

ercises, of which public intimation was given, and this sederunt was closed with prayer.

JAMES CHRISTIE, *Synod Clerk.*

THIRD SEDERUNT.

*St. Matthew's Church, Halifax,
June 28, 1861.*

The Synod met after devotional exercises conducted by Mr. Macgregor instead of Mr. Cameron, and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Rev. George Boyd. Sederunt as before, with the exception of Mr. Herdman.

The minutes of yesterday's sederunt were read, and sustained as correct.

The Presbytery of P. E. Island asked and obtained leave to meet to-day for the despatch of business.

There was transmitted through the Committee on Bills, References and Appeals, a petition from the building committee of Truro.

The subject was allowed to lie over till another diet.

Mr. McCurdy requested permission to absent himself from the remaining diets of Synod, which was granted.

It was moved by Mr. Tallach, seconded by Mr. Scott, and unanimously agreed to, that the Indian Mission Scheme be merged into that of the Foreign Mission. The Clerk produced the Treasurer's account, which showed a balance in hand of £13 10s. 6d. It was further moved by Mr. Tallach, seconded by Mr. Duncan, and agreed to, that the funds of the India Mission be disposed of as usual—remitted to the Treasurer of the India Mission of the Church of Scotland.

It was moved by Mr. Pollok, seconded by Mr. Jardine, and unanimously agreed to, that Mr. Mair, formerly a member of this Court, being present, be requested to sit and deliberate during the remaining diets of Synod.

Presbyteries having been questioned with regard to monies raised for missionary services, it was found that the Presbytery of Pictou had raised the sum of £171 5s. 8d.; the Presbytery of P. E. Island, £8 13s. 4d.; the Presbytery of Halifax, £147. The report was considered very satisfactory, and the state of things highly encouraging. In addition, the President of the Lay Association, John Mackay, Esq., reported that this Association, having an existence only within the bounds of the Presbytery of Pictou, had in hand the sum of £80.

It was moved by Mr. Duncan, seconded by Mr. Macgregor, and unanimously agreed to, that the accounts of the various schemes in connection with the Synod be published annually and along with the minutes of Synod of the *Monthly Record*.

The Treasurer's account on Young Men's Scheme was read, and considered very satisfactory. It is as follows: (See page 181.)

At the same time the Rev. Mr. Pollok, the

Convener of the Committee, reported verbally. After a prolonged discussion on the report it was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to, that the report be adopted, the diligence of the committee be approved of, that the committee be re-appointed with Mr. Pollok, Convener, Mr. Macgregor, Sub-convener, and Messrs. Macmillan, Cameron and Grant, additional members, and that the thanks of the committee be conveyed to Mr. Pollok for his past very efficient services as Convener, which was accordingly done by the Moderator.

The committee appointed to prepare a reply to the communication from the other Church on the matter of union reported that they had complied with their instructions, and that they submitted the following report:

"The letter sent by the 'Committee on Union' of the U. P. C. of the Lower Provinces having been submitted to this Synod, it was unanimously resolved that the basis of Union, to which the attention of this Synod has been specially directed by the Committee in their letter, is, according to the unanimous opinion of this Court, unsatisfactory on the following grounds:

(1.) That whereas the United Synod is composed of Churches, which have seceded from the Church of Scotland on special grounds considered sufficient by themselves, there is no guarantee provided for the maintenance of friendly intercourse between us and the Church of our Fathers.

(2.) That this Synod does not disclaim as unscriptural the right on the part of the Civil Courts to review the procedure of Ecclesiastical Courts as far as civil interests are involved.

(3.) That the basis of Union, while appearing in one portion to define the province of the civil power, ultimately leaves the whole question undecided.

(4.) Because this Synod have reason to believe from the public speeches and letters of members of the United Synod, that there is not at present real unanimity of sentiment among the brethren of that Church even upon the proposal now submitted by their committee:

It was further resolved that the following letter be sent in reply:

'DEAR BRETHREN,—'

In reply to your kind and fraternal letter of the 6th June last, which has been listened to by this Court with the utmost attention; it affords us very great pleasure to reciprocate the friendly feelings to which you have given expression. We do assure you that we entertain sentiments of sincere affection towards the large and influential Synod, which you represent. We cheerfully accord the honor, to which at least a portion of the U. Body is clearly entitled, of being the first in this important field, and the first to plant the principles and practice of Presbyterianism among