

It was unanimously agreed to nominate the Rev. Robert Sedgwick of Musquodoboit, as a fit and proper person to act as Moderator of the coming Synod.

The Remits of Synod to Presbyteries were appointed to be considered at the next meeting, which is to be held at Tatamagouche on the second Tuesday of May at 11 o'clock.

OBITUARY.

Our obituary notices are becoming painfully frequent. Our Church certainly needs accessions, for much worth and excellence are being called away. Since our last issue a blank has been left in Poplar Grove Church, and felt far beyond it, in the unexpected death of

Mr. George Hutton.

Mr. Hutton was born in Perth Jan. 4th, 1801, and died in Halifax on Feb. 24th, 1870, aged 69 years. He was a strong active man, a week prior to his decease. His disease therefore ran its course rapidly. He endured most patiently the trials of that last week, was found waiting for the Master's call, and declared himself willing to depart and joyfully crossed "the narrow stream of death."

And now that he has gone to his rest, we bear cheerful testimony to his worth and usefulness. In doing so, we shall notice his profession, his official work as an Elder, and a few traits of character.

By profession he was a teacher. He did indeed serve his time to the dry-goods business; but preferring the occupation of his maternal grandfather Mr. George Clark, who was Parish School Master in Caputh, he aided him, and for some time acted as substitute Parochial Teacher. He might probably have succeeded his venerable grand parent for whom he had a profound respect, but being from conviction, a member of the Secession Church, he would not compromise his principles by joining the Established Church. Becoming a teacher however from choice, and combining with the teacher's ordinary work, the instruction of the deaf and dumb, he followed the profession enthusiastically for a half century.

His attention was first directed to the condition and claims of the deaf and dumb, by a deaf mute boy being brought to him while in Caputh Parish School, to see if he could do anything for him. The art of deaf mute instruction was then in its infancy, only two institutions being in Great Britain, and both of recent origin; while information on the subject was not very accessible. Denied the opportunity of insight into the system pursued in Edinburgh, and thus thrown entirely on his own re-

sources, he carved out a path for himself, carrying on, under extraordinary difficulties and disadvantages, the instruction of his mute pupils along with a promiscuous school of hearing and speaking children, with a degree of success, certainly not surpassed and rarely equalled, even in the public Institutions exclusively devoted to the education of the deaf and dumb.

From a source entirely reliable we learn the facts just stated, and farther, that his views on the subject of Deaf Mute Instruction were so far in advance of his time, that some of them carried out practically by him 40 years ago, are only now being recognized and adopted as fixed principles in the Institutions of Britain and America.

After his marriage in 1824, and removal to Perth, where he opened a private school, he continued for many years the constant instructor, guide, counsellor, and friend of the deaf mutes of that city, whether educated or uneducated, holding religious meetings with them every Sabbath, and labouring for their material, moral and spiritual welfare, in every way without fee or reward.

In November 1858 he paid a visit to his son the head teacher of the Nova Scotia Institution for the deaf and dumb, remaining till July 1859, and the consequence was his removal, at his son's earnest request and with the sanction of the Directors, to aid our infant institution here, when want of funds prevented the employment of an additional teacher. For two or three years, he gave his services *gratuitously* for which these Provinces and Nova Scotia particularly, *should yet make a suitable acknowledgment*, seeing that he never at any time in Nova Scotia received a remuneration equivalent to the worth of his services. If our Institution has proved a decided success, its usefulness under God, in no small measure may be traced to his self-sacrifice and devotion to its interests.

We may here add that for the last few years, he was President of the Halifax and Dartmouth Teachers' Association, and also for some years Vice President of the Educational Association of Nova Scotia, and a member of the Educational Institute of Scotland.

OFFICIAL WORK AS ELDER.

For 30 years Mr. Hutton was a Ruling Elder in the North U. P. Church Perth, of which Rev. Dr. Young was so long minister, and the following Disjunction Certificate will show the estimation in which he was held.

PERTH, 19th March, 1860.

The Session of the North United Presbyterian Church regret the departure of their brother, Mr. George Hutton, for a foreign country, and desire to express their