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FIRST EDITION.

MIDNIGHT.

REUNION.

THE END ACCOMPLISHED!

GENERAL JUBILEE!

Ratification of the Union of the Old and New School Presbyterians.

$5,000,000 to be Raised as a Thank-offering for Church Purposes.

CONGRATULATORY ADDRESSES.

Adjournment Sine Die.

Yesterday was concluded in our city one of the most important ecclesiastical councils ever held in this country. The proceedings, from the commencement to the close, were orderly, harmonious and dignified, reflecting the largest measure of credit to the delegates and the great body of Christians they represented. We beneath subjoin the report of the concluding exercises:

OLD SCHOOL ASSEMBLY.

The closing exercises of the Old School Assembly were commenced at the First Church at a quarter past nine yesterday morning the Church being filled to overflowing, with those who had assembled, as members and spectators to participate.

DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES.

The moderator opened the proceedings with a fervent prayer.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Hall, the devotional exercises were limited to fifteen minutes.

The singing of a Hymn was followed by prayer by the Rev. Mr. Grier.

The congregation again joined in singing the 575th Hymn, after which Rev. Mr. McCook led in prayer, which closed the devotional exercises.

Dr. Hall, from the Committee on arrangements reported that Elder Belknap had been appointed to assist at the Communion service.

On motion of the same gentleman, Rev. Dr. Rodgers, O. S., and Rev. Dr. Stearns, N. S., were appointed to officiate as Moderators on the Communion occasion.

The minutes were read and after some slight changes approved.

The Committee of Three from the New School Assembly, was announced, consisting of Rev. Drs. Humphreys, of Philadelphia, Aiken, of Cleveland, and Elder Foote.

RECEPTION OF THE COMMITTEE.

Dr. Aiken upon taking the platform said: "Mr. Moderator, I am one of the Committee of Three appointed by the New School Assembly to wait upon this branch and report the action of the Assembly in reference to the vote for union, and as I take for granted your branch is now ready to receive our report, I will call on my colleague, Dr. Humphreys, to read the report given him as official by our Stated Clerk."

Dr. Humphrey then read the report, showing the vote of the Presbyteries of the New School branch published heretofore.

The reading of the paper was followed with applause.

Moderator Jacobus responded in a feeling manner to the report and greeting of the Committee, saying that the hearts of the brethren had been made glad by the great unanimity which had culminated in the great reunion, and from which so much was to be expected in the future.

The Doctor closed his remarks with a fervent appeal for the blessings of Heaven upon the reunited church.

The paper was handed to the Clerk and the Committee then retired.

DECLARATION OF UNION.

Elder Henry Day, as Secretary of the Reunion Committee, begged leave to present the last resolution, to be passed upon by the Assembly. He then read the following paper:

This Assembly having received and examined the statement of the vote in the several Presbyteries on the basis of reunion of the two bodies, now claiming the name and the rights of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, in the words following, viz:

"The union shall be effected on the doctrine and ecclesiastical basis of our common system. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged as being the inspired word of God, and the only infallible guide of faith and practice. The confession of faith shall continue to be received and adopted as containing the doctrines taught in the Holy Scriptures, and the government and the doctrine of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and whereas in them is contained the rules of our polity."

It is hereby declared that said basis has been approved by more than two-thirds of the Presbyteries of this branch of the Church, and whereas the other branch, in the First Church, has reported that this basis has been approved by more than two-thirds of the Presbyteries connected with that branch of the Church. Therefore we do now solemnly declare that said *Basis of Reunion is of binding force.*

The paper was adopted unanimously by a rising vote, and amidst great applause.

Rev. Dr. Rodgers then obtained the floor, and moved that the Moderator declare this General Assembly to be dissolved, and direct that another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, shall meet in the Third Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, on the 17th of May, 1870.

The motion was unanimously carried, and the Moderator, in accordance therewith, made the announcement, dissolving the Assembly, and calling for another one as stated.

THE LAST OF THE "OLD SCHOOL."

An impressive and feeling prayer, by the Moderator, applicable to the occasion, was then made, after which the audience was dismissed with the benediction. The General Assembly of the Old School Presbyterian Church was thus dissolved forever.

THE NEW SCHOOL ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly convened at nine o'clock Friday morning, and was opened with prayer by the Moderator.

Drs. Gray and Musgrave, from the Old School Assembly were introduced, and read a certified copy of the result of the vote of the Presbyteries on the Basis of Union, as reported to that body, and the official action taken.

The Moderator, in response, said the result was received with the most profound pleasure, and he requested the Commissioners to inform their body that this Assembly was in full accord with them.

The Moderator then announced the following Committees, as suggested by the Joint Committee on Reunion. Similar committees were appointed in the Old School Assembly.

Committee on Reconstruction of Synods and Presbyteries and Change of Constitution—Revs. Drs. Fisher, Patterson and Hatfield, and Elders Wing and Suttle.

Committee on Church Works and Progress—Hon. Wm. E. Dodge, Hon. Wm. Strong, and Revs. Drs. Stearns, Goodrich and Hawley.

Committee on Home Missions—Drs. Adams and Kendal, Mitchell, H. W. Williams, L.L.D., and Mr. Farrand.

Committee on Church Erection—Revs. Geo. W. Lane, Ellingwood and Taylor, and C. H. Lee and Samuel T. Bodine.

Foreign Missions—Dr. Nelson; Dr. Booth, Rev. E. A. Noble, and Elders Allison and Scarlit.

Education—Drs. James P. Wilson, John G. Atterbury, E. D. Morris and elders A. W. Waldon and T. P. Hardy.

On Publication—Drs. Humphrey, J. G. Butler, Dr. Dallas and Elders Brown and Knight.

On Freedmen—Drs. Hopkins, Hatfield, H. Johnson, and elders Wm. Thaw and J. W. Edwards.

The Moderator then called the Assembly to order, and requested every person in the house to be seated.

THE UNION FORMALLY DECLARED.

Dr. Adams ascended the platform, and offered, a paper declaring the basis of reunion as of binding force. The document was similar to that adopted in the Old School Assembly.

After being read it was adopted by a rising vote, unanimously.

SCHOOL DISMISSED.

Dr. Adams moved that the Assembly be dissolved. The motion was unanimously adopted.

The Moderator then formally dissolved the Assembly, in the manner prescribed by the Book, and directed that another Assembly, chosen in a manner similar to this one, meet in Philadelphia in May, 1870.

The Moderator then offered prayer, and the Assembly was dismissed with the benediction.

THE JUBILEE.

IMPOSING PROCESSION.

Who has not felt the blood course his veins with fresh found activity and strength and vigor, as the proud military sounding marched with banners flying and music sounding marched with measured tread through the avenue lined with admiring people? Who has not felt new patriotism, loyalty and valor crowd about his heart on such an occasion, whether it happened in time of peace or war? There was a spectacle afforded our good people yesterday which carried more moral weight, effect and true glory to the hearts of the onlookers than could have been afforded by ten times ten military regiments having in review. It was an array of Peace, marshaled under ministers of God and the banner of Heaven, and going forth to perform a work ordered by a wise Providence to be consummated by their hands,—a mission, the fulfillment of which marks an era in the history of Christianity and promises to strengthen religion everywhere and sustain the customs and practices established by Christ and His Apostles, and faithfully handed down from generations to generations as things sacred in themselves and fraught with man's welfare on earth and his happiness in eternity. As this important and imposing body quietly and uncontentatiously moved through our streets there were none who looked idly on, but all felt deeply impressed with the solemnity of the occasion and the grandeur of the deed of reunion among so numerous a branch of the Christian family about to be ratified.

The procession numbered about seven hundred gentlemen, and, without wishing to step aside to compliment or flatter those in the ranks, we must record what was the universal remark, that a finer or more dignified body of citizens was never observed together in this city. The pavements of Fifth avenue, Wood street and Sixth avenue were crowded with spectators, and, at some places, it was with difficulty that the police opened a way through the assembled populace to enable the procession to move.

AT THE CHURCH.

At the magnificent Third Church building, on Sixth avenue, there had assembled, long before 10 o'clock, several thousand men and women, who early took their places in order to seize the first opportunities afforded for entrance to the church. A strong detachment of police guarded the entrances and maintained excellent order. The church was kept clear of occupants until the procession of ministers and elders arrived, when the main doorways were thrown open, and two by two the authorized representatives of the new and old churches of history, Old and New School Presbyterians, filed in and took their places. The Committee on Reunion were allotted seats on the platform, and the Commissioners were assigned places in the central platform of the auditorium. As the procession entered, the great organ of the church pealed forth its harmonious greeting, and the choir, especially strengthened for the occasion, sang in gladdening strains the jubilee hymn:

"Blow ye the trumpet blow
The gladly solemn sound
Let all the nations know
To earth's remotest bound
The year of Jubilee is come;
Return ye ransomed sinners home."

The Moderators, Revs. Drs. Fowler and M. W. Jacobus, occupied seats together in the central part of the platform and alternately presided over the jubilant body. Around them were clustered a solid mass of Commissioners, and others who had cheek enough to push their way into such good quarters. After the rear of the procession had arrived, at the church and all the representatives had been seated, the entrance of the people through the entrance of the people were withdrawn, and a solid and indiscriminate mass of humanity, closely hugging and squeezing each other in the inter rails of crinoline and good clothes, forced their way into the Church and circulated to the best possible extent. Three minutes after the general public have admitted every inch of available space was taken, and fully three thousand souls were packed in the Church in such close proximity to each other as to prove uncomfortable, so much so that in one instance a lady fainted and had to be carried out over the shoulders of the people blocking up the aisle. The rushing of so many people into the Church at one time created great confusion and the noise consequent thereto vied with Niagara roaring and surging. At a few minutes before eleven o'clock the Moderator, or rather presiding officer, brought down his gavel and order was established. The entire audience then joined in singing the Coronation hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' name:
Let angels prostrate fall:
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all.

The venerable Rev. Dr. Elliot at this juncture took a place on the platform, and his heavy white head called forth such a burst of rapturous applause from the audience as must have made the old and beloved pastor happy to an extreme.

OPENING PRAYER.

Rev. C. C. Beatty, D. D. L. L. D., made the opening prayer, fervently addressing the "Throne of Grace" and inviting the blessings of God on the union effected and being ratified. Dr. Beatty was Chairman of the original Committee appointed at St. Louis on the Union. He thanked God that the two Churches had been brought together after a long separation, and that he had been permitted to be present to rejoice in the union and the existence of the now one Church. He thanked God that the Holy Spirit had been poured out in all the Churches. He eloquently invoked benediction on all members of the Church, high and low, rich and poor, young and old. He begged that a healthy influence might be exerted and great advantages flow from the newly consecrated union. He prayed that the spirit of charity and forbearance might be exercised towards one another, and that the whole Church may be united to God. He finally invoked Grace, Mercy and Peace on all Churches embraced in the union.

TIDINGS OF GOOD CHEER.

Dr. Fowler reported the following resolution from Mr. Plumley, of New Jersey:

Resolved, That a telegram be sent to British Churches, in care of Rev. Robt. Buchanan, D. D., Glasgow, Scotland, that the United States Old and New School Presbyteries had formed a union, and were now united in one body.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and Messrs. Geo. H. Stuart, Jno. Hall, D. D., and Hon. W. E. Dodge were appointed a committee to attend to the transmission of the good tidings to brethren across the ocean.

Dr. Jacobus gave out hymn, "Blessed are the sons of peace," &c., which was sung with very decided effect, the entire assemblage joining in its rendition.

Rev. Dr. Fowler was called upon for a congratulatory address, and promptly responded, reading as his text from the Holy Scriptures as follows:

"Behold how good and how pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down the beard, even Aaron's beard, that went down to the skirts of his garments.

As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that decended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore.

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one, as thou Father art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou has sent me.

And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one; I in them, and thou in me that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me and hast loved them as thou hast loved me.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned; for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness. Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

The voice said, cry. And he said what shall I cry? All flesh is grass and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field; the grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it; surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the word of our God shall stand forever.

Oh Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain. O Jerusalem that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold, your God!

Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

THE OPENING ADDRESS.

Dr. Fowler then said they all might well feel dumb in the presence of this unprecedented occasion, and it was through no choice of his own that he broke the silence. He would have much preferred to remain silent to witness, for the first time, such an event, as the great work which had been done. History had no parallel for it in all the past. There had been instances of relieved churches dividing, but never had such a grand reunion been accomplished. It was easy to divide, but hard to unite. The rock might be splintered but the fragments could not be so easily solidified again. The Church might be divided, but the work of uniting it again together was hard, and almost impossible. Here and there were instances of reunion, but they were few, and none could compare with this one, the accomplishment of which they were witnesses. Here were thousands of ministers, thousands of elders, and hundreds of thousands of christians, uniting together in what was an indissoluble union. (Applause.) And they came together, and it was a wonderful unity. The voice of the Presbyteries, the voice of the people, the actions of the churches, had all been unanimous in unanimously bringing about the desired consummation. Such an instance had not been recorded in all the unions of the past. Had been prepared and an excavation two or three feet deep had been made, the sides of which grave were lined with black drapery. Here the body was deposited, and will remain until it is transported to America. Lord John Thynne read the remainder of the burial service. At the head of the grave, on the right, stood the mourners, including the American Minister, and on the left were General Grey, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Clarendon, the Lord Mayor, the High Sheriffs and Clergy of Westminster and St. Paul.

The answer to this communion of two bodies, not because of any exigency of the occasion; not because tottering to a fall the two ecclesiastical edifices, and