

## THE SYNOD OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES

Met in Charlottetown, P.E.I., Tuesday, 1 Oct., at 7.30 p.m., and after a sermon by Rev. Dr. Morrison, reading moderator, and roll call, Rev. J. MacGregor Mackay was chosen moderator for the current year.

For two succeeding days, matters relating to the College, Home Missions, Augmentation, Foreign Missions, Sabbath Schools, Sabbath Observance, State of Religion, Temperance, Evangelistic Work, Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, Widows and Orphans' Fund, Church Building Funds, Rearrangement of Presbyteries, Ladies' College, Appointment of Committees of Assembly, etc., were carefully considered, and are referred to elsewhere in this issue, and a very pleasant and busy Synod adjourned near the "key stone" of Thursday night, to meet in 1896, in Knox Church, Pictou, at 7.30 p.m. of the first Tuesday of October.

The popular evening meetings, Foreign Missions on Wednesday evening, and Home Missions on Thursday evening, were full of interest and encouragement.

At the former, Rev. A. Falconer gave a bird's eye view of the different fields and work. Mr. Thompson, of Trinidad, spoke of his own field and the needs of other W. I. Islands, and of the 125,000 E. Indians of Demarara, who must be reached as soon as possible. Mr. Cropper followed, and Mrs. Morton and Mrs. Thompson gave inspiration by their presence.

Foreign Missions was followed the same evening, by a report from the College by Dr. Sedgewick. This is not a very popular subject, but it should be, and the wise convener did well in thus bringing it forward, for the colleges lie at the foundation of our church work.

Thursday evening, in addition to the stirring review of the Home Mission Field by Mr. McMillan, and by several engaged in Home Mission work, there was a strong, breezy, address from the "Right Reverend" the Moderator of the General Assembly, Rev. Dr. Robertson, fresh from the prairies and mountains, for he was just from a mission tour in the far West. With one glance, the Synod swept their own Home Mission Field, with the next, a wider, far off sphere, reaching from mid-continent to the Pacific, but still their own.

Following the example of Assembly, Synod appointed a Committee on Young Peoples' Societies.

The State of Religion, Temperance, Sabbath Schools, Sabbath Observance, Systematic Benevolence, all so important, could be given but little time, but what they had was well used.

A minor strain was the reading of obituary notices of Revs. R. McCunn, R. D. Ross, Dr. McCulloch, and W. J. McKenzie, who have pas-

sed away during the year; a reminder to their brethren that the night is coming when no man can work.

**Pres. Coll.** The report to Synod was the best **Halifax** ever given, because there was more to report than ever before. The staff is more complete, having now four regularly appointed professors. The number of students during the past year was the largest in its history, 48 in all, in the regular Theological classes. The College Board asks \$4,000 from congregations during the current year, and the Bursary Fund would like to get \$1,200. A college, well manned and loyally supported, is one of the best permanent aids to progress that any church can establish.

**Home Miss.** The past year has been the best **East**. Home Mission year in the history of our church in the Maritime Synod. Fifty-five catechists were employed. All the Home Mission fields were fully manned. The mission stations have done well in giving for self-help, and the church at large has done well in supporting the scheme. Yet there is room for a little improvement from the fact that 28 congregations and stations in the Synod gave nothing. Some of these were doubtless able to do but little, but none should be blank. Is yours among the number?

**A Synodical Evangelist.** A special committee, which had been maturing the matter during the year, reported to the Maritime Synod, in favor of employing a Synodical Evangelist to labor under the supervision of a "Synod's Committee on Evangelistic work," in cooperation with Presbyteries and Sessions, the evangelist to labor only where asked; the services to be in all respects under the control of the sessions where they might be held; and his support to be guaranteed by Synod, but contributed to by those among whom he should work. After full consideration it was decided by 52 to 39, not to make such an appointment.

**A French Incident.** A French Missionary, reporting for the month of September, writes:—"Miss B, tells me her mother knows all about her Bible. It happened on this wise. In the course of an argument her mother made a statement which she claimed was in the Bible. Miss B. denied it and brought out her Bible, to show that her mother was wrong. The mother threatened to take the Bible from her. The daughter refused to surrender it and said she was old enough to be independent and think as she had a mind to. Lately her sister got married and although the sister wished it, she refused to stand as bridesmaid rather than go to confess to the priest. She has secured from me a Bible for her cousin." Thus to one by one the truth is carried and the work goes steadily on.