp and Principal Snodgrass. The thing is the Constitution which was adopted:—

Whereas, Churches holding the Reformed faith, and organized on Presbyterian principles, are found, though under a variety of names, in different parts of the world; whereas, many of those were long wont to maintain close relations, but are at present united by no visible bond, whether of fellowship or of work; and whereas, in the providence of God, the time seems to have come when they may all more fully manifest their essential oneness, have closer relations with each other, and promote great causes by joint action; It is agreed to form a Presbyterian Alliance to meet in General Council from time to time in order to confer upon matters of common interest and to further the ends for which the Church has been constituted by her Divine Lord and only King. In forming this Alliance the Presbyterian Churches do not mean to change their fraternal relations with other Churches, but will be ready as heretofore to join with them in Christian fellowship and in advancing the cause of the Redeemer on the general principle maintained and taught in the Reformed Confession that the church of God on earth, though composed of many members, is one body in the Communion of the Holy Ghost, of which body Christ is the Supreme head, and the Scriptures alone the infallible law.

ARTICLES.

I. *Designation*.—The Alliance shall be known as "The Alliance of the Reformed Churches throughout the world holding the Presbyterian system."

II. *Membership*.—Any Church organized on Presbyterian principles which holds the supreme authority of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments in matters of faith and morals, and whose creed is in harmony with the consensus of the Reformed Confessions, shall be eligible for admission into the Alliance.

III. *Council*.—1. Its Meetings: The Alliance shall meet in general Council ordinarily once in three years. 2. Its Constituency: The Council shall consist of delegates, being ministers and ruling elders, appointed by the Churches forming the Alliance; the number from each Church being regulated by a plan sanctioned by the Council, regard being had generally to the number of congregations in the several Churches. The delegates as far as practicable, to consist of an equal numbers of ministers and ruling elders. The Council may, on the recommendation of a Committee on business, invite Presbyterian brethren not delegates, to offer suggestions, to deliver addresses, and to read papers. 3. Its Powers: The Council shall have power to decide upon the application of Churches desiring to join the Alliance, it shall have the power to entertain and con-