

at all, and few will say that it took place a day too soon. The united church has held six meetings of Synod since the union. Questions of all sorts have come before these meetings; cases of discipline, the cause of education, temperance, Sabbath observance, missions, &c. These questions have been freely discussed by ministers and elders; many of them have been voted upon; but never, in one instance, has there been a vote or division that would indicate the old lines of demarcation. You could never say, "The one church will vote on this side; the other on that." Old walls of partition have been completely broken down and swept out of sight, and old party lines entirely obliterated. What is true of the Synod is true of Presbyteries also. We have seen probably thirty-five or forty meetings of the Halifax Presbytery, the most extensive in the church, and we have never seen any indication of old division lines. The ministers and elders cannot be accused of perpetuating the remembrance of dead issues: and the people are not behind their spiritual guides. Other Presbyteries are not, at least, far behind the Presbytery of Halifax in this respect.

We cannot but regret that the church, since the union, has not done more for Christ. Verily we must all confess that we have been unprofitable servants! Yet we have not been idle, and our Master has greatly blessed our efforts. Many waste places have been occupied and are now under excellent cultivation, which were previously in utter desolation. The Home Mission has been wrought with most commendable vigour, and with great success, considering the means at our disposal.—Educational advantages have been placed within reach of our young men, which are far superior to any hitherto available in these provinces. Our Foreign Mission has not been neglected. A fund has been founded for the support of our Ministers' Widows and Orphans. It will thus appear that though we have come far short of what we ought to have done, we have not been idle; God has not taken his Holy Spirit away from us, or allowed us to be altogether fruitless.

The union with New Brunswick, which we hope will be consummated this summer, is an object for which we should earnestly labour and pray. In that noble province, rich in its magnificent forests, its mines, its romantic rivers,—rich especially in a vast multitude of immortal souls that hunger and thirst for the bread and the water of Life,—a most inviting field of labour offers itself to our church. Already, young men trained in Nova Scotia have been found valuable fellow-workers in New Brunswick, side by side with distinguished sons of the Presbyterian churches of Ireland and Scotland. The evangelization of New Brunswick must, in the main, depend on her own hardy sons. She has no Theological College, but Halifax is within easy reach, and her theologians can be trained here thoroughly, and with but a moderate expenditure of time and means. The Presbyterians of New Brunswick have a strong claim upon us; when their students come to *our* Hall they are coming to *their own* Hall: their money is in our funds. Our college is their college.

The object of the union with the New Brunswick church is the general prosperity and advancement of the cause of Christ in the sea-provinces. It would no doubt be easier for our church to rest quietly in her present position, forget her destiny and neglect her work. But rest of such sort would be ruin. "The world" is the field which our Master has set before us; and woe unto us if we try to alter his commission.

Our sister church in New Brunswick may be afraid of being "swamped" by the union. Such a fear is utterly groundless. There was no "swamping" in consequence of the union of 1860; and there will be none in connection with the union of 1866. In fact, there is always among christian men an anxiety to protect the weak from undue pressure or encroachment. Any sign of oppression would provoke universal disapprobation. There is always more tyranny, less liberty, less independence, in small than in large bodies. But we are doing injustice to the New Brunswick church in trying to remove an apprehension which, in all pro-