

THE
ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE SYNOD
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA,

IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,

SESSION XXVIII.

HELD AT KINGSTON, 28TH MAY,

1856.



MONTREAL:
PRINTED BY JOHN LOVELL, ST. NICHOLAS STREET.

1856.

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	1856.—Rev. ALEXANDER MANN, A. M.

THE COMMISSION OF SYNOD

Meets at Kingston, on the First Wednesday of October, 1856, and in Toronto on the Third Wednesday in February, 1857.

THE NEXT MEETING OF SYNOD

Will be held at Hamilton on the Last Wednesday in May, 1857.

ROLL OF THE SYNOD

OF THE]

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA

IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

KINGSTON, MAY, 1856.

REV. ALEXANDER MANN, A. M., PAKENHAM, *Moderator.*
REV. ANDREW BELL, L'ORIGINAL, *Synod Clerk.*
JOHN CAMERON, ESQ., TORONTO, *Treasurer.*

1. PRESBYTERY OF GLENCARY.—*Clerk, REV. T. McPHERSON, A.M., Lancaster*
Meets on the Third Wednesday of January, May and September.

CONGREGATIONS.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
<i>Cornwall</i>	Hugh Urquhart, A. M.	William Kay.
<i>Lancaster</i>	Thos. McPherson, A. M.	John McLennan.
<i>Finch</i>	Donald Monro.....	Duncan McMillan.
<i>Williamsburgh</i>	Thomas Scott.....	Edward McLean.
<i>L'Original & Plantagenet</i>	Andrew Bell.....	James Anderson.
<i>Osnabruck</i>	Robert Dobie.....	James Croil.
<i>Martintown</i>	Peter McVicar.....	
<i>Williamstown</i>		James Dingwall.
<i>Cote St. George, Lochiel, Indian Lands, Coteau du Lac, Vankleek Hill, Dalhousie Mills.</i>		

2. PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—*Clerk, REV. GEORGE BELL, A. B., Simcoe*
Meets at Hamilton on the Second Wednesday in January, May and September.

<i>Goderich</i>	Alexander McKid.....	John McDonald.
<i>Guelph</i>	Colin Gregor.....	David Allan.
<i>Stratford and N. Eusthope</i>	William Bell, A. M.....	Charles McTavish.
<i>Simcoe</i>	George Bell, A. B.....	Abraham Youngs.
<i>Niagara</i>	John B. Mowat, A. M.....	Gilbert McMicken.
<i>Galt</i>	Hamilton Gibson.....	David Shield.
<i>Chatham</i>	John Robb.....	Henry R. Robertson.
<i>Salisbury and Bindbrook</i>	William Johnson, A. M.....	Charles Anderson.
<i>Fergus</i>	George Macdonnell.....	A. Dingwall Fordyce.
<i>Dundas and Ancaster</i>	Kenneth McLennan, A. B.....	James Gilmour.
<i>Nelson and Waterdown</i>	John Skinner, D. D.....	Andrew Hall.
<i>Hamilton</i>	Robert Burnett.....	John Young.

CONGREGATIONS.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
<i>North Dorchester</i>	William McEwen, A. M.	William Woods.
<i>Wawanosh</i>	James Stuart.....	
<i>Westminster</i>	James McEwen, A. M.	Duncan McPherson.
<i>Woolwich</i>	James Thom.....	William Smith.
<i>Williams</i>	Robert Stevenson.....	
<i>London</i>		Aeneas Smith.
<i>Woodstock, Amherstburgh, Clinton, Dover, Lynedoch, St. Thomas, Wellesley, Brantford, Puslinch, Yarmouth, Aldboro, Kincardine, Arthur, Elderstie, Greenoch and Culross, Owen's Sound, Durham, Kinloss and Turnberry, Elgin,</i>		
	William King, George McClatchey, }	<i>Retired Ministers.</i>
3. PRESBYTERY OF BATHURST.— <i>Clerk, REV. WILLIAM BAIN, A. M., Perth Meets at Perth and Ottawa City alternately on the Second Wednesday in January, May and September.</i>		

<i>Perth, 1st Church</i>	William Bell, A. M.,	John G. Malloch,
<i>South Gower</i>	Joseph Anderson, A. M.	
<i>Pakenham</i>	Alexander Mann, A. M.	James Blair.
<i>Kitley</i>	David Evans.....	
<i>Lanark</i>	Thomas Fraser.....	John Mitchell.
<i>Perth, St. Andrew's</i>	William Bain, A. M.	William Rutherford
<i>Ramsay</i>	John McMorine.....	James Stewart.
<i>Ottawa City</i>	Alexander Spence.....	Duncan Graham.
<i>Smith's Falls</i>	Solomon Mylne.....	James Elliot.
<i>Backwith</i>	Duncan Morrison.....	James Ferguson.
<i>McNab and Horton</i>	George Thomson.....	Henry Airth.
<i>Buckingham & Cumberland</i>	Peter Lindsay.....	Archibald Petrie.
<i>Litchfield</i>	John Lindsay.....	John Stevenson.
<i>Huntley</i>	James Sinclair.....	
<i>Brockville</i>		George Malloch.
<i>Richmond</i>		
	John Campbell, <i>Ordained Missionary.</i>	

4. PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.— <i>Clerk, REV. PROF. GEO. WEIR, A. M., Kingston. Meets at Kingston on the First Wednesday of every month.</i>		
<i>Kingston</i>	John Machar, D.D.	George Davidson.
<i>Seymour East</i>	Robert Neill.....	Robert Cleugh.
<i>Queen's College</i>	Jas. Williamson, L. L. D.	
<i>Queen's College</i>	John M. Smith, A. M.	
<i>Queen's College</i>	James George, D. D.	
<i>Belleville</i>	Archibald Walker.....	George Neilson.
<i>Camden</i>		Mark Hermiston.
	Alexander Buchan, <i>Ordained Missionary.</i>	

5. PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.— <i>Clerk, REV. J. BARCLAY, D. D., Toronto. Meets at Toronto on the Third Tuesday of February, May, August & November.</i>		
<i>Esquesing and Milton</i>	Peter Ferguson.....	John Turnbull.
<i>King</i>	John Tawse, A. M.	William Tinline.
<i>Chinguacousy</i>	Thomas Johnson.....	Samuel McClure.
<i>Mono</i>	Alexander Lewis.....	Alexander Shelton.

CONGREGATIONS.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
<i>Eldon</i>	John McMurchy.....	John Campbell.
<i>Toronto</i>	John Barclay, D. D.....	Judge McLean.
<i>Clarke and Hope</i>	Samuel Porter.....	Hugh H. Sharpe.
<i>Hornby</i>	William Barr.....	John Mason.
<i>Nottawasaga</i>	John Campbell, A. M.....	John McMurchy.
<i>Thorah</i>	David Watson, A. M.....	James Galloway.
<i>Darlington</i>	John H. McKerras, A. M.....	John Galbraith.
<i>Mulmur</i>	Archibald Colquhoun.	
<i>Scott and Uxbridge</i>	William Cleland.....	William Sinclair.
<i>Newmarket</i>	John Brown.....	Jacob Wells.
<i>Markham</i>	James Gordon.....	A. Thompson.
<i>Scarboro'</i>	James Bain.....	William Paterson.
<i>Vaughan</i>		Donald Cameron.
<i>Gwillimbury West</i>		Archibald Brown.
<i>Brook and Reach</i>		
<i>Pickering</i>		
	Alexander Ross, <i>Retired Minister.</i>	
	Samuel G. McCaughey, <i>Missionary.</i>	

6. PRESBYTERY OF QUEBEC.—*Clerk, REV. DUN. ANDERSON, A. M., Point Levi Meets at Quebec on the First Wednesday of February, May, August & Novem b*

<i>Quebec</i>	John Cook, D. D.....	John Thomson,
<i>New Richmond</i>	John Davidson.	
<i>Valcartier</i>	David Shanks.....	John Clarke.
<i>Point Levi</i>	Duncan Anderson, A. M,	
<i>Three Rivers</i>	George D. Ferguson..	John Howliston.
<i>Melbourne</i>		

7. PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.—*Clerk, REV. THOMAS HAIG, Beauharnois. Meets at Montreal on the First Wednesday of February, May, August and November.*

<i>Montreal, St. Andrew's</i>	Alex. Mathieson, D. D.,	Alexander Morris, M. A.
<i>Chatham and Grenville</i>	William Mair.....	David Mullen.
<i>Orms town</i>	James Anderson.....	Neil Campbell.
<i>Georgetown</i>	James C. Muir.....	John Galbraith.
<i>Lachine</i>	William Simpson.....	William Reid.
<i>Hemmingford</i>	John Merlin.....	
<i>Huntingdon</i>	Alex. Wallace, A. B.....	Hugh Barr.
<i>St. Louis</i>	James T. Paul.....	William Paton.
<i>Beauharnois</i>	Thomas Haig . . .	Thomas Clark.
<i>Beech Ridge</i>	John McDonald.....	
<i>Norvaltown and Russelltown</i>	Frederick P. Sim.....	Don. A. Livingston,
<i>Dundee</i>		John Cameron,
<i>Montreal, St. Paul's</i>		Hew Ramsay.
<i>Laprairie</i>		James Fenton.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the
Church of Scotland begun at Kingston, the 28th day of May,
and concluded on the 4th day of June, 1856 years.

SESSION XXVIII.

DIET I.

*At Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church there :—
Wednesday, the Twenty-Eighth Day of June,
One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-six
Years :—*

The which day, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland met, according to appointment, and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Alexander McKid, the Moderator of the Synod for the preceding year.

The Moderator stated to the Synod that, in consequence of arrangements made by Dr. Machar, the Synod sermon would be deferred until the Evening at Seven o'clock.

Presbytery Rolls having been given in, the Synod Roll was made up and read over.

Sederunt, Mr. Alexander McKid, *Moderator* ; Mr. Hugh Urquhart, Mr. Thomas McPherson, Mr. Donald Monro, Mr. Andrew Bell, Mr. Colin Gregor, Mr. George Bell, Mr. John B. Mowat, Mr. Hamilton Gibson, Mr. John Robb, Mr. George Macdonnell, Mr. Kenneth McLennan, Dr. John Skinner, Mr. Robert Burnet, Mr. James McEwen, Mr. Robert Stevenson, Mr. Alexander Mann, Mr. William Bain, Mr. John McMorine, Mr. Alexander Spence, Mr. Solomon Mylne, Mr. Duncan Morrison, Mr. George Thomson, Mr. Peter Lindsay, Mr. John Lindsay, Mr. James Sinclair, Mr. Robert Neill, Dr. James Williamson, Dr. James George, Mr. Archibald Walker, Mr. Peter Ferguson, Mr. John McMurchy, Dr. John Barclay, Mr. John Campbell, Mr. John H. McKerras, Mr. Archibald Colquhoun, Mr. William Cleland, Mr. John Brown, Mr. James Gordon, Mr. James Bain, Dr. John Cook, Mr. David Shanks, Mr. Duncan Anderson, Mr. George D. Ferguson, Dr. Alexander Mathieson, Mr. Thomas Haig, and Mr. John McDonald, *Ministers* ; together with Mr. James Dingwall, Mr. John McDonald, Mr. John Young, Mr. John

G. Malloch, Mr. Duncan Graham, Mr. Archibald Petrie, Mr. George Malloch, Mr. George Davidson, Mr. George Neilson, Mr. John Turnbull, Mr. William Sinclair, Mr. John Thomson, and Mr. Alexander Morris, *Elders*.

The Synod then proceeded to the Election of a Moderator for the ensuing year, when the Rev. Alexander Mann, A. M., Minister of Pakenham, was unanimously elected, and, at the Synod's desire, took the Chair.

There was produced and read an Extract Minute of the Synod of New Brunswick, of date August 18th, 1855, appointing the Rev. John M. Brooke, D. D., Minister of Fredericton, N. B., a Delegate from that Synod to attend this meeting of Synod. Dr. Brooke was then introduced to the Synod, and received a cordial welcome through the Moderator.

The Records of the Synod having been laid on the Table, the Minutes of the Commission of Synod for the past year were read and sustained.

The Synod appointed the following Committee to revise the Synod Records, and report on them, viz:—Dr. Barclay, Mr. Spence and Mr. Morris.

There was produced and read to the Synod a communication from the Secretary of His Excellency the Governor General, of date September 18th, 1855, enclosing a copy of a Despatch from Sir W. Molesworth, late Secretary of State for the Colonies, acknowledging receipt of the Synod's Address of last year to Her Majesty the Queen, and intimating that the same had been laid before Her Majesty.

There was next laid before the Synod a communication from Hew Ramsay, Esq., Montreal, Treasurer for the Synod's Contributions to the Patriotic Fund, enclosing the correspondence between him and John Beatson Bell, Esq., Edinburgh, the Agent for the Church of Scotland, anent said Contributions, with an Extract Minute of the General Assembly's Patriotic Fund Committee, of date November 5th, 1855, acknowledging receipt of £410 15s. 9d. sterling, being the proceeds of £506 12s. 9d. currency, transmitted by Mr. Ramsay, and showing the appropriation made by them of the same. It was stated, in explanation, by various Members of Synod, that the said Synodical Contributions, and especially in some localities, would have been much larger but for the circumstance that the people connected with this Church had, in many instances, given their contributions through the general subscriptions raised in their neighbourhood.

The Synod appointed the following Committee of Bills and Overtures, with instructions to meet this afternoon at three o'clock,—and all Papers to come before the Synod were ordered to be given in to the said Committee, viz: the Moderator and Clerk, Mr. Urquhart,

Mr. McPherson, Mr. McKid, Mr. George Bell, Mr. John B. Mowat, Mr. W. Bain, Mr. McMorine, Mr. Spence, Mr. Thomson, Mr. Neill, Dr. Williamson, Dr. George, Dr. Barclay, Mr. McKerras, Mr. Jas. Bain, Mr. D. Anderson, Dr. Mathieson, and Mr. Geo. D. Ferguson, *Ministers*; and Mr. Dingwall, Mr. McDonald, Mr. John G. Malloch, Mr. Petrie, Mr. George Malloch, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Turnbull, and Mr. Morris, *Elders*.

Presbytery Records were ordered to be laid on the Table for examination as soon as possible.

Leave was given to Presbyteries to meet in Kingston for all competent business, during the meeting of Synod, at such hours as the Synod may not be sitting.

The Synod agreed that, during their present Session, they shall meet at ten o'clock, A. M., and continue in Session till five o'clock P. M., with an interval of an hour between one and two, meeting in the evening when considered necessary; and it was further agreed that the first part of each morning's sederunt be employed in devotional exercises.

At seven o'clock, the Rev. Alexander McKid, the late Moderator, preached before the Synod, from Ezekiel ix. 11, last clause, "I have done as thou hast commanded me."

The Committee of Bills and Overtures gave in a Report of the business to come before the Synod, and of the order in which it might be taken up.

The Synod proceeded to the Election of three Trustees for Queen's College, at Kingston, in room of the Rev. James C. Muir, the Rev. John McMorine, and the Rev. Alexander Mathieson, D. D., who were unanimously re-elected, and their names placed at the top of the Roll; and the Clerk was instructed to intimate the same to the Board of Trustees.

The Synod next proceeded to the election of two Clergy Reserve Commissioners in room of Hew Ramsay, Esq., and John Smith, Esq., who retire from Office at this time according to the Regulations of Synod, of 1848, when Hew Ramsay, Esq., and John Smith, Esq., were unanimously re-elected, and their names directed, in terms of the aforesaid Regulations, to be placed at the foot of the list of Commissioners; and the Clerk was instructed to intimate the same to the Board of Commissioners.

The Synod appointed Dr. Barclay, Mr. McKerras, Mr. W. Bain, and Mr. John Mowat, a Committee to attend to the Financial concerns of the Synod; and the Synod directed Presbytery Clerks and others to pay over to the Committee all monies collected by them for the Synod Fund, and directed all accounts against the Synod to be given in.

The Synod appointed the following Committees to revise the Records of Presbyteries, and report on them, viz:—Mr. Geo. Macdonnell, Mr. Haig, and Mr. John G. Malloch, to revise the records of the Presbytery of Glengary; Mr. McKerras, Mr. McMorine, and Mr. Morris, to revise the Records of the Presbytery of Hamilton; Mr. Burnet, Mr. McKid, and Mr. Davidson, to revise the Records of the Presbytery of Bathurst; Mr. Peter Ferguson, Mr. Morrison, and Mr. Graham, to revise the Records of the Presbytery of Kingston; Mr. W. Bain, Mr. Peter Lindsay, and Mr. Petrie, to revise the Records of the Presbytery of Toronto; Mr. Neill, Dr. George, and Mr. Young, to revise the Records of the Presbytery of Quebec; Mr. Spence, Mr. Thomson, and Mr. Geo. Malloch to revise the Records of the Presbytery of Montreal.

The Synod appointed the following Committee to draft an Address to Her Majesty the Queen, viz:—Dr. Williamson, Mr. Spence, Mr. Kenneth McLennan, and Mr. Morris;—and the following to draft an Address to His Excellency the Governor General, viz:—Mr. James Bain, Mr. Burnet, Mr. Thomson, and Mr. John G. Malloch.

There was given in and read by Mr. Morris, Convener of the Committee, a Report from the Central Committee on Church Property, showing the steps which had been taken by the Committee for obtaining and preserving statistical information, and the progress made in regard to the same. The said Report having been duly considered, the Synod agreed to approve of the same, and to thank the Convener and Committee for the diligence and assiduity with which they have entered upon the important work entrusted to them. The Synod re-appointed the Committee, with instructions to continue the work so well begun. The Synod, further, recommend to Presbyteries to appoint Presbyterial Committees to collect statistical information in regard to the public property of the Church, within their bounds, from Ministers and others, having a special reference to the property of vacant congregations, and to communicate the same to the Central Committee.

The Synod then adjourned till to-morrow morning at Ten o'clock, and was closed with prayer.

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DIET II.

*At Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church there :—  
Thursday, the Twenty-ninth Day of May,  
One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty six  
Years :—*

The which day, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland met, according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer.

On the call of the Moderator, the Rev. John Lindsay, conducted the devotional exercises of the Synod, in praise, reading the Scriptures, and prayer.

Sederunt as before, &c.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Robb, seconded by Mr. Haig, it was unanimously agreed that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Rev. Alexander McKid, their late Moderator, for the excellent Sermon preached by him before the Synod yesterday, and that he be requested to permit the publication of it in "*The Presbyterian*," which was done by the Moderator accordingly.

There was transmitted to the Synod, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, a Report from Dr. Skinner, of the receipt and disbursement of monies on behalf of the congregation of London, last year. The Synod referred the said Report to Dr. Barclay, Mr. James Bain, Mr. Burnet, and Mr. Morris, to examine and report on the same.

The Annual Report of the Managers of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund was given in and read by Dr. Mathieson, the Chairman of the Board, and is as follows:—

#### NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

##### *Of the Managers of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund.*

The Managers of this Fund have been in the custom of submitting an Interim Report to the Synod at its Annual Meeting, and following it up at the close of the year by a Supplement, showing the exact state of the income and payments when the books were closed. This, however, has been attended with much labour and inconvenience, and they have determined, on the present and future occasions, to balance their books on 1st May, so as to be enabled to lay a complete statement before the Synod. The effect of this on the present Report will be to show a diminished amount of receipts compared with former years, inasmuch as only the Ministers' half-yearly payment to the Fund, received in January, appears at the credit of the account, and interests on investments only up to 1st May instead of to December. In future years, of course, no such disproportion will appear.

The Managers have to deplore the loss of one of the most able, most zealous and most judicious of their number—the Rev. Dr. McGill. Since the creation of the Fund, he was unremitting in his labours to improve its condition, expecting that in the course of a few years it might prove the means of diffusing great good among a meritorious class of Annuitants, who are too often left but slenderly provided for. In virtue of the powers conferred upon them by the Act of Parliament, the Managers unanimously elected the Rev. Mr.

Simpson, of Lachine, to supply the vacancy in the Board thus created.

The Rev. Dr. McGill left a widow whose name has been added to the Roll of Annuitants. There are now fourteen Ladies deriving benefit from the Fund, and the Managers are engaged in drawing up a new scale, by which they hope both to increase the Annuities, and to extend the benefit to Orphan children to a greater extent than is done under the existing Regulations.

It is gratifying to announce to the Synod that the appeal made to the Congregations last winter has resulted in a marked increase to the Fund, by the Collections of those who, up to this date, have contributed. In 1855 the Congregational Collections

Amounted to..... £338 15 5

(And 4 Congregations had not contributed,)

While in 1856 the amount was..... 371 12 8

(and the large number of 17 Congregation have not yet reported.)

Had these seventeen Congregations forwarded their Collections, it is probable that the total amount for the present year would have considerably exceeded £400. It is much to be regretted that, notwithstanding the peremptory order of the Synod, in reference to the time when Collections should be taken up, and the frequency with which delays and neglect of duty in complying with it have been complained of, the evil, instead of abating, is rather increasing.

The amount at the credit of the Fund, consisting of

Ministers' Contributions, is this day..... £1,676 13 9

and the Congregational Collections..... 2,579 12 0

£4,256 5 9

Of which there is invested, bearing

Interest..... £4,250 10 0

And Cash in Treasurer's hands.. 5 15 9

£4,256 5 9

Considering that the Fund has been in existence for nine years, this amount does not say much for the general liberality of our Congregations. The truth is that much the greater part of the burthen of supporting the Fund falls upon a few of our people—the great majority apparently feeling little interest in its advancement. This will appear from a consideration of the statement herewith submitted, showing the Collections made from the commencement of the Trust. It will also exhibit the irregularity of many Congregations in taking up Collections, and may suggest to the Synod some plan by which greater punctuality may be ensured for the future.

In examining the averages it must be borne in mind that these are formed from the actual number of collections made. This may

sometimes be considered permissible in the case of Congregations temporarily deprived of ministerial services; but where no such deprivation exists, and the failure to collect arises either from forgetfulness or inattention, the average properly should be formed by dividing by the total number which *ought to have been collected*. The Managers are not in a position to make the distinction, but the Synod is respectfully invited to direct their attention, or that of a Committee, to the subject, and further to enjoin Presbyteries to enquire into the cause of such failures to make collections for past years, and to ordain for the future that Congregations neglecting to take up an annual collection at the proper time, unless accounted for to the satisfaction of the Synod or Presbytery, shall be deprived of any right to participate in the Fund consisting of Congregational Collections.

ALEX. MATHIESON, D. D.,  
*Chairman.*  
 HEW RAMSAY,  
*Secretary.*  
 JOHN GREENSHIELDS,  
*Treasurer.*

MONTREAL, 6th May, 1856.

Since the above Report was made up, Congregational Collections have been received,—

|                                  |     |    |   |
|----------------------------------|-----|----|---|
| From Quebec,.....                | £20 | 0  | 0 |
| From 8 other Congregations,..... | 21  | 13 | 2 |

In all,..... £41 13 2

MONTREAL, 26th May, 1856.

The Synod having heard and considered this Report, it was moved by Mr. Urquhart, seconded by Dr. Cook, and agreed to, that the Report be received, and that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Managers for the able and faithful discharge of their trust,—and that the Synod appoint the following Committee to examine the Report and make such suggestions as may be necessary for preventing the evils of which the Board complain, and devise such a plan as will enable them to carry out the benevolent objects of their trust with the greatest efficiency, viz :—Mr. Urquhart, Mr. McKid, Mr. Spence, Dr. George, Mr. James Bain, Dr. Cook, and Dr. Mathieson.

The thanks of the Synod were accordingly given by the Moderator to Dr. Mathieson, the Chairman of the Board, and through him to the Board of Managers.

The Synod proceeded to the Election of three Trustees for the management of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, in

room of the Rev. William Simpson, (whose name had been put by the Board in place of that of the late Rev. Dr. McGill,) John Greenshields, Esq., and Andrew Shaw, Esq., who retire from office at this time, in conformity with the provisions of the Act of Incorporation, when the Rev. William Simpson, John Greenshields, Esq., and James Mitchell, Esq., were duly elected, and their names directed to be placed at the head of the lists of Ministers and Laymen respectively composing the Board ;—and the Clerk was instructed to intimate the same to the Board of Managers.

The Synod had laid before them a communication from John Mowat, Esq., Kingston, enclosing a letter from Alexander Murrie, Esq., Edinburgh, acknowledging receipt from Mr. Mowat of £46 6d. 10s. sterling, being the proceeds of £56 7s. 6d. currency, contributed by certain congregations of this Church for the Church of Scotland's Missions,—and stating that the amount would be equally divided between the Foreign and Jewish Missions of the Church of Scotland.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, an Overture anent the holding of a devotional and Missionary meeting during the Session of Synod. The said Overture having been read and duly considered, the Synod agreed to the same, and, in conformity with the terms of the Overture, appointed a devotional and Missionary meeting, to be held by the Synod, on Monday Evening next at Seven o'clock, and appointed Dr. George, Dr. Machar and Mr. Morris a Committee to make all the necessary arrangements for conducting said meeting.

The Synod appointed the following Examining Committee, in terms of the Act anent the Examination of Ministers, Preachers, and Students, coming from other Churches not in connection with this Church, viz :—the Moderator and Clerk, the Rev. Dr. Brooke, Mr. Urquhart, Mr. McPherson, Mr. McKid, Mr. John Mowat, Mr. McMoline, Mr. Spence, Dr. Machar, Dr. Williamson, Dr. George, Dr. Barclay, Dr. Cook, and Dr. Mathieson,—and appointed the Committee to meet to-morrow morning at Nine o'clock.

Mr. Urquhart having specially called the attention of the Synod to the removal by death of the late Rev. Robert McGill, D. D., it was agreed that the Synod record the following expression of their sentiments :—

The Synod cannot permit the present occasion to pass without giving expression to the sentiments of grief felt by every member of this Court, at the bereavement which has been sustained by the Church in the death of the late Rev. Dr. McGill of Montreal,—and at the same time expressing sincere condolence with the widow and children of their late brother. Dr. McGill was not only one of the

fathers of this Church, but was from the first one of its most able and efficient ministers. Possessed of great activity of mind, and much zeal for the interest of the Church, he was not only constant in his attendance on its Courts, but ever took a lively interest in all the measures that came before them,—and as he was also a prudent, faithful and diligent Pastor, his loss to his own congregation, as well as to the Church at large, cannot but be deeply felt.—But while the Synod would put on record their sentiments of esteem and sorrow for their late brother, they feel that it behoves them, with solemn consideration, to regard this, and similar dispensations of the Lord, as loud calls to all who are yet in the vineyard “to work while it is day, for the night cometh.”

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, an Overture from the Presbytery of Montreal ant the inaccuracies of the last Census, and the injustice thereby done to this Church.—The same having been read and considered, it was on motion of Mr. Morris agreed, in conformity with the recommendation of the Overture, that an Address of the Synod be forthwith prepared and transmitted to the Governor in Council, representing the said injustice, particularizing instances of the same, and suggesting that, in the future Census and Schedules, three columns should be assigned to the three leading Presbyterian Churches in this Province, by name, and special instructions given to the Enumerators with regard to the proper distribution therein of persons describing themselves as Presbyterians:—and Mr. Haig, Mr. Burnet and Mr. Morris were appointed a Committee to draft the Address.

The Synod having had read the minutes of the Commission for the last year, it was moved by Mr. Spence, seconded by Mr. John G. Malloch, that “whereas it appears that at the stated meeting of the Commission held at Kingston on the First Wednesday of October last, certain Ministers were present and took part in the proceedings who were not appointed Commissioners in terms of the minutes of Synod of last year,—the Synod hold that, in consequence of this irregularity, all the proceedings which took place were thereby vitiated and ought to be held as null and of none effect, and the Synod find and declare accordingly. Further, the Synod resolve not to sustain an alledged meeting of Commission, reputed to have been held at Toronto on the Third Wednesday of February last, for the following reasons:—*First*, because the act of adjournment to that city formed part of the *res gestæ* of the meeting at Kingston, which ought as above to be held null; *Secondly*, because the majority of the Ministers and Elders present, and who voted at said meeting, were not Commissioners, and accordingly the Synod decern and declare the business done at the meeting aforesaid absolutely null and void and of none effect whatever.”

It was then moved, in amendment, by Dr. Cook, seconded by Mr. McKerras, "1, that, while the duties of the Commission are specially entrusted to the individuals expressly named by the Synod, it has been the privilege of other Ministers, Members of the Synod, to sit and vote in the Commission; 2, that no Elder, not a Member of the last Synod, had a right to sit in the Commission, inasmuch as all Elders ceased to be Representative Elders after the said Synod rose, and the Commission were not and could not be legally cognizant of the Election of new Representative Elders."

It was next moved, in amendment, by Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Dr. Skinner, "that the Court of Commission being constituted according to the invariable practice of the Synod,—that the Elders sitting on the Commission at the meetings at Kingston on the 3rd day of October and at Toronto on the 19th day of February, being in accordance with the existing law of the Church, in reference to the Election of Elders, whether that law be good or bad, expedient or inexpedient, the Synod do reject the protest against their sitting as Members of said Court of Commission."

It was, further, moved, in amendment, by Mr. James Bain, seconded by Mr. Geo. Macdonnell, "that, whatever opinion may be entertained as to the alleged irregularity of some Ministers and Elders sitting and voting in the Commissions held at Kingston in October, 1855, and Toronto in February, 1856, the Synod, considering the practice of this Church, agree to sustain the proceedings of said Commissions as valid,—reserving the right afterwards to make such declaration as may be thought necessary for future guidance."

The vote was then taken on the amendments of Mr. Bain and Dr. Mathieson, when Dr. Mathieson's was carried by a majority of votes, and that of Mr. Bain was declared to be lost.

The vote was next taken on the amendments of Dr. Mathieson and Dr. Cook, when, Dr. Cook's having been carried by a majority of votes, Dr. Mathieson's was declared to be lost.

The vote was then taken on Dr. Cook's amendment and Mr. Spence's motion, when Dr. Cook's was carried by a majority of votes, and the Synod decerned in terms thereof.

From this decision of the Synod Dr. Mathieson dissented in his own name and the name of all who might adhere to him, for reasons to be given in. Dr. Skinner, Mr. McMurchy, and Mr. Colquhoun gave in their adherence.

It was intimated to the Synod, on behalf of the Presbytery of Glen-gary, that it was the intention of said Presbytery, with leave of the Synod, to take Mr. Donald McDonald, A. B., Student of Divinity of Queen's College, on trials for license;—and it was also intimated, on behalf of the Presbytery of Kingston, that it was their intention, with leave



of the Synod, to take Mr. Peter Watson, A. B., and Mr. William E. McKay, A. B., Students of Divinity of Queen's College, on trials for license. The Synod directed said Students to appear before the Examining Committee.

Applications were also made by the Presbytery of Bathurst on behalf of the Rev. John Campbell, an ordained Minister from the Presbyterian Church of the United States,—and by the Presbytery of Toronto on behalf of the Rev. Samuel G. McCaughey, an ordained Minister from the Presbyterian Church of Ireland,—that these Ministers may be admitted as Ministers in connection with this Church. The Synod directed said Ministers to appear before the Examining Committee.

The Synod made the following appointments for the public services of the Sabbath, viz:—Dr. Brooke to preach in the morning, Mr. Snodgrass in the afternoon, and Mr. James Bain in the evening:—and Mr. Stevenson at Brockville.

The Synod then adjourned till Ten o'clock to-morrow morning, and was closed with prayer.

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### DIET III.

*At Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church there :—  
Friday, the Thirtieth Day of May, One Thousand  
Eight hundred and Fifty-six Years :—*

The which day, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland met, according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer.

On the call of the Moderator, the Rev. George Thomson conducted the devotional exercises of the Synod, in praise, reading the Scriptures, and prayer.

Sederunt as before, &c.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

There was produced and read an Extract Minute of the Synod of Nova Scotia, of date July 7th, 1855, appointing the Rev. William Snodgrass, Minister of Charlotte Town, Prince Edward's Island, a Delegate from that Synod to attend this meeting of Synod. Mr. Snodgrass was introduced to the Synod, and received a cordial welcome through the Moderator.

The attention of the Synod having been called to the circumstance that Wednesday the Fourth Day of June has been appointed by the Governor General as a Day of Public Thanksgiving to Almighty God, for the peace which has been concluded, the Synod,

while acknowledging the duty of observing days of public fasting or thanksgiving appointed by public authority, yet find it impossible, under present circumstances, to comply with this arrangement as could be wished, inasmuch as the Synod will still be in session at that time,—the appointment of the time for holding the present meeting of Synod having been made last year. But in order to carry out the intention of the Government, as far as this can be done, the Synod agree that the Ministers and Elders met in Kingston shall, in their Synodical capacity, observe the Day of Thanksgiving on Wednesday the Fourth Day of June, and appoint the Rev. Robert Burnet to preach the Thanksgiving Sermon;—and further, the Synod enjoin each Minister to improve the dispensations of God's Providence, in reference to the war and the peace now concluded, in his own congregation, on the earliest occasion, and in the way he may deem most for the glory of God and the edification of the people of his charge.

The Report of the Commutation Commissioners was given in and read by Dr. Cook; and thereafter the Report of the Clergy Reserves Commissioners was given in and read by Dr. Mathieson. The same having been duly considered, it was moved by Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Mr. McKid, "That the Synod give advice to the Clergy Reserve Commissioners to divide that portion of the balance at present in their hands according to the principles on which they have always acted, viz: "to divide the Revenue for the year among the Incumbents for the years in which this balance accrues."

It was also moved in amendment by Dr. Cook, seconded by Dr. George, "That the thanks of this Synod are eminently due to the Clergy Reserves Commissioners for their faithful, impartial and wise management of the Fund placed at their disposal;—that this Synod has always recognized and approved, and does now again recognize and approve the sound discretion exercised by the Commissioners in the discharge of the important duties entrusted to them; more particularly in retaining from year to year such balance from the moneys received, as secured the ministers from having the salaries allotted to them in any instance reduced, and provided for like salaries to the new ministers who were from time to time added to the Church; that this Synod learns with much satisfaction that such balances, with the interest accumulated on them, amount now to the sum of £17,000, and inasmuch as the first object for which such balances were retained, is now sufficiently secured otherwise, and there is no reason to fear that the salary of ministers on the Clergy Reserves will be diminished, the Synod rejoices that the whole sum can be safely applied to the second object, of permanent importance

to the interest of the church, the support, namely, of such ministers as have been received into the Church since the commutation or may hereafter be received into it. And the Synod would respectfully advise the Clergy Reserves Commissioners to appropriate the whole Fund at their disposal to this purpose, and place it in the hands of the Commutation Commissioners, under restrictions to use it for that purpose alone; unless the revenue otherwise required should at any time fall short."

It was also moved in amendment by Mr. Geo. Malloch, seconded by Mr. John G. Malloch, "That the Imperial Statute 15 George III, Chapter 83, Section 5th, enacts, That the Clergy of the said Church (Rome) may hold, receive, and enjoy their accustomed dues and rights, with respect to such persons only as shall profess the said religion;" and in Section 6th enacts, "That it shall be lawful for His Majesty, &c., to make provision out of the residue of the said accustomed dues and rights, for the *encouragement of the Protestant Religion*, and for the maintenance and support of a Protestant Clergy, &c."

That the Imperial Statute 31 George III, Chapter 31, Section 35th, recites the provisions of the 5th and 6th Sections of the before mentioned Statute, and in the 36th Section recites that it was His Majesty's desire to be enabled to make a *permanent appropriation of lands* in the said Provinces for the support and maintenance of a Protestant Clergy within the same, &c., "as may best conduce to the due and sufficient support and maintenance of a Protestant Clergy within the said Province, *in proportion to such increase as may happen in the population and cultivation thereof*," and then enacts that a quantity *in each township*, equal to one seventh of the whole lands, be reserved for that purpose.

That the Imperial Statute 3 and 4 Victoria, Chapter 78, (1840) in the Preamble, recites, "Whereas it is expedient to provide for the final disposition of the lands called Clergy Reserves in Canada, and for the appropriation of the *yearly income arising or to arise therefrom*, for the *maintenance of Religion* and the *advancement of Christian Knowledge* within the said Province;" and in the 5th Section enacts "that the share allotted and appropriated to the Church of Scotland in Canada 'shall be expended for the *support and maintenance of Public Worship* and the *Propagation of Religious Knowledge, &c.*'"

That from the language used in these Statutes, this Church has always viewed the Clergy Reserves, and the Funds to be derived therefrom, as devoted to the Sacred purpose, for all time coming, of religiously instructing the people, and that the whole body of the people, even to the remotest corners of the Province, where, and whenever a Preacher of the Gospel can be obtained, were, and would

be entitled to participate in the benefits of the same, and that the misappropriation of these funds to any secular purpose would be sacrilege in the extreme. That although the Imperial Statute 16 Victoria, Chapter 21, and the Provincial Act 18 Victoria, Chapter 2, from motives of state policy, have appropriated the greater portion of the Clergy Reserves to secular purposes, reserving only a small portion for the purpose originally designed, meting out the same by the value of the lives of the Ministers on the Roll on the 9th May, 1853, and enabling these Ministers to commute, still, although the legal position has been changed, the moral obligation still continues for this Church to devote the Commutation Fund to the original purpose, the religious instruction of the whole people, whether ministered to by those who were on the Roll in May, 1853, or by those who have been since or hereafter may be, ordained to minister to the people."

The Roll was then called, and the votes marked on the amendments of Mr. Malloch and Dr. Cook, when Dr. Cook's was carried by a large majority, and Mr. Malloch's was declared to be lost.

The vote was then taken on the amendment of Dr. Cook, and the motion of Dr. Mathieson, when Dr. Cook's was carried by a majority of votes, and the Synod decreed in terms thereof.

The Synod adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, and was closed with prayer.

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#### DIET IV.

*At Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church there :—  
Saturday, the Thirty-first Day of May, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-six Years :—*

The which day, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, met, according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer.

On the call of the Moderator, the Rev. John H. McKerras conducted the devotional exercises of the Synod, in praise, reading the Scriptures, and prayer.

Sederunt as before, &c.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Examining Committee reported to the Synod, that they had examined Mr. John Campbell, and Mr. Samuel G. McCaughey, Ministers from other Churches, as also Mr. Donald McDonald, Mr. Peter Watson, and Mr. William E. McKay, Students of Divinity, on

the subjects prescribed by the Act of Synod, and that they were satisfied with their appearances.

The Synod having heard and approved this Report instructed the Presbyteries of Bathurst and Toronto to proceed, in the case of Mr. Campbell and Mr. McCaughey, according to the laws of the Church, authorizing them, in the event of their receiving calls, to proceed to their settlement at the expiry of the prescribed period of probation, without again reporting to the Synod, or even within that period, should the circumstances of the case appear to them, in the exercise of a wise discretion, to warrant that step; and in the mean time, to employ them as Missionaries in such congregations as may appear to the Presbytery to be desirable and necessary. And the Synod, further, agreed to grant leave to the several Presbyteries, to which the aforesaid Students belong, to take them on trials for license.

The Synod resumed consideration of certain matters brought forward in the Report on the Commutation Fund, when, after lengthened discussion, it was moved by Dr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Neilson, and agreed to, "that the Rev. Hugh Urquhart, Cornwall, John Young, Esq., Hamilton, John Cameron, Esq., Toronto, Francis W. Harper, Esq., Kingston, and Thomas Paton, Esq., Montreal, be added to the present Board of Commutation Commissioners; that the interest of the Commutation Funds, and of all such Funds as may come into their hands, shall by them be applied in the following manner:—

1st. For the payment of £112 10s. per annum to the ministers who commuted.

2nd. For the payment of £100 a year to the eleven ministers who were on the Synod's Roll, at the time of the secularization of the Clergy Reserves, but who were not permitted to commute; and

3rd. For the payment to all ministers, not so provided for, of £100 a year, if the funds in their hands admit of it;—it being understood that such annual subscriptions as may be received for the sustentation of the Church are to be applied to this last mentioned purpose; further, that if the sum that can be disposed of for this purpose should at any time be insufficient to give £100 a year, the whole sum be divided among the claimants, but the division shall not be continued after the allowance to each minister has fallen to £50.

That five of the above mentioned Commissioners be a quorum necessary for the investment of funds, and three for ordinary business, but a written concurrence from the larger quorum shall be a sufficient authority for the smaller to act.

That the Board shall be designated, "The Board for the Management of the Temporalities Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland."

The Synod further agreed and declared that the guaranteed salary of £112 10s. shall, upon the death of any one of the recipients, revert to the general fund: that any of the ministers holding the guaranteed sum of £112 10s., released from their respective charges from age and infirmity, with the consent of their Presbyteries, sanctioned by the Synod, shall enjoy their salaries for life: and that those who have already retired on a stipulated sum shall continue to enjoy the sum allotted to them.

A deputation from Queen's College, consisting of Dr. George, Dr. Williamson, F. A. Harper, Esq., and John Paton, Esq., appeared in the Synod, and having been received, Mr. Paton made a statement of the funds, resources and liabilities of Queen's College; and Dr. George made a full statement about the attendance of Students, classes taught, and mode of teaching, exercises, &c. The further consideration of these statements was deferred until next Tuesday.

The Synod had read a letter from Mr. Paton anent the efforts now making for the support and education of Hindoo Orphans under the Edinburgh Ladies' Association for Female Education in India. The same having been considered, it was moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Macdonnell, and agreed to, "that the Synod having heard read the letter of Mr. Paton, approve of the same, commend the effort to the sympathies of our congregations, and appoint Mr. Paton Treasurer for the Fund on behalf of the Synod."

The attention of the Synod having been called to the claims of Dr. Mathieson, approved of in 1838, for expenses incurred in Britain when attending to the interests of the Church, the Synod appointed Dr. George, Mr. Urquhart, Mr. McMurchy and Mr. George Malloch a Committee to enquire into the matters, and report to the Synod.

It was agreed that the Synod present an Address to the Rev. Principal McFarlane, of Glasgow, expressive of the Synod's sense of the long-continued and persevering efforts he has put forth on behalf of the interests of the Colonial Churches. Dr. Mathieson, Dr. Cook and Dr. George were appointed a Committee to draft the Address, Dr. Mathieson to be Convener.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, an address of the Lay Association of Montreal, which was read;—when it was moved by Mr. McKid, seconded by Mr. Robb, and agreed to, "that the Synod, having heard read the Address of the Lay Association, thank them for their past exertions and present suggestions for the good of the Church, and, as requested, cordially approve of the publication of the Juvenile Presbyterian."

The Synod adjourned till Monday morning at Ten o'clock, and was closed with prayer.

## DIET V.

*At Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church there :—  
Monday, the Second Day of June, One Thousand Eight  
Hundred and Fifty-six Years :—*

The which day, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, met, according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer.

On the call of the Moderator, the Rev. James Gordon conducted the devotional exercises of the Synod, in praise, reading the Scriptures, and prayer.

Sederunt as before, &c.

The Minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

The Synod resumed consideration of the matters brought up in the Report on the Commutation Funds, when, after due deliberation, it was moved by Dr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Snodgrass, and agreed to, "that the Board for the management of the Temporalities Funds be requested to take all necessary steps to call forth the liberality of the Laity over the Church to the support of the Ministry, and to call in the assistance of such office-bearers and members of the Church as may be useful in promoting this object; and all Ministers and Elders are hereby enjoined to give their cordial co-operation to the Board."

It was moved by Mr. Morris, and agreed to, that Dr. Mathieson, Dr. Cook, Mr. Urquhart, Mr. Jas. Bain, and Mr. Morris, be a Committee to consider the question of the permanent composition of the Board of Managers of the Temporalities Fund, and the nature of the Act of Incorporation that it may be desirable to obtain therefor, and to report to the next meeting of this Synod.

The Synod took up the consideration of the case of Mr. Whyte, as connected with the decision of the Synod anent the Commission of Synod. After discussion it was moved by Dr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Spence, "that inasmuch as Mr. Whyte should not be prejudiced by an accidentally improper constitution of the Court of Commission, the Synod do now take up the consideration of his application to be restored, and the accompanying documents;—and the Synod, having duly considered the application of Mr. Whyte, and the documents in support of it, and not having the opportunity of personal conference with him, resolve that they be referred to the Presbytery of Hamilton, with power to make all necessary enquiry, and to dispose of the case as they may see fit.

It was then moved in amendment by Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Mr. McMurchy, that "the Synod, having heard the evidence of repentance in the case of Mr. Whyte, and his assurance of becoming

conduct in future, which were laid before the Commission at its meeting in Toronto, and deeming it sufficiently clear and explicit, and, in so far as man can judge, expressive of true penitence, and Mr. Whyte having been admonished by the Commission as to maintaining a life and conversation becoming the Gospel,—do now remove the sentence of suspension, and restore him to his former status.”

It was also moved in amendment by Mr. McKerras, seconded by Mr. John Lindsay, “ That in present circumstances, it is inexpedient to remove the sentence of suspension passed upon Mr. Whyte by the Presbytery of Bathurst, and confirmed by the Synod,—inasmuch as a test of the evidence of his penitence has not been furnished to the Church.”

The vote was then taken between the amendments of Dr. Mathieson and Mr. McKerras, when that of Mr. McKerras was carried by a majority of votes.

The vote was next taken between Dr. Cook’s motion and Mr. McKerras’ amendment, when Dr. Cook’s motion was carried by a majority of votes, and the Synod accordingly decreed in terms thereof.

The Synod had laid before them a memorial from the Managers of the Congregation at Stirling, to the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly, praying for aid in finishing their Church, and an extract minute of the Presbytery of Kingston approving of the same. The Synod, having considered the case, agreed to sanction the said application, and instructed the Presbytery of Kingston to transmit the same to the Colonial Committee, with the extract minutes of the Presbytery and Synod, and an attested copy of the Title Deed of the property, as soon as the same is furnished to them.

The Report of the French Mission Committee was given in and read. The further consideration of the same was deferred until tomorrow.

The Synod called for the Reports of the Deputations appointed last year to visit the Synods of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick,—when Dr. Mathieson, for himself and Mr. McKid, gave in and read a Report of their visit to the Synod of Nova Scotia, and there was given and read, on behalf of Professor Weir and the late Dr. McGill, a Report of their visit to the Synod of New Brunswick. Thereafter, Dr. Brooke, of the Synod of New Brunswick, and Mr. Snodgrass, of the Synod of Nova Scotia, addressed the Synod in regard to these visits.

The Synod, having heard the Report of the Deputation to the Synod of Nova Scotia, as given in by the Rev. Dr. Mathieson for himself and the Rev. Alex. McKid; and also a Report from Profes-



sor Weir of the visit paid by himself and the late Dr. McGill to the Synod of New Brunswick, agree to put upon Record the following Resolutions, embodying their sentiments and feelings as to these Reports and the matters to which they refer.

1st. The Synod rejoice to express their high satisfaction with the prudence, diligence, and fidelity of both Deputations, so fully manifested in the manner in which they discharged their duties.

2nd. It affords this Synod the highest gratification to hear of the friendly reception which the members of the deputation met with from their Brethren in Christ in the Lower Provinces. And the Synod also rejoice to learn from the Reports now laid on the table that so much was found within the bounds of the Synods of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to afford the most cheering evidence of a healthy and vigorous piety among the people, and of extraordinary zeal and diligence among the ministers in sustaining the cause of our Lord and Saviour in the peculiarly trying circumstances in which they have been placed for many years past. While this Synod deeply sympathize with these devoted and laborious men in their untiring efforts to build up the cause of Christ in the Lower Provinces, they cannot but entertain the hope that the God whom they serve will aid them in their efforts, and in due time lessen their toils by sending more labourers into the vineyard.

3rd. The Synod cannot but express the extreme satisfaction which has been felt from the presence of their able and beloved brethren, the Rev. Dr. Brooke, from the Synod of New Brunswick, and the Rev. William Snodgrass, from the Synod of Nova Scotia. And while this Synod were, with pleasure, aided by the wise counsel of these excellent brethren, in their deliberations, the holiest feelings have been cherished by their kind and Christian sympathy. The Synod are indeed deeply indebted to the Churches in the Lower Provinces for the Deputation they have so kindly and considerately sent.

4th. That while it may on divers accounts, be premature to enter into any definite arrangement as to a union of the various Synods in connection with the Church of Scotland, in British North America, in one General Assembly,—yet it is the solemn conviction of this Synod that there are good and valid reasons for keeping that measure steadily in view, and for taking, in the meantime, all prudent steps which may lead, when circumstances will warrant, to its final accomplishment. What has already been done by the interchange of fraternal sentiments and feelings may, under the Divine blessing, contribute not a little to prepare the way for a result to which all the friends of the Church of Scotland ought ever to look forward.

5th. The thanks of this Synod are due to the Rev. Alex. Mathieson, D. D., the Rev. Alexander McKid, and Professor Weir, for the manner in which they discharged their duties in carrying out the intentions of this Church, in their visit to the Lower Provinces;—and the Synod instruct their Clerk to have the Reports, they have given in, printed along with the minutes of this Synod.

Further, after deliberation, the Synod did, and hereby do, nominate and appoint the Rev. James George, D. D., of Queen's College, Kingston, their Commissioner to correspond with the Reverend the Synods of Nova Scotia and New-Brunswick, at their ensuing meetings;—willing him to repair in due time thereto, attend the several diets thereof, and consult, vote, and determine in all matters that shall come before the said Synods, to the glory of God, and for the good of the Church, according to the word of God, the confession of faith, and Acts and Constitution of this Church; and that at next meeting of this Synod, he report or certify that he has fulfilled this appointment.

The Synod, further, appoint, as his alternate, the Rev. Professor Williamson, of Queen's College, or the Rev. George Macdonnell, Minister of Fergus.

The Committee appointed to examine Dr. Skinner's accounts of receipts and disbursements of monies, on behalf of the London congregation, reported that they found the same correct.

The Synod further agreed to appoint a Committee to watch over the interests of the London congregation and endeavour to secure for them a favourable site for a church and manse; and that the Rev. Robert Burnet and John Young, Esq., of Hamilton, and John Cameron, Esq., of Toronto, be the Committee.

At seven o'clock this evening, the Synod, according to appointment, engaged in devotional exercises, conducted by the Rev. Hugh Urquhart. The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. Robert Burnet in regard to Home Missions and Church extension,—by the Rev. George Macdonnell in regard to the Foreign and Jewish Missions of the Church of Scotland, and the duty and importance of this Church engaging in the same,—by the Rev. George Bell, on the past history and future prospects of the Church in Canada,—by the Rev. Dr. Brooke on the state of the Church in New-Brunswick,—and by the Rev. William Snodgrass on the state of the Church in Nova-Scotia.—Devotional exercises were again engaged in, conducted by the Rev. John McMorine.

The Synod adjourned till Ten o'clock to-morrow morning, and was closed with prayer.

## DIET VI.

*At Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church there:—  
Tuesday, the Third Day of June, . One Thousand  
Eight Hundred and Fifty-six Years:—*

The which day, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, met, according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer.

On the call of the Moderator, the Rev. George Macdonnell conducted the devotional exercises of the Synod, in praise, reading the Scriptures, and prayer.

Sederunt as before, &c.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Drafts of the Addresses to Her Majesty the Queen, and His Excellency the Governor General were given in, read, and approved.

It was moved by Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Dr. Brooke, and agreed to, "that a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the subject of the formation of a General Assembly of our Church in British North America, and that the Synods of New-Brunswick and Nova Scotia be requested to appoint Committees of their number for the same purpose,—said Committees, by correspondence, to mature their views on the subject, and report the result of their deliberation to the next meetings of the respective Synods."—The following Committee was appointed for this purpose, viz:—Dr. Mathieson, Dr. Cook, Mr. Morris, Mr. Hew Ramsay, and Mr. William Edmonstone.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, an Overture from the Ministers in the Western part of the Province, anent the formation of a new Presbytery in the West. The said Overture having been read and approved, the Synod agreed to detach the Ministers and Congregations, from Woodstock (inclusive) westward, from the Presbytery of Hamilton, and to erect them into a new Presbytery, to be called the Presbytery of London, their first meeting to be held in London on the First Wednesday of July at Twelve o'clock, noon.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, an Overture from the Presbytery of Toronto anent the alteration of their bounds.—The Synod, having heard and considered the same, agreed, in terms of the Overture, to detach the Townships westward of Brighton, Seymour, Belmont, and Methuen, from the limits of the Presbytery of Kingston, and attach them to the bounds of the Presbytery of Toronto.

The Committee appointed to enquire into matters connected with expenses incurred by Dr. Mathieson, while in Britain, in 1837, and attending to the public interests of the Church, gave in a Report.—The Synod, having considered the whole matter, request the Clergy Reserve Commissioners to pay the same, when they ascertain the amount.

The accounts of the French Mission for the past year were given in and read.

The Synod resumed consideration of the French Mission Report, and after lengthened deliberation it was moved by Mr. James Bain, seconded by Mr. Urquhart, and agreed to, that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Committee for their fidelity and diligence in attending to the interests of the Mission,—and that the Synod remit the whole matters connected with the Mission to the Presbytery of Montreal to do in their wisdom as they shall see fit.

The Synod resumed consideration of the Statements made at a former diet by a Deputation from Queen's College, and after full deliberation, on motion of Mr. Snodgrass, seconded by Mr. George Bell, the Synod, gave the following deliverance: The Synod, having heard the Deputation from the Trustees of Queen's College, on the financial state and general condition of that Institution, hereby express their fullest confidence in its management as at present conducted by the existing Trustees and Professors, and especially acknowledge the weighty obligations and great debt of gratitude under which the Synod and the Church at large are laid, by the unflagging zeal and successful labours with which the Professors have exerted themselves in training and educating young men for the Sacred Ministry. The Synod also instruct the Moderator and Clerk to issue without delay, in the name of the Synod, a strong and urgent appeal to the congregations of the Church, and enjoin the members of Synod to give all diligence in bringing said appeal under the notice of the people and in stimulating them to renewed efforts for the liquidation of the debt incurred by the purchase of the College ground and buildings, the Synod being convinced that much of the future prosperity of the Church will essentially depend upon the prosperity of the College.

It was further moved by Mr. McLennan, seconded by Mr. Gordon, and agreed to, "that Presbyteries be enjoined to direct the attention of Ministers and Kirk Sessions to the collections and subscriptions, already recommended by this Synod, in aid of the Building Fund of Queen's College, and to take such steps as may be necessary to secure regularity in taking up and returning the same.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, an extract minute of the Presbytery of Toronto, of date the 21st day of November, 1855, bearing that the Rev. Peter

McNaughton, Minister of Pickering, had, by letter addressed to the Presbytery intimated to them his withdrawal from the Synod of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, for certain alleged reasons, the correctness of which the Presbytery deny, that they had consequently, on November 21, 1855, dissolved the pastoral relation between Mr. McNaughton and the congregation of Pickering, that they had declined, in present circumstances, to grant Mr. McNaughton a Presbyterial certificate, as requested, and that they now referred the whole matter to the Synod for such advice or such final decision as the Synod might see fit. After full deliberation, on motion of Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Mr. Urquhart, the Synod gave the following deliverance. The Synod, having considered the reference from the Presbytery of Toronto, in the case of the Rev. Peter McNaughton, agree to confirm the action of the Presbytery in accepting his resignation, declare Mr. McNaughton to be thenceforth no longer a Minister of this Church, and remit to the Presbytery to proceed in the matter of the certificate as they shall see fit, and according to the laws of the Church.

The draft of the Address to the Governor General anent the inaccuracies of the last Census was given in, read, and approved.

The Synod called for the Reports of the Committees appointed to revise the Records of the Synod, and the Records of the several Presbyteries. A Report on the Synod Records was given in, read and sustained; and the Synod ordered the Records to be attested by their Moderator, as carefully and correctly kept. Reports were also given in on the Records of the Presbyteries. The same were read and considered, and the Synod ordered their Clerk to attest the Records of the several Presbyteries, as carefully and correctly kept.

The Synod, having had certain Overtures transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures in regard to Jewish and Foreign Missions, and the same having been discussed at length on motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Geo. Bell, agree to the following deliverance: The Synod, having heard the Overtures of Mr. Morris and of the Presbytery of Hamilton, the first relative to a Mission to Jerusalem, and the other relative to Jewish and Foreign Missions generally, renew their previous frequent declarations of interest in the Mission work, and of the duty of this Church to take part therein, consider the suggestions contained in these Overtures as of deep importance to the best interests of the Church, and appoint Messrs. Burnet, James Bain, Geo. Bell, G. Macdonnell, McKerras, K. McLennan, J. B. Mowat, and Morris, elder, a Committee to be called "the Jewish and Foreign Mission Committee of the Synod," with instructions to consider maturely the whole matter, to correspond with the Jewish and Foreign Mission Committees of the Parent

Church in the first place,—to give their best exertions to the subject of a Mission to Jerusalem, and take such measures in regard to the institution of such a Mission as they shall think necessary,—and to report to the next meeting of Synod their actings in this matter.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, an Overture from the Presbytery of Hamilton anent appointing delegates to visit Scotland, for the purpose of endeavouring to obtain a supply of efficient Missionaries or Ministers. After discussion, the Synod agreed, in the meantime, to request and authorize Dr. Barclay and Professor Weir, while in Scotland during this summer, to take every opportunity of urging on Preachers the duty of turning their attention to this country as a most important field of labour.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, a Complaint and Petition of the Kirk Session of Dundas and Ancaster, against a deliverance of the Presbytery of Hamilton of 9th January last. The same having been fully considered, and members of the Presbytery of Hamilton heard on the matter, it was moved by Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Dr. George and agreed to, that, the Synod dismiss the complaint and petition of the Kirk Session, approve of the action of the Presbytery of Hamilton in refusing to sever the connection between Dundas and Ancaster, with such information as they then had. But, should a memorial be presented from one or other of these Congregations praying for separation, the Presbytery shall summon all parties before them, shall enquire into all matters connected with the case, and shall report on the expediency or in expediency of separation to the Commission of Synod; and that the Commission be specially instructed to adjudicate in the whole matter.

From this decision of the Synod Mr. McLennan and Mr. George Bell dissented, for reasons to be given in.

The Synod had laid before them a memorial from the Rev. John Lindsay, Minister of Litchfield, to the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly, praying for aid in finishing the Church at Litchfield, and an extract minute of the Presbytery of Bathurst approving of the same. The Synod, having considered the case agreed to sanction the said application, and instructed the Presbytery of Bathurst to transmit the same to the Colonial Committee, with the extract.

Minutes of the Presbytery and Synod, and an attested copy of the Title Deed of the Property.

An agreement was come to, as to the appointment that should be made of the time and place of the next meeting of Synod.

The Synod then adjourned till to-morrow morning at Ten o'clock, and was closed with prayer.

## DIET VII.

*At Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church there :—  
Wednesday, the Fourth Day of June, One  
Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-six Years:—*

The which day, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, met, according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt as before, &c.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

At Eleven o'clock the Synod engaged, along with the Congregation, in public worship and thanksgiving for the peace lately established, when the Rev. Robert Burnet preached from 1 Cor. 15, xxv, first clause—"He must reign."

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, a complaint from the Rev. Kenneth McLennan, against certain irregularities of the Presbytery of Hamilton, in the settlement of the Rev. Robert Stevenson at Williams, chiefly in regard to the want, at that time, of the necessary papers. The Synod, having heard the complaint, and had read the accompanying papers, and duly considered the same, declare that the same induction was irregular and informal, and the Synod highly disapprove of the course of the proceedings of the Presbytery of Hamilton in regard to it, and admonish the Presbytery to be careful to adhere to the Laws of the Church in all future cases. But, inasmuch as serious harm would result to the congregation of Williams from the setting aside of the proceedings of the Presbytery, the Synod confirm the induction of Mr. Stevenson,—all necessary documents having been placed on the table of the Presbytery,—but declare that this shall constitute no precedent for the future action of any Presbytery of the Church.

The Address of the Synod to Her Majesty the Queen was signed by the Moderator in presence of the Synod. The said Address is as follows :—

*Unto the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty,*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,—

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, embrace the opportunity presented by our annual meeting of anew tendering the expression of our devoted attachment and loyalty to Your Majesty's Royal Person and Government.

During the past year, we have, in our several spheres, endeavoured diligently to prosecute our sacred calling, and to inculcate those Scriptural doctrines and precepts which are the only foundation for

an enlightened and cheerful loyalty and obedience to Your Majesty's Government. We and our people, in this portion of your dominions, have had abundant cause for thankfulness to the Ruler of all in having been permitted, notwithstanding the temporary removal of nearly the whole of Your Majesty's forces from among us, yet under the shields of the British power and the happy influence of British Institutions, to carry on our spiritual and temporal labours in tranquillity, and the Province in which our lot has been cast has made steady progress in that career of material prosperity, in which it is now so rapidly advancing.

We have not, however, the less continued to watch with the deepest interest the vicissitudes of the protracted contest in which Your Majesty, in conjunction with your Imperial and Royal Allies, has been engaged for the protection of the rights of the weak and the injured against the aggressions of a powerful and unscrupulous foe. And we have sympathised in the general joy of the Empire, that, while the bravery of Your Majesty's forces, both by land and by sea, has again been signally displayed by repeated victories over the enemy, it has, in the good Providence of God, been at last terminated by an honorable peace. We trust that it may be as lasting as it is honorable, and that the same just and conciliatory spirit which has restored peace in the East will long preserve it on this Western Continent, and extend its influence over every corner of the Globe.

Dreadful as are the horrors and miseries of war, we rejoice to know, amid all human strifes, that the Lord reigneth, and makes even the wrath of men to praise Him. We take comfort, when we review the past struggle, and consider the treaty which has now been concluded, in the reflection that the war itself has been the means of calling forth into such lively exercise the Christian zeal and benevolence of Your Majesty's subjects in behalf of the spiritual and temporal well-being of our gallant soldiers and sailors, and of establishing on a firmer basis the great principles of national justice and religious liberty, and above all, that its successful conclusion will tend to open up a wider door for the dissemination of the Scriptures and the spread of the Gospel in both European and Asiatic Turkey, among a nation whose fanaticism and intolerance no other means, humanly speaking, seems so likely to moderate and overcome. May such be its happy issue!

That Almighty God may bless Your Majesty, Your Illustrious Consort, and all the other members of Your Royal Family, in all the relations of life, that Your Government may be ever established in the hearts of Your subjects, and be endowed with that wisdom and strength which come only from above, and that the King of Kings may at length bestow upon you a crown that fadeth not away, and make you a partaker of the glories and felicities of a heavenly inheritance, is our earnest and constant prayer.

Signed at Kingston, this Fourth Day of June, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-six Years;—In Name, in Presence, and by Appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, by

ALEXANDER MANN,  
*Moderator.*



The Address to His Excellency the Governor General was signed by the Moderator, in presence of the Synod, and is as follows:—

To His Excellency SIR EDMUND WALKER HEAD, *Baronet,*  
*Governor General of British North America, &c., &c., &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY;

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, now assembled in Synod at Kingston, beg to renew the profession of our loyalty and attachment to the Person and Government of Her Most Gracious Majesty our beloved Queen, and of our respect and duty to Your Excellency, as her Representative in this part of the Empire.

Having, in common with our fellow countrymen, felt a deep and active interest in Her Majesty's efforts and those of her Allies in the East of Europe to maintain the balance of power, and defend the freedom and independence of nations, we now cordially participate in the general gratitude to Almighty God for the return of peace, and trust that an all-wise and overruling Providence will render it conducive to the interests of Christianity and civilization in that most interesting portion of the Earth.

We thank Your Excellency for appointing a day of general thanksgiving. We had pleasure, as far as circumstances permitted, in carrying out your Excellency's wishes, and showing obedience to your Excellency's command.

We feel that the continued prosperity of these Provinces, in all material interests, demands of us and those we represent an increased measure of zeal and activity for the diffusion of the higher blessings of Religion and Education among all classes in the community. And, while we deem it our duty to give our best endeavours to promote the all important cause of primary education, based on sound religious and moral principles, we beg to remind Your Excellency that we have under our special guardianship the Institution of Queen's College in this city, which, we are happy in being able to state, continues to contribute to the higher educational wants of the Province by preparing a numerous youth for all the liberal professions.

While recognizing Civil Government as the ordinance of God, designed to promote the welfare of nations, we also recognize it to be our duty, in the humbler spheres we occupy, to aid Your Excellency's administration in realizing that important object by teaching and exemplifying obedience to the laws, and diffusing sentiments of loyalty, peace and good will.

May it please Your Excellency;—It is our fervent prayer that the Ruler of the Universe and God of all Grace may preserve Your Excellency and family; enrich you with spiritual and heavenly treasures, and eventually prepare you for the inheritance of a better life.

Signed at Kingston, this Fourth Day of June, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-six Years:—In Name, in Presence, and by Appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, by

ALEXANDER MANN,  
*Moderator.*

The Synod appointed such Ministers and Elders as can conveniently meet together in Toronto, soon after the rising of the Synod, to be a Deputation to wait on His Excellency the Governor General, and present the Synod's Address to His Excellency, and also to request that he would be pleased to transmit the Synod's Address to Her Majesty the Queen, to the proper quarter, in order that it may be laid at the foot of the Throne.

The Address to the Governor in Council, in regard to the errors of the last Census, was signed by the Moderator, and ordered to be transmitted.

*To His Excellency SIR EDMUND WALKER HEAD, Governor  
General of British North America, &c., &c., &c.*

IN COUNCIL.

The Memorial of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland,

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH ;

That the attention of this Court has been directed to the Returns of the Census of the Province, taken in the year 1851, as they affect the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and having considered the same, they are compelled, by a sense of duty towards the Church over whose interests they are called to preside, to bring under the notice of Your Excellency the exceedingly imperfect manner in which the Census of Religious Denominations has been taken, as regards our body, and the injustice thereby done us.

The Synod conceives that the statistics exhibited in the volumes relating to the Census should be reliable, when such volumes are issued under Provincial authority, and are therefore naturally looked to as an authoritative statement of the several matters contained in them.

Nevertheless the statistics therein contained are, as the Synod represents, in many respects inaccurate as regards our Church, greatly underrate our strength, and either omit large bodies of our adherents, or transfer them to the ambiguous heading of other Presbyterians.

That this statement is well founded will be apparent from the consideration of a few facts.

According to the Returns, there were in 1851, in all, 204,148 Presbyterians in Upper Canada, of whom the Free Church Presbyterians are ranked at 65,807, our Church at 57,542 only, and other Presbyterians at the large number of 80,799.

Your Excellency is aware that there are now in the Province but three leading bodies of Presbyterians, viz : the Church to which we belong, the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, and the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, commonly called the Free Church ; and, in view of this fact, it must strike the mind singularly that there should notwithstanding be the large number of 80,799 Other Presbyterians in the Western part of the Province.

We conceive that the great majority of these should have been distributed to one or other of the bodies named, and that the large por-

tion of them should have been assigned to our Church, and we think so because we know that great numbers of our people have not been credited to us. For instance, in the City of Hamilton, where we have a large congregation, who have just erected a costly church, we are assigned no adherents. In London the return is the same; in the City of Ottawa we are assigned but 198 people; in the County of York we are assigned none, though 9159 are set down as Other Presbyterians, but it would take too much space to particularize more minutely; and, turning to Lower Canada, we find the same inaccuracies and omissions even more strikingly exhibited.

The total population of Lower Canada is set down as 890,261, and the distribution of these as follows, viz: Church of Rome 746,866; Church of England 45,402; Church of Scotland with 16 ministers, presiding over well organized congregations, but 4,047, a number, we believe, less than are attached to our City Churches in Montreal and Quebec; the Free Church 267, and Other Presbyterians 29,221.

We protest against its being supposed that we have so slight a hold upon our countrymen in Lower Canada, and declare that the statement is entirely inaccurate and altogether erroneous. That this is so we now proceed to show.

In the Beauharnois section of country, where we have five settled ministers with large and flourishing congregations, yet we are not credited with a single adherent, although no less than 9,619 were set down as Other Presbyterians.

In Gaspé we have a Minister, the only Presbyterian Minister there, who, according to the Census, has but ten people. In Huntingdon again we are assigned none, though we have a large congregation; but, strange to say, though we have two large and attached congregations in the City of Montreal, one of which has recently erected one of the most handsome churches in the Province, at a cost of £13,000 currency, yet according to the Census we have no people.

In fact the Census of Lower Canada, as regards the Presbyterian bodies at least, is altogether unreliable, and we are not the only sufferers; the Free Church being credited in all Lower Canada with the ridiculously inaccurate number of but 267 adherents, and the United Presbyterian Church being omitted altogether from the Returns of both Provinces. Therefore to enter further upon an analysis of the Returns is unnecessary, their inaccuracy is so evident. It then becomes us to suggest a mode for the prevention of these evils in the future, and, in doing so, we express the opinion that it is probable the large number set down as Other Presbyterians may have in part arisen from this, that Presbyterians are apt to describe themselves simply as "Presbyterians." We therefore suggest that in the future Census of the Province, while columns are expressly assigned by name to our own and the other bodies we have designated, particular instructions should be given to the enumerators charged with the taking of the Census, and also printed upon the Census schedules placed in their hands, directing them to ascertain from parties, describing themselves as "Presbyterians," to which body they belong, and to allot them to the proper heading, so that

the large number, heretofore assigned to the general head of Other Presbyterians, may be properly distributed.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Signed at Kingston;—In Name, and by the Appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, this Fourth Day of June, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fitty-six.

The vote of last night, in regard to the place of next meeting, was reconsidered, and another agreement come to.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to make such suggestions as may be necessary for preventing the evils complained of by the Managers of the Widows' Fund, &c. The same was given in and read by Dr. Mathieson, and, having been fully considered, the Synod *Resolved* :—

1. That Presbyteries be enjoined to send, with all convenient speed, to the Board of Managers of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, a statement of the date of the ordination or induction of all Ministers now on the Roll of the Synod.

2. That Presbyteries report to the Managers of the Widows' Fund the date of every ordination or induction of Ministers that may hereafter be admitted, within one month thereafter.

3. That the Rule now in force respecting the taking up of collections for said Fund, on the first Sabbath of January each year, be strictly observed, as far as practicable : and, provided there be good cause, from inclemency of weather, or otherwise, for deferring it on the first Sabbath, then it shall be taken up on the earliest day afterwards that is convenient.

4. That all collections be remitted to the Treasurer before the first day of April each year, in order that the accounts for the year be made up, and a fair statement of the condition and operations of the Trust be given to the Synod at their Annual Meeting.

5. That the Rule now in force, (see Printed Minutes, 1851, page 20, near foot,) respecting Presbyteries taking care that collections be taken up in vacant congregations, shall be observed strictly.

6. That united Congregations shall be considered as one, and their collections conjoined, so long as they are under the pastoral charge of one Minister.

7. That the Synod pledge themselves to carry into faithful operation, in so far as may be in their power, the By-Laws of the Board of Managers, now in operation, in respect to every Minister or Congregation, who contribute to the Fund under the existence of these By-Laws, which, in respect to all such, are declared to be unalterable without the full consent of all parties,—and the Synod do hereby homologate and confirm the same.

The Address of the Synod to the Very Reverend Principal Macfarlan, of Glasgow, having been read and approved, was signed by the Moderator, and ordered to be transmitted through the Rev. Dr. Mathieson to the Rev. Dr. Barclay, to be by him presented on behalf of this Synod. The said Address is as follows :

*To the Very Rev. Duncan Macfarlan, D. D., Minister of the High Church of Glasgow, Principal of Glasgow College, Convener of the General Assembly's Committee on Colonial Churches, &c., &c., &c.*

VERY REV. SIR,—

It is with no ordinary gratification that we, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, address you in our ecclesiastical capacity. It is well known to all the Christian world that every branch of the Scottish Church is under a debt of deep gratitude to you. At an early period you manifested the liveliest interest in the spiritual welfare of our countrymen in all parts of the Colonial Empire. And to you, possibly more than to any other man, have the many ecclesiastical institutions which have been established to furnish the means of spiritual instruction, to your expatriated countrymen, been indebted for the sound principles on which they are based, and the efficient action that has characterized them. The zeal which was manifested by you at a comparatively early period of your life has, we are happy to think, suffered no decay by the increase of your years, while the prudence and energy which marked your first efforts have signally marked the whole course of your procedure. Multitudes who never saw your face have uttered your name with gratitude, in connection with the enterprises of the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly. And multitudes, we doubt not, in coming generations will have cause to bless your name for your persevering and disinterested efforts in procuring for them the stated dispensation of religious ordinances.

All this, and more, might be stated in reference to the Province of Canada. At the very commencement of our Church you took a deep interest in its welfare, and, when we formed but a little band in the wilderness, you watched over our interests with the greatest care; and to your labours, wise counsel and tender sympathies we feel that we owe not a little of the stability and efficiency of our ecclesiastical organization. And, now that after many trying difficulties we have become a somewhat powerful body, it would ill become us to forget the men in Scotland, and especially to forget you, to whom, under God, we owe so much. We know well that you looked not to man, nor to any body of men for mere human compliment. We believe that, as you have acted from high motives, you have in the approbation of your conscience, and above all in the approbation of your God, the only reward which you seek. Yet, Very Rev. Sir, permit us to say that, did we not give expression to our gratitude and esteem, we would do less injustice to you than to our own feelings. To you we are under deep obligations, and we take this way of giving a sincere though feeble declaration of our own sentiments, and what we believe to be the feelings and sentiments of our whole Church in Canada.

We bless Almighty God that He has been graciously pleased to alleviate the infirmities, naturally incident to your great age, with undiminished mental energy, and a heart as open as ever to the welfare of your countrymen, and the progress of the Redeemer's Kingdom. And, although your advanced years preclude the hope

of our enjoying the benefit of your wise counsels and kind aid much longer, yet we earnestly pray that it may please the Sovereign Disposer of all things to spare your valuable life yet a little, and enable you, through His grace, in the high position you occupy, to be an eminent blessing, not only to the Church of Christ in Scotland, but also to the Church scattered throughout the Colonies; and that He may crown your labours with the peaceful satisfaction which flows from a long life devoted to His service, and finally by the highest rewards of Heaven.

In Name, and by Appointment of the Synod at Kingston, on this Fourth Day of June, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-six.

The attention of the Synod having been called to the case of Mr. Whyte, as remitted to the Presbytery of Hamilton, it was ruled that the dissent of any individual, or a minority of the Presbytery, though recorded, shall not stay the effect of the decision of the majority of the Presbytery, but the same shall be conclusive and operative till next meeting of Synod.

It was moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Thomson, and agreed to, that Mr. W. Bain, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Urquhart, Mr. Mann, and Mr. W. Kay, Elder, be a Committee of the Synod on Sabbath Observance, to take such steps in relation thereto as may be requisite, and to report their action to the Synod.

The attention of the Synod having been called to the serious illness under which the Rev. Andrew Bell has been for some time labouring, and the fears expressed by him that he would not be able again to officiate as Synod Clerk, it was, on motion of Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Dr. George, agreed that, inasmuch as the Rev. Andrew Bell has been for many years Clerk of this Synod, and has not only discharged his routine duties with great accuracy, but has also, by his extensive knowledge of Church Forms and Ecclesiastical Law, contributed greatly to imbue the mind of the members of our Church Courts with sound principles and safe modes of procedure in managing the affairs of the Church, it is *Resolved*—

That this Synod record their gratitude to Mr. Bell for his services, and more especially for his earnestness and fidelity in his present feeble state of health, in attending to the business of the Court; and that the thanks of the Synod be accompanied with some testimonial of their regard and esteem for Mr. Bell. The Synod appointed the following Committee to carry this Resolution into effect, namely: Dr. George, Mr. Urquhart, Dr. Mathieson and Mr. Davidson.

The Synod agreed to re-transmit the Draft of the Form of Procedure in the calling and settling of Ministers to Presbyteries for their consideration, and instructed them to send up their opinions

thereon to the next meeting of Synod ; and, in the meantime, did and hereby do convert the same into an Interim Act for one year. And the Synod further instructed Presbyteries, in connection with this matter, to take into their consideration, and report to next meeting of Synod, as to whether, and how far, it may be proper for Presbyteries, in the exercise of a wise discretion, to relax, in the case of *new* congregations, that law of the Church (July, 1846—Act XXI) which requires that there shall be at least forty families adhering to this Church in a congregation, before the Pastoral relation can be formed.

The Synod agreed to re-transmit the proposed Act anent the Status of Retired Ministers to Presbyteries, that they may send up their opinions thereon to the next meeting of this Synod, which they are hereby strictly enjoined to do ; and the Synod, in the meantime, converted the same into an Interim Act for one year, as follows :—

“ The Synod, having duly considered the Overtures anent the Status of Retired Ministers, decree that, agreeably to the views of this Church respecting the permanency of the Pastoral relation, when a minister becomes unfit, through age or infirmity, for the discharge of his pastoral duties, the case shall be referred to the Presbytery of the bounds for examination and judgement, and, if it shall appear that the facts are as stated, the Presbytery shall meet with the congregation, and declare its duty to make such provision as may be within their power for the maintenance of their minister, until God shall be pleased to restore his health, or remove him to the inheritance of a better life. But in the meantime his name shall remain on the Roll of the Presbytery as the Pastor of that Church, and as such he shall retain all authority to perform all the ministerial duties for which he is competent, yet so as not to interfere with the rights and duties of the Pastor who may be ordained to fill his place, and in all the Church Courts, except the Session, of which he shall cease to be Moderator, he shall retain full liberty to counsel and advise, though not to vote, on all matters that shall come up before them.”

The Synod had transmitted to them by their Committee of Bills and Overtures an Appeal from the Kirk Session of St. Andrew's Church, Hamilton, against a citation of the Presbytery of Hamilton, with accompanying papers. The Synod referred the case to the Commission, instructing them to dispose of it as its merits may require.

The Constitution of the Commission of Synod having been taken up and considered, the Synod, on motion of Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Mr. Urquhart, did, and hereby do, declare that, until such time as the nature and powers of the Commission be definitely determined

by the Synod, the said Court of Commission shall consist of all the Ministers of the Synod, and all Elders bearing commissions, which commissions they shall be prepared to lay on the table, if called on;—and Dr. Mathieson, Mr. Muir, and Mr. Morris were appointed a Committee to enquire into the Laws and Constitution of the Church in regard to this matter, and report to the next meeting of Synod.

The Synod appointed the Ministers and Elders, as defined in the above Declaratory Enactment, to be Commissioners of this Synod, to the effect after mentioned; with power to the said Commissioners, or their quorum, which is hereby declared to be any five of said Commissioners, whereof three are always to be Ministers, to meet in St. Andrew's Church, *Kingston*, on the *First Wednesday in October next* at *Twelve o'clock, noon*; and in St. Andrew's Church, *Toronto*, on the *Third Wednesday in February next* at *Twelve o'clock, noon*;—and oftener when and where they shall think fit and convenient. And the Synod fully empower the said Commissioners, or their quorum above mentioned, to transact all business referred to them by the Synod, and to determine in the same as they shall see cause,—also to attend to such emergent causes as may require immediate action on the part of the Church,—and to watch over the general interests of the Church, that the Church do not suffer or sustain any prejudice which they can prevent. Further, the said Commission is hereby empowered to receive any References and Appeals that shall be made to them from Presbyteries, and ripen such affairs for next Synod, and to give all needful advice to Presbyteries, upon application to them for that end: and in all their actings they shall proceed according to the Laws of the Church, and they shall be accountable for the same to the next meeting of Synod; and this Commission is to continue until the next meeting of Synod; and members are required to attend the Diets of the said Commission.

The Synod appointed their next meeting to be held in St. Andrew's Church, in the City of Hamilton, on the last Wednesday in May, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-seven, at Eleven o'clock in the Forenoon.

The Moderator then addressed the Synod;—when, after prayer, and singing the last half of the CXXII Psalm, the Synod was closed with the Apostolic Benediction.



## APPENDIX.

## MEMORANDA FROM PRESBYTERY RECORDS.

FOR THE SYNODICAL YEAR, 1855-6.

- 1855.—June 7th.—The Rev. Peter Lindsay, formerly of Richmond, inducted to the pastoral charge of the united Congregations of Cumberland and Buckingham, by the Presbytery of Bathurst.
- June 10th.—The Rev. Æneas McLean, Minister of Côte St. George, in the Presbytery of Glengary, died.
- June 27th.—The Rev. Thomas Morrison, Minister of Melbourne, Presbytery of Montreal, demitted his charge from ill health.
- September 4th.—The Rev. Alexander Ross, Minister of West Gwillimbury, in the Presbytery of Toronto, demitted his charge, and retired from the active duties of the Ministry, on account of ill health.
- October 24th.—The Rev. James Sinclair inducted to the pastoral charge of the Congregation of Huntly, by the Presbytery of Bathurst.
- October 25th.—The Rev. Robert Stevenson inducted to the pastoral charge of the Congregation of Williams, by the Presbytery of Hamilton.
- October 31st.—The Rev. John Skinner, D. D., of London, inducted to the pastoral charge of the united Congregations of Nelson and Waterdown, by the Presbytery of Hamilton.
- November 7th.—Mr. Peter McVicar, Missionary from the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly to the Presbytery of Montreal, arrived.
- November 21st.—The Rev. Frederick P. Sim, formerly of Woodstock, in the Presbytery of Hamilton, inducted to the pastoral charge of the Congregation of Russeltown, by the Presbytery of Montreal.
- November 21st.—The Rev. Peter McNaughton, Minister of Pickering, in the Presbytery of Toronto, having intimated to the Presbytery his withdrawal from the Synod of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, the Presbytery dissolved the pastoral connection between him and the Congregation of Pickering, and declared him to be no longer a Minister of this Church.
- 1856.—February 4th.—The Rev. Robert McGill, D. D., Minister of St. Paul's Church, Montreal, died.
- April 23rd.—Mr. Peter McVicar, Preacher of the Gospel, ordained to the office of the Holy Ministry, and inducted to the pastoral charge of the Congregation of Martintown, by the Presbytery of Glengary.

**REPORTS**  
OF THE  
**DEPUTATIONS TO THE LOWER PROVINCES.**

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REPORT OF THE DEPUTATION TO NEW BRUNSWICK.

*To the Reverend the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of  
Canada in connection with the Established Church of  
Scotland.*

In consequence of the sudden and lamented death of the Rev. Dr. McGill the duty of laying before your Reverend Court a Report of your Deputation's Mission to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick devolves entirely on the other member of the Deputation. This is the more to be regretted in the present case, as the Doctor's age, greater experience and more intimate acquaintance with Church matters in general and the state of our Zion in British North America in particular, would have enabled him to lay before you a more detailed and satisfactory account of your Deputation's doings, and of the state of the Church throughout New Brunswick. God, in His inscrutable wisdom, hath seen fit to appoint it otherwise, and to His dispensations, however severe and mysterious, we must humbly submit, firmly believing that, though the Church at large, and especially his own family and people, mourn the loss of a pious and devoted servant of the Lord Jesus, the change to him was an unspeakably great gain.

The Synod of New Brunswick met on Thursday, the 16th of August, in St. Andrew's Church, St. John.

Dr. McGill had previously visited several of the congregations within the bounds of the Synod, officiating at St. Andrew's, Fredericton, &c.

When the commission from your Synod was read, the Deputation received a most cordial and brotherly welcome; their names were added to the Synod Roll, and they were invited to take a part in the business of the Court. During the sittings of the Synod, and the time your Deputation spent within its bounds visiting the different congregations, preaching, and laying before them the mission with which your Deputation was charged, they cannot but record with delight and gratitude the hospitable reception which everywhere greeted them both from pastor and people, and the entire sympathy, which they so warmly expressed, with the objects which your Deputation was commissioned to promote and advocate. The business before the Synod

had reference to the means of supply for the destitute congregations within the Synod, the educating of young men for the work of the ministry, Church property, and some routine matters. There was the utmost harmony in all their proceedings, and there were no disagreeable questions of discipline, &c. On Sabbath, the 19th of August, I officiated at Fredericton. There was a very large and respectable congregation. The church here is in a most flourishing condition. By Monday afternoon all the business of the Synod was over, but, in order to awaken a livelier interest in the minds of the adherents of our Church in St. John in all that pertains to the spread of the Gospel, a missionary meeting was held in the evening. This meeting was very numerously attended, and was addressed by the members of the Deputation from Nova Scotia and Canada, and by others. Much interesting matter was brought forward by the different speakers regarding the state of our Church in the three Provinces of British North America, on the necessity and advantages of closer union and communion, on the great want of the means of grace and the ordinances of Religion, and on the obligation that Christians are under, to contribute of their means for the support of the Gospel, and to educate their children for the work of the ministry. Earnest appeals were made to the Laity that they must bestir themselves in the work if they would keep alive among them the true religion and those Gospel privileges which many of them previously enjoyed in their native land. The Synod of Nova Scotia had set the example of holding such a meeting; and the success that attended both, the interest that was thereby awakened in the minds of many for the welfare of our Church, and the elevating and soothing effect on the minds of the Clergy, after the unpleasant discussions which sometimes unavoidably occur in Court, cannot fail to recommend this practice in future. The Laity are thus made aware of the great spiritual destitution of the land, and the heavy responsibility that rests upon them to remedy this great evil, and above all parents are informed by what means they may educate their children as laborers for Christ's vineyard, a subject on which they are generally very ignorant. There can be little doubt that, were the facilities which Queen's College might afford for this purpose more widely known and the duty of doing so more urgently impressed upon Christian parents, the number of Students for the Church would soon be greatly increased.

I officiated at the following places: Woodstock and Northampton on the 26th August; Newcastle and Chatham on the 2nd September; Moncton on the 9th September; and St. John on the 16th Sept. I was five Sabbaths in all in New Brunswick. In all the places visited by me there were large and attentive audiences, and both ministers and people heartily reciprocated our desire of closer union, and of forming a General Assembly from the Synods of the different Provinces. The great facilities for travelling rendering this practicable, and the great necessity for co-operation rendering this desirable, I especially directed the attention of parents to Queen's College, as a suitable institution for qualifying their children for the work of the ministry, and to the free education which it offers to all who have this work in view. In this I was very cordially supported by the ministers. In nothing would a union of the Churches be more beneficial than in supplying students to the University,

contributing to its support and future increased efficiency. There is every prospect of our deriving Students from this quarter, and I have little doubt that the wealthier congregations would cheerfully aid to wipe off the debt on the College buildings, were an appeal made to them.

As I reaped great delight and profit from my visit to the country, and intercourse with the ministers and people, I pray that the Great Head of the Church may make this mission be the means of leading to those great and holy results which the origination of it contemplated.

Kingston, 14th May, 1856.

GEORGE WEIR.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTATION TO NOVA SCOTIA.

The Deputation, appointed by the Synod of Canada to visit the Synod of Nova Scotia, to confer with the members of that body on all matters tending to the furtherance of the Gospel in British North America, and to cultivate those feelings of brotherly kindness and Christian love that may ultimately lead to the incorporation of the different branches of the Church of their Fathers on this continent,—

REPORT.

That your Deputation, consisting of the Rev. Alex. Mathieson, D. D., and the Rev. Alex. McKid, accompanied with William Edmonstone, Esq., one of the Clergy Reserve Commissioners, proceeded to Halifax on Monday the 2nd July, and arrived on the 6th, with the view of meeting the Synod of Nova Scotia then in session. Although your Deputation travelled with the greatest celerity that by railway and steamer they could attain, they were unable to meet with the Synod till it was two days in session. This circumstance, though it deprived them of much pleasing intercourse with their brethren, was not without its advantages. It allowed time for the transaction of local business, and due deliberation on matters more immediately affecting the interests of that particular branch of our Church, in the discussion of which it would have been inexpedient for your Deputation to have taken a prominent part, and left the remaining part of the Session to be occupied almost entirely with subjects of general importance, and the consideration of those matters to which your Deputation was instructed specially to call the attention of the Synod.

As instructed, your Deputation explained to the Synod of Nova Scotia that, in the spontaneous appointment of Delegates to the Synods of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, this Synod disclaimed any interference with the ecclesiastical government of these branches of the Church, but, actuated by the kindest Christian feelings, they had no other object in view than the cultivation of clerical intercourse, mutual encouragement in the work of the Lord, and the friendly consideration of such subjects as will ultimately lead to united efforts in the cause of their Divine Master. That being already connected by origin, by the same standards, and to the Church of Scotland by Ministerial and Church Communion, and having an identity of interests and pursuits in the Colonial field, a sound policy as well as every reasonable hope of success in their common labours, seemed to demand united efforts, and an entire union of discipline of government, and Home and Foreign Mission-

ary undertakings—a result that the increased and still growing facilities of communication, as well as the probability of a closer political connection between the British Provinces of North America, rendered not only more desirable, but every day made more practicable.

Your Deputation met with the kindest reception from the lay members of the congregations of Halifax, and indeed, wherever they went, while the Synod welcomed them with joy, as a prelude to more frequent intercourse and co-operation, and invited them to take seats as members of the Court, and a part in all its deliberations. Having expressed in the warmest terms, through the Moderator, “gratitude to the Church of Scotland in Canada for having sent a Deputation of their number to them, and to the members of the Deputation themselves for executing the commission of the Synod, and coming from so great a distance to visit them,” your Deputation were charged to convey to you the sincere thanks of the Synod of Nova Scotia for your friendly remembrance of them in their weakness, and the encouragement they derived from the presence of brethren from afar among them.

The subjects which your Deputation were instructed to bring under the consideration of the Synod met with the most cordial reception, especially the proposal of a closer connection, which in process of time might lead to incorporation and a General Assembly. All the members of Synod expressed their deep satisfaction at the prospect of such an intimate relation, and their desire that it should be speedily consummated. It had long been the desire of their hearts to see the schemes and efforts of the Church of Scotland in British North America centralized, but the prospect seemed more like the visions of a dream than a hope that would ever be realized. One, who, I am happy to say, is now among us, to carry forward, as far as it may be deemed expedient, measures preliminary to that desirable end, expressed himself in language to this effect: “Nothing has afforded me more satisfaction than the very proposal of such a scheme; even the resuscitation of our Church Courts, after ten long years lying dormant, though very gratifying, was not unaccompanied with distrust. I trembled when I looked at the fewness of our Ministers, the extent of the field of labour, and the destitution of our numerous congregations. We were isolated, widely scattered, and consequently feeble. But, with the sympathies of the Church of Scotland and of our brethren in Canada, I feel that we are now strong; I feel that we are *really* connected not only with an Institution which, with the blessing of Heaven, has perhaps been the most efficient that the World has seen, for diffusing in purity and simplicity the doctrines and inculcating the precepts of the blessed Gospel; but I also feel that we are connected with our brethren in this extensive continent, employed in the same great work with ourselves, and, though the field is extensive and the labourers are few, yet the promised aid of Heaven at once encourages to more earnest exertion, and forbids despair.”

From the impressions made on the minds of your Deputation, they will venture to express their conviction of the desirableness of the incorporation of the Churches in British North America, in connection with the Church of Scotland, and the hope that immediate steps will be taken towards the accomplishment of this end; leaving it

to the respective Synods to begin and follow out those measures that to them in their wisdom may seem best to secure an object desired by them all.

The only thing that seemed to stand in the way of an absolute union of all the Churches in British North America, in connection with the Church of Scotland, is the want of provision for the widows and orphans of Ministers deceased in the Synods of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In respect to the former, this obstacle seems in a fair way of being removed. Ministers were persuaded that a well organized and a faithfully executed scheme for this purpose will be attended with many advantages to the Church itself, while it will alleviate the anxieties and distractions of thought that will constantly intrude on a Minister's mind in respect to the young and unprotected members of his family, for whom no provision is made, should he in the providence of God be removed from them, and which from the well known condition of the pastoral office in this country he is unable to make for them, and thus withdraw much of his attention from the peculiar functions of his office. It will also encourage many to enter on the ministerial vocation, who might be deterred by the prospect of those on earth dearest to them exposed to all the privations of penury and want, when their own lives of ceaseless labour and anxiety in their Heavenly Master's service had drawn to a close.

The Laymen also expressed a deep sense of the desirableness of such a scheme as will provide for the widows and orphans of Ministers, frankly admitted their personal obligation to take an active part in this work, and generously offered to give their hearty co-operation in any scheme that the Synod would approve of. Whether the statute that provides for the management of the scheme for the Synod of Canada will permit the incorporation of the Synods of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, or whether separate schemes under local management would be most advantageous, are matters of detail, which your Deputation do not feel called on to discuss.

With regard to young men who desire to enter on the ministry, your Deputation laid before the Synod of Nova Scotia the advantages to be derived from a course of study at Queen's College, especially the strict superintendence of their studies and their morals, as they would be almost continually under the eye of the professors. The only question that arose on this point was, whether these advantages might not be compensated by the higher degree to which theological education, including classical studies, is carried in the older colleges of Scotland, and the emulation and love of study that would be generated by mingling with greater numbers having kindred pursuits, and where the mental faculties would be constantly exercised by literary intercourse with advanced students. These are topics on which different views will be taken by different individuals.

A general wish was entertained by members of the Synod that in process of time a Theological School for training young men for the ministry might be instituted among themselves, and, if it were practicable, that it would be connected with Queen's College.

A deputation from the Synod (in session assembled) of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia waited on the Synod in connection with the Church of Scotland, to express a desire for more frequent

fraternal fellowship, and friendly co-operation in all good works. While they were not yet prepared to surrender the points of difference between them and their brethren of the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia, they frankly acknowledged their high respect for the Parent Church, their sincere appreciation of her many excellencies, her efficiency, as an institution, for carrying forward the work of their common Master. They had sprung from that Church; they held the same standards, observed the same forms of worship, and, the points of separation being of a minor nature, they hoped that soon a way might be opened up, to perfect union with their brethren of the Church of Scotland, in the same field of labour with themselves, for whom they expressed the highest esteem. But, while they differed on points that were not of essential importance, they saw nothing to stand in the way of mutual confidence and harmonious action in a cause common to both, without any compromise of principles on either side.

The Synod in connection with the Church of Scotland cordially reciprocated these sentiments, and, while with all of their brethren of the Presbyterian Church they had ever lived in terms of friendship and Christian charity, they hoped that the sentiments which bound them together might continue to grow till all come to be of one heart and of one mind; at the same time admitting that they did not feel it to be their duty to resign the advantages derived from their close connection with the Church of Scotland. While gratitude and affection, as well as a sense of duty, bound them by the strongest ties to the Church of their fathers, they were persuaded that any union with others, that would tend to disconnect them with her, would rather destroy than promote that catholicity which was the ostensible reason for union with these seceding brethren; but, while they were prepared to maintain their connection with the Church of Scotland, and felt it to be their duty to their people, and the general interests of Religion in the Province, as well as to themselves, in their ecclesiastical capacity to put forth every proper means to draw closer the ties that bound them to the Parent Church; at the same time they begged to express in the most cordial manner their respect for their brethren, both collectively and individually, and their readiness to enter on any course of action that would strengthen each other's hands in their respective spheres of labour, and cherish those sympathies that had hitherto distinguished their intercourse.

The finest Christian feelings evidently pervaded both bodies in their conferences. Such a spirit, maintained in sincerity and truth, cannot fail to be productive of the happiest effects, both in regard to clerical intercourse and church communion, as well as in the propagation of true and undefiled religion within the spheres of their labour.

Your Deputation in the course of their mission met with several of the members of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, were welcomed in the kindest manner among them, and on more occasions than one addressed their people, and felt sincere gratification in the interchange of affection and regard.

At the rising of the Synod a general meeting of the members of the Church of Scotland in Halifax was called to confer with the Synod and your Deputation on the affairs of the Church. The assembly was large, and addressed in several very effective speeches both by

the lay members and ministers who were present. Mr. McKid in an able and luminous manner detailed the object of this Synod's mission to Nova Scotia. Mr. Attorney-General Young, in a speech replete with eloquence and many touching allusions to the history of the Church of Scotland and the early associations of his youth (he and one of your Deputation being class-fellows at Glasgow College,) gave a view of the position of the Church of Scotland in the Colonies and her relations to the Parent Church, that must have excited in the breasts of all who heard him a deep interest in behalf of her people in these provinces, and will tend greatly to promote the object which this Synod contemplated in their mission to Nova Scotia.

Having sojourned a few days at Halifax, preaching on Sabbath both forenoon and afternoon, in St. Matthew's and St. Andrew's Churches, your Deputation proceeded to Pictou, staying one day at Truro. The country round Truro spreads out in fertile vales, watered by a fine stream. A few adherents of our Church are scattered around, who attend the ministrations of Mr. McCulloch, the esteemed pastor of a large congregation. His venerable father acted as herald to successive bands of preachers, who followed from Scotland, and did much towards raising up a native ministry to spread the tidings of salvation among the colonists. One of your Deputation preached in Mr. McCulloch's pulpit to a few who on a brief notice were called together. In the afternoon proceeded to Pictou, Mr. McKid remaining at West Branch, to preach by appointment the following day at Salt Springs.

On Sabbath the pulpit at Pictou was supplied by Mr. McKid, and at Rogers Hill, distant about sixteen miles, by Dr. Mathieson. Large and attentive audiences were assembled in both places. In the evening, at the request of the Rev Mr. Bain, Dr. Mathieson preached to a large congregation in his church, reciprocating the kind feelings with which your Deputation was invariably received by their United Presbyterian brethren. On Monday took a part in a very interesting missionary meeting in Mr. Bain's church, and listened with much pleasure to the interesting details of their mission in New Hebrides.

On Tuesday we visited New Glasgow, where the Rev. A. Pollok is settled over a large and flourishing congregation. The old church being too small for the congregation, and having fallen into decay, a new and handsome edifice for the worship of God has been erected and is nearly completed. It is hardly possible to speak in too strong terms of the earnest missionary spirit, of their devotedness to their work, and the eminent success of the young ministers that have been recently sent from Scotland to fill the deserted pulpits of Nova Scotia. Snodgrass, Sprott, McKay, Pollok, McLean, Herdman, are names that will be remembered as zealous preachers of the Gospel of salvation, long after they shall have passed away from the scene of their labours.

In the afternoon we visited Mr. McGillivray, of McLennan's Mountain. At the time of the Schism in 1843 ("he only faithful among many faithless found") several ministers left their charges for more lucrative appointments in Scotland, or joined the Free Church. Their deserted people were like sheep without a shepherd, M. McGillivray alone remaining to watch for their spiritual interests, and plead the



cause of the Church of Scotland. Free Church emissaries scoured the country, denouncing her as an apostate Church, as a nuisance that should be swept from the face of the Earth, the Church that, a few months before, they had extolled as the perfection of beauty, as the joy of the whole Earth. Their misrepresentations misled the credulous, the unthinking, and the pharisaic; but their maledictions were too strong, and betrayed too much of an unchristian temper, to command respect, or deceive the cautious old highlanders, who listened patiently to their vain-glorious boastings, but became indignant when the Church of their fathers was maligned, with which their tenderest recollections and holiest feelings were intimately bound. That which was designed to shake their constancy only confirmed their attachment, and with greater tenacity they clung to the Church which was the object of their fathers' love and ceaseless prayers. Time has demonstrated the wisdom of their choice, while it has opened the eyes of others to the misrepresentations which misled them. A speech of one of the bitterest of the Church's opponents, spoken only a few weeks before he seceded, and seasonably reprinted by the Lay Association at Halifax, contrasting strangely as it did with his expressed opinions and sentiments after the schism, revealed the spirit which actuated that unhappy movement. Though forsaken by their ministers, the pious feelings of the fine old unsophisticated highlanders of Nova Scotia were from time to time refreshed by the visits and ministrations of Mr. McGillivray, who spread his labours over hundreds of miles, and day and night, in the peaceful spirit of his Master, he perseveringly sought to promote the spiritual interests of the people. He was untiring in his efforts; it was said of him, he often in his missionary excursions tired out their horses, but the indefatigable McGillivray could never be tired. He did much to confirm the minds and comfort the hearts of his forsaken countrymen. He has now the gratitude of thousands, and the noble satisfaction of having generously promoted their best interests at the expense both of his time and his pecuniary means.

Your Deputation visited Prince Edward Island, where Mr. Snodgrass presides over a large and an attached flock. Dr. Mathieson preached on a week-day evening to such as could be brought together on a short notice; Mr. McKid remained with Mr. Snodgrass, it being the season of communion, to assist him on that interesting occasion. In his journal Mr. McKid thus expressed his sentiments: I arrived at Charlottetown on Friday, 21st July, and met the most cordial welcome from Mr. Snodgrass; next day preached, in preparation for the communion on Sabbath; I assisted in the solemn duties of the day and on the Monday preached again. I found the congregation in Charlottetown large and prosperous, bearing evidence of the faithfulness of the ministrations of the present incumbent, and his predecessor the Rev. Mr. McNair, whose missionary zeal is well known to the Church at large. The attendance in the several diets of worship was large, and that spirit of devotion and deep religious feeling was such as to recal to my mind those associations, connected with communion seasons, in the land of our forefathers, which were refreshing to my own mind and, I hope, beneficial to all concerned. After the services on Monday a congregational meeting was held, where I was privileged to bring before the meeting the object of your Deputation. Several members of the congregation delivered their opinions,

which were quite in accordance with what had been expressed in other places.

Dr. Mathieson returned to Nova Scotia to assist Mr. McKay at the dispensation of the Lord's Supper at Earltown. Mr. McKay's labours are extended to three large congregations, distant from each other fifteen and twenty miles, each of which requires the undivided labour of a minister. His health giving way under his constant and burdensome toils, he has been induced to accept a call from the congregation at Belfast, P. E. I., where his ministrations will be confined to a narrower circle. Belfast is an interesting field, as well as Georgetown, yet without a pastor. The congregations at Rogers Hill, Earltown, Cape John, deeply regret Mr. McKay's departure, and the sad prospect of remaining again for an unknown period without the stated ordinances of worship.

Your Deputation was deeply impressed with the depth and solemnity of the religious feelings that pervaded the various congregations to which they ministered, which was of a far higher order than anything they had witnessed in these Provinces; nor was it only in the house of God that they were devout—they carried the spirit of Religion into the business of every-day life; in all our intercourse with them a seriousness of deportment, and an earnestness of religious feeling, without a taint of fanaticism, reminded us of the religious character of the rural parishes of Scotland, some thirty or forty years ago.

Your Deputation cannot help thinking that this earnest piety was kept alive and cherished, during ten long years of deprivation of settled Gospel ordinances, by some fine old patriarchs, who were found in every settlement, and for whose counsels and examples the people cherished the profoundest respect. Rich in Bible lore, sincere and earnest in their love for Christ and His people, the instructions of these venerable men came home to the heart with unction and with power, and cherished family religion (in the larger acceptation of the terms as comprehending every social and domestic duty) among a simple-minded people, and awoke an earnest longing-for and the enjoyment of the public ordinances of Religion, whenever they could be obtained. Of the salutariness of their instructions, and their moral influence over the people, your Deputation had frequent opportunities of witnessing. On one occasion both the scene and the circumstances were of the most interesting nature. One of your Deputation, being engaged to assist at the dispensation of the Lord's Supper, had nearly thirty miles to travel, and, though there were religious exercises on the day on which he set out on his journey, these being in Gaelic, (to him an unknown tongue) he had no desire to be on the field early in the day. He accordingly gave instructions that the person who was to convey him to the ground should come at nine o'clock A. M., but instead of that hour, he came at six, and every moment was impatient to start. We set out at half past nine at a rapid trot, and, having driven a considerable distance, found a relay of fresh horses, that greater speed might be obtained. Ignorant of the driver's purpose, he was frequently exhorted to slacken rein; but the only reply was, we will be late, and another admonition to the noble animal to renewed speed. Winding among little hills covered over with wood, now plunging into deep ravines, then treading our way over some lofty summit, the whole scene was picturesque and beautiful, to which a lovely day lent additional charms. At

length the mystery of our rapid flight was unveiled. About three o'clock P. M. we came to a beautiful sylvan spot, where there were numerous vehicles and horses tied to the trees, and a little further on in a sweet retired grove a congregation, numbering from 1500 to 2000, listening with profound attention to *the men*, who, one after another, at the call of their minister, who presided, addressed the people on a topic which had been announced for discussion in the morning. The congregation seemed to take little notice of our arrival, but observed the same riveted attention to the speaker; not a movement made, not a wisper heard, but the wind among the trees and the voice of the speaker echoing through the deep forest; a voice which in prayer was empassioned fervour, chastened into tones of reverence and deep humility. And the Psalm—Oh that psalm, as it rose in wild irregular notes from two thousand voices, struck home to our hearts and Christian sympathies with a power that can never be forgotten. It was now five in the afternoon, thus it had been with them since eleven o'clock A. M., with the same profound stillness and marked attention they had listened to the words of everlasting life. Previous to our witnessing this interesting spectacle, we confess we cherished a rooted prejudice against such systematised lay instructions, as being fraught with danger to the peace of congregations, and a great provocation to spiritual pride; nor are our minds dispossessed of such objections still, unless where the speakers are men of profound humility, and sound discretion, as well as of deep piety; but, where this is the case, we cannot help thinking that such patriarchs are invaluable helps to the Christian ministry, and preserve a healthful spirit of piety in the community. In conversing afterwards with these men, we found them of a right stamp, men taught by the Word and Spirit of God, and in the deep consciousness of their own insufficiency giving utterance to their religious sentiments in simple language to men, whose thoughts had been accustomed to run in the same channels with their own.

The same devotional stillness and decorum characterized all the days of their solemnities, and on the Sabbath, as the symbols of the Bread of Life were spread out on rude plank tables, covered over with linen of snowy whiteness, and surrounded with blooming youth, mingled with many gray-haired pilgrims, may we not hope that that green spot in the forest was but a type of a greener spot in the vale of life, when the pilgrims to the heavenly Jerusalem rested and found themselves refreshed from the wells of salvation.

Such is the general character of the people, spread over many an extensive field for spiritual labour, in Nova Scotia, thousands and tens of thousands, earnestly panting for the Bread of Life, and the Water of Life. Our young ministers on that field, earnest, active, indefatigable as they are,—what are they among so many? They strive actively with one heart and one mind for the spiritual progress of their people and the prosperity of the Church. Several of them minister to two, three, and even four congregations, each of which would require the undivided labours of one man. In some instances, with health broken, but with energy unsubdued, they contend with almost insuperable difficulties, and much even in their weakness they have effected. Surely the condition of that interesting people will appeal with effect to the hearts of ministers and preachers in Scotland, and bring unto the field more labourers. They will not

be without support either in a spiritual or pecuniary sense. Their Pastors have cherished in the hearts of their people a spirit of noble independence. The assistance they have received from the Parent Church, in the way of salary of ministers, in many instances they have remitted an equal amount to the Colonial Fund, while they have been taught, that one of the best proofs of the power of religion on their hearts is the liberality of their hands in giving of their carnal things to them who minister to them of their spiritual things. It appears to your Deputation that such a spirit and practice as this it will be well for the Synod to inculcate both in the ministers and people of these Provinces; unquestionably there is much need for it.

Your Deputation turned their attention to the prospect of obtaining from Nova Scotia young men to be trained for the ministry. They learned that many might be found of a true spirit, children of pious parents, who might to be induced to enter on a course of preparatory study. Indeed we were impressed with the conviction that it is from Nova Scotia that we must look for the supply of Gaelic-speaking students. The specimens you have in Queen's College do credit to their country and their Church, and those, studying in Scotland under the auspices of the Synod, are in no respect, as we believe, inferior. The Synod ought to give this subject their serious consideration, and, if necessary, institute a scheme to aid those in their education, who might be induced to qualify themselves for being able and efficient members of the Gospel of Christ.

At Pugwash and Wallace there are strong congregations. Mr. George Harper labours zealously and effectively as a missionary in this district, and his services are justly and affectionately appreciated. The name of the Hon. — McFarlane is still revered, as the friend of his countrymen, and the main supporter of the Church of Scotland. His son, the present member for the county, bids fair to imitate, if not successfully to rival, his virtues. Many others of a similar spirit have we met with, whom we cannot particularize, but with whom our Christian intercourse was delightful.

We forbear touching on the condition of the members of our Church in Cape Breton. The Synod of Nova Scotia has taken up the subject, and from them we may obtain some information that may lead to the alleviation of their spiritual destitution.

It has been already mentioned that your Deputation was accompanied in all their journeys by William Edmonstone, Esq. It would be wrong not to say how greatly they were indebted to the co-operation of that excellent man, whose heart is in the prosperity of the Church; he not only then, but since in his visit to Scotland, has done what lay in his power to obtain ministers of a right sort for the Colonies. As Mr. Sprot expresses himself in a recent letter, Mr. Edmonstone displays a reverend zeal in the cause, and is as anxious about getting good ministers as he is about his ships.

We have said nothing of the state of the churches under the pastoral care of the venerable Martin and the excellent Scott; nor of the Lay Association at Halifax, that did so much in the day of trial to preserve the Church of Scotland in the Colonies. In the resuscitation of their Church Courts they behold the fruits of labours, and they trust we will soon behold it in a large increase of labourers in that interesting portion of our Lord's Vineyard. All which is respectfully submitted,

(Signed,)

ALEX. MATHIESON.  
ALEX. McKID.

54 REPORTS OF THE DEPUTATIONS TO THE LOWER PROVINCES.

*To the Members and Adherents of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland.*

DEAR FRIENDS,—

I have been instructed by the Synod to direct your special attention to the paramount claims of Queen's College, as regards the liquidation of the debt incurred by the purchase of buildings suitable for the efficient operation of that Institution.

At last meeting of Synod ample information was communicated to the parties then present respecting the general condition of the College. In so far as office-bearers are concerned, this was abundantly satisfactory. The statements made clearly showed that the College, with its limited resources, had fully answered every reasonable expectation. The most convincing evidence was afforded that those charged with its financial affairs had done their duty with the greatest fidelity, and in the most praiseworthy manner. The addresses delivered, relative to the unremitting zeal and successful labours of its able Professors, were listened to with deep interest, and elicited an expression of high approbation from every member of the Court. All were impressed with the conviction that our Church was under peculiar obligations to the Trustees and Fathers for the great amount of good which, by the Divine blessing, had thus been accomplished, especially in educating young men for the sacred ministry. And in not a few instances, indeed, this is sufficiently known to others. Many congregations of our communion are privileged with the faithful and efficient ministrations of Pastors who were trained for their work at Queen's College.

Had the information given terminated here, every friend of the College would have had cause for unmingled gratitude. In addition, however, to the foregoing, it was rendered but too apparent that a number of our congregations had manifested such indifference, relative to the prosperity of our beloved Zion, as not to have contributed the smallest sum to relieve the School of its Prophets from pecuniary embarrassments. This, to say the least of the matter, was exceedingly discouraging, and evinces that there is something radically wrong. It is deplorable that such luke-warmness should in a single instance exist in reference to an object with which our Church is so vitally connected. It admits not of a doubt that, unless Queen's College be properly supported, our Church, instead of occupying new ground, cannot supply incumbents for vacant charges.

It is, however, but justice to state that, while many congregations, some of them large and flourishing, had done nothing in this work, some had contributed liberally to this object, while others had given, it may be, to the extent of their ability. Those then, that have thus devised and executed liberal things, are well entitled to receive the thanks of the Synod.

In the name, then, and on behalf of the Synod I now tender these my grateful acknowledgements. And, in doing so, I take leave to remind them that additional efforts, even on their part, are still necessary for the liquidation of the debt of the College. At the same time I entreat others to imitate their example. And it is extremely desirable that this should be done with the least possible delay. The pecuniary necessities of the College are great, and urgently demand relief. To human appearance its future prosperity will mainly depend on the assistance which may be immediately obtained. It

is obvious, therefore, that those, desirous that Christ's cause should prosper through the ministrations of our Church in this land, are under the most solemn obligations to come forward speedily and liberally in aid of this excellent Institution. And, in the exercise of their benevolence, their aim should be, not merely to extricate it from its present difficulties, but also to provide means by which it may be rendered increasingly efficient.

There is certainly some unaccountable misapprehension on the part of members and adherents of our Church relative to this matter. They cannot be fully aware of their responsibilities in this respect. It cannot otherwise be that many of those who are wont to give substantial proofs of benevolence to other Christian societies, for which they neither expect nor get the least credit, could permit an Institution of their own, to which they are connected by the most sacred ties, and which has already been the means of furnishing many destitute Canadian settlements with Divine ordinances, to remain, for a single day, in circumstances so evidently calculated to cripple its energies in preparing Pastors to conduct religious services according to the usage of the Church of our Fathers. It cannot otherwise be that men of worth and men of means would, in a way so remarkable, neglect the claims of an Institution so intimately connected with the temporal happiness and eternal welfare of themselves, their descendants, and so many others of their countrymen and of their communion.

The Parent Church has done much for us, and is still evincing her desire to do what she can in our behalf; but she cannot possibly give assistance commensurate with our wants. But, if this actually could be done, instead of manifesting a Christian spirit, it would be exceedingly ignoble in us to continue to tax the generosity of others for what God, in His gracious providence, has given us the means of accomplishing ourselves. Much has recently been eloquently said and written respecting the temporal prosperity of Canada; and I believe everything that has been advanced is in accordance with truth. If such be the case, instead of looking to others for supplying our religious wants, we are required by the highest considerations to exert ourselves not only in supporting our own institutions in a proper manner, but also in aiding those that generously and liberally assisted us, when our wants were felt to be exceedingly great. If we are not animated with this spirit, our gratitude to God and our spiritual improvement are extremely questionable.

Your ministers are enjoined by the Synod to take an early opportunity of bringing the debts of the College before their respective congregations, and, in doing so, to use such arguments as may seem best suited to stimulate their people to provide the means of placing this Institution on a proper footing. I am satisfied that those to whom your spiritual interests are committed will cheerfully and effectively discharge this duty. Feeling the importance of Queen's College as a Training-school for the Ministry, they cannot fail to present its claims to you in their true light. And, when this has been done, as I am confident it will be done, with all fidelity, and in a prayerful spirit, there is surely every reason to expect, considering the respectability, the wealth, and worth connected with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, that the amount requisite for liquidating the debt on the ground and buildings of Queen's College will, without delay, be obtained. It

56 REPORTS OF THE DEPUTATIONS TO THE LOWER PROVINCES.

would be unworthy of my present position, and unjust to the Church at large to entertain a different sentiment.

ALEXANDER MANN,  
Moderator of the Synod of Canada,  
In connexion with the Church of Scotland.

Pakenham, 21st July, 1856.

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## ERRATA.

Page 31—Near the bottom, after *extract* insert *of the*.

" 32—About the middle, for *same* read *said*.

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