

Proceedings of Presbyteries, &c.

PRESBYTERY OF ONTARIO.

A meeting of this Presbytery was held at Columbus on Tuesday, 18th November, to take into consideration the reply of the Synod's Commission on the Ashburn case, and to dispose of a petition for the dispensation of ordinances from the dissentients at Ashburn. The meeting was attended by five ministers and four elders.

Read the reply of the Synod's Commission, bearing date October 20th, in which the Commission declared that it was their intention, in their previous finding, "to confer upon the dissentient elders, together with the Moderator appointed by the Presbytery, all the powers of a Session until the next meeting of Synod, and to authorize them to discharge all the functions of a Session."

Whereupon it was moved by Mr. Baird, and seconded by Mr. Monteath, that the Presbytery resolve to decline complying with the recommendation of the Commission, inasmuch as such recommendation follows upon a manifest failure to implement the instructions of the Synod, and suggests a course of action which would renew—and that in a more aggravated form—the perplexities and difficulties to which this Presbytery have so long been exposed, and from which they unanimously, repeatedly, and with success, entreated the Synod at its last meeting to relieve them; and in the case of not a few of the members of this Presbytery, would be offensive to conscientious convictions regarding the principles and practices of a Presbyterian church.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Kennedy, and seconded by Mr. King, that the Presbytery comply with the instructions of the Commission in regard to the dissentients at Ashburn.

A vote was then taken on the amendment and the motion, when the former was carried, and the Presbytery decided in terms of the amendment.

From this decision dissent was entered by Messrs. Baird and Monteath.

Proceeded next to dispose of the petition from the dissentients at Ashburn. The petition was read again, and on motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Rev. George Lawrence be appointed to meet with the elders connected with the dissentients belonging to Ashburn congregation, and constitute them as a Session, and dispense ordinances to the said dissentients.

Closed with prayer.

R. MONTEATH, *Pres. Clerk, pro. tem.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

The Presbytery of Kingston met in Belleville on Tuesday and Wednesday, 2nd and 3rd December instant.

Mr. Thomas Kellough, student of Divinity, was licensed to preach the everlasting Gospel, after having undergone a very satisfactory examination.

Committees were appointed to make arrangements for Missionary meetings, with power to appoint the time and place of meeting, and to designate speakers, as follows: Messrs. McLaren and Robertson, for Trenton, Madoc, Melrose and associated stations; Messrs. Scott and Ballantyne, for Napanee, Bath, Camden and Sheffield; Messrs. Wilson and Gray for the Eastern section of the Presbytery.

The next ordinary meeting was appointed to be held in Belleville on the third Tuesday of February prox., at 10 o'clock, a.m.

S. GRAY, *Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.

An adjourned meeting was held at Guelph on the 25th of November. Fifteen ministers and four elders were present.

The Presbytery, after hearing parties in the call from Port Hope to Mr. McMechan, of Berlin, unanimously agreed, in accordance with Mr. McMechan's expression of his own judgment in the matter, that he should remain in his present charge.

Mr. Torrance laid on the table a letter from Dr. Ormiston, in reference to the donation of certain volumes to each of the ministers of the Church from J. Henderson, Esq., of Park; and the Clerk was instructed to convey the cordial thanks of the Presbytery to Mr. Park for his liberality, and also to Dr. Ormiston for his trouble in the matter.

After appointing supplies, the Presbytery adjourned to meet at Guelph, on Tuesday, 30th December.