

statement of the proceedings of the Methodist Conference in Montreal, on October 1st, gives evidence of a dignified view of the case, and shows that a powerful body of representative men, such as were present at the conference, are not easily swayed by loud denunciation, but reserve their course of action for sober counsel and deliberation :

"At the closing meeting of the Methodist Conference, the report of the civil and religious liberty committee was read with silent approval until the section respecting the Oka Indians was reached. It is there stated that the lands claimed by the Protestant Indians were originally given to the seminary in trust for the Indians ; that the conference repudiates and condemns the action of a minister of the crown in the matter ; and pledges the conference to employ every reasonable means to defend the Indians against the wrongs and cruel persecution to which they are being subjected on account of their religious belief."

Rev. Dr. Shaw proposed as an amendment the following : "Resolved, that without pronouncing upon the legal questions involved in the claims of the Indians at Oka, we deeply regret the continuance among them of a state of agitation and dissatisfaction most prejudicial to their temporal and religious interests ; and that we refrain from giving any further deliverance from this General Conference on the subject, except that we counsel the Indians to give fair and intelligent consideration to such offers of settlement of existing difficulties as may be made."

Dr. Sutherland spoke against the amendment, and Rev. Messrs Jackson, Williams and Antliff in favor of it.

Finally the amendment was lost on a division, and the report was adopted, with an addition expressing regret that in the annual distribution of gifts the government had discriminated against those Indians at Oka who had become Protestants."

OKA SETTLEMENT.

THE "*Canadian Advance*," published in Toronto, gives a very accurate history of Oka, and its Indian settlement ; and the following, gathered from its columns, may prove of interest to those who are not acquainted with the details there given. Oka, or Lake of the Two Mountains, is an Indian reserve fifteen miles square, facing the Ottawa River, some thirty-six miles north-west of Montreal. This settlement at present consists of three tribes—the Nipinguins, the Algonquins and the Iroquois. Here they came in 1718, having yielded their earlier home to the Crown of France, which made them this grant. Here they settled, with the understanding that no one was to dispossess or disturb them. The king of France, in