

improvement in the service of praise in the congregations of the church, consider it inexpedient to agitate at this time the question of instrumental music in the service of praise,—therefore the Synod declines to grant the prayer of the overture.

It was further moved by Mr. J. M. King, seconded by Mr. McTavish, —That it is inexpedient to comply at this time with the prayer of the overture, but resolve to send it down to Presbyteries and Sessions, with instruction to report thereon to next Synod, so as to guide the Court in coming to a decision on this question.

Votes having been taken, the amendment of Mr. King was carried, and on being put in a substantive form to the House was affirmed almost unanimously.

In connection with the same subject, the Synod took up a reference for the Presbytery of Montreal in the matter of an appeal by Dr. Irvine from a decision of the Presbytery of Montreal in regard to the use of a musical instrument in Knox's Church, Montreal. The papers having been read and several individuals connected with the case heard.

Mr. Inglis, seconded by Mr. McTavish, moved that the Synod sustain the reference and dismiss the appeal of Dr. Irvine, and that a commission be appointed to take such action as might be necessary in order to secure that the use of the organ in his church be discontinued in the meantime, the Committee to consist of Messrs. Wardrope, (Conv'r,) Aitken, McLaren, ministers; and Messrs. Hay, Dr. Edmondson and Dr. Holden, elders.

It was moved by Mr. J. M. King and seconded:—That the Synod sustain the reference, dismiss the appeal of Dr. Irvine, and instruct the session of Knox church, Montreal, to discontinue the use of the organ in the public worship till the mind of the Synod be ascertained by the reports of the Presbyteries and Sessions at next Synod, and to report their compliance with this instruction to the first regular meeting of the Presbytery of Montreal.

On a division the motion of Mr. King was carried by a large majority.

OVERTURE ON INTOXICATING DRINKS.

The Synod took up an overture from Rev. William Inglis, minister at Woodstock, praying the Synod to enact that the manufacturers and vendors of intoxicating liquors be excluded from the sealing ordinances of the church. Mr. Inglis has been heard in support of the overture, and concluded by moving that the matter be sent down to Sessions and Presbyteries to report upon.

Mr. Laing moved "that the Synod receive the overture, and resolve that the Synod renew its recommendation to ministers and people to oppose in every legitimate way the evils connected with the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks, but decline to make the sale or manufacture of such drinks a term of communion." Mr. Laing's motion was carried by a considerable majority.

FOREIGN MISSION REPORT.

On the evening of Tuesday, 11th, the Foreign Mission Report was read by Rev. W. Aitken. The report reviewed the condition of the missions at Red River and in British Columbia. It referred to the auspicious commencement made by Mr. Nesbit among the Indians on the Saskatchewan, and to the circumstances which had led to the failure in the carrying out of the appointment of Rev. N. McKinnon as missionary to the New Hebrides.

After the reading of the report, an interesting address was delivered by the Rev. John Black, on the progress and state of the mission at Red