

attend this Synod; which being read and sustained, Dr. Barclay took his seat as a Member of Court.

The Synod then proceeded to the election of a Moderator for the ensuing year, when the Rev. Peter Keay, A. M., Minister of Nashwaak, &c., was unanimously elected, and took the Chair accordingly.

The Minutes of the several meetings held at Chatham, in the month of August, last year, were read and approved of.

Mr. Donald called attention to the fact that the Moderator's Sermon had not, on this occasion, been preached at the opening of the Synod, as usual. Whereupon Dr. Brooke explained that a strong desire had been expressed by many of his congregation that the Synodical Sermon, instead of being delivered in the forenoon, should be postponed till the evening, as a much larger number could thus enjoy the privilege of hearing it; that several of his brethren in the Ministry, whom he had consulted on the subject, had approved of the proposal; that the particular time at which the Moderator's Sermon should be delivered, was fixed by no law, and not even sanctioned by the invariable practice of the Synods of the Church; and further expressed his conviction that, while several good ends would be served by having the sermon preached in the evening, no conceivable injury could result from it.

The Synod having heard the explanation of Dr. Brooke, on motion of Mr. Donald, it was unanimously resolved that, inasmuch as public intimation has been given that the Moderator's Sermon should be preached this evening at a quarter to eight o'clock, it shall, on this occasion, be done accordingly; that this, however, shall form no precedent for the future, but that, at all subsequent meetings of the Synod, the usual practice of the Church shall be adhered to.

Mr. Donald read a letter from the Rev. Wm. Murray, of Moncton, explaining the reasons of his absence from this meeting of Synod, which arose from his having been detained in Canada longer than he anticipated. The Synod considered his apology satisfactory.

The Synod appointed the following Committee of Bills and Overtures, with instructions to meet this day, at three o'clock, P. M., and all papers to come before the Synod, were ordered to be given in to the said Committee, viz.:

Messrs. Donald, Murray, Henderson, Dr. Barclay, Mr. Stott and Mr. Hunter, *Ministers*; with Messrs. Robertson and Edwards, *Elders*.

It was agreed that, during this present sitting of Synod, there shall be an interval daily, from two to three o'clock.

The Synod authorized Presbyteries to meet, on the summons of their respective Moderators, during the days when the Synod is assembled, at any time when it is not actually in session.

The Synod called for the Records of Presbyteries, which were produced; whereupon the Members of the Presbytery of Miramichi were appointed a Committee to examine the Records of the Presbytery of Saint John; and the Members of the Presbytery of Saint John a Committee to examine the Records of the Presbytery of Miramichi. The Moderator of Presbytery, in each case, to be Convener.

The Synod resolved that some portion of time each day, before commencing business, shall be spent in devotional exercises, and appointed the Rev. Messrs. Stewart, Steven and Henderson, to conduct the same.

The Synod called for the Report of the exertions that had been made in the several congregations, in aid of benevolent and Mis-

sionary objects, and the same was given in by all the Ministers present.

The Committee on Registrations stated that they were not prepared to make any Report.

The Synod made the following appointments for preaching on the Sabbath:

St. Paul's Church, Fredericton:	
Morning - - - - -	Dr. Barclay.
Afternoon - - - - -	Mr. Duncan.
Evening - - - - -	Mr. Henderson.
Nashwaak Mills, Fredericton:	
Afternoon - - - - -	Mr. Donald.
Nashwaak:	
Morning and Afternoon -	Mr. Stott.

The Rev. Wm. Donald and the Rev. James Steven reported that they had fulfilled their appointments as Corresponding Members of the Synods of Canada and Nova Scotia respectively, giving some account of the proceedings of the said Synods, of the important subjects that had been under their consideration, and of the great pleasure they had derived from meeting with their Ministerial brethren in the adjoining Colonies.

Whereupon it was resolved that the Synod approve the diligence of their Corresponding Members to the Synods of Canada and Nova Scotia, and express their hope that an intercourse so pleasing to all parties, and attended with so many beneficial results, may still be maintained.

On motion of Dr. Brooke, it was resolved that the thanks of the Synod are due to the Rev. Messrs. Donald and Steven, for the manner in which they have discharged the duties entrusted to them, and that the same be now given from the Chair; which was done accordingly.

The Synod then adjourned till the conclusion of Divine Service this evening. Closed with the benediction.

The Synod met again in the evening, and after Sermon by the Rev. James Murray, the retiring Moderator, from this text, Isaiah li. 3, "For the Lord shall comfort Zion," &c., adjourned till to-morrow, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Closed with the benediction.

DIET II.

At St. Paul's Church, Fredericton, the 24th day of July, one thousand, eight hundred and fifty-seven.

The Synod met according to adjournment. Sederunt as yesterday, with the addition of the Rev. Wm. McRobie. Some time was spent in devotional exercises, which were conducted by the Rev. James Steven. The Synod was then constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

A Commission in favor of the Rev. Thomas Duncan, of Charlotte-Town, P. E. I., appointing him Corresponding Member and Delegate from the Synod of Nova Scotia, to attend this Synod, was produced and sustained, and Mr. Duncan was invited to take his seat as a Member of Court.

On motion of Mr. Donald, it was resolved that the thanks of the Synod be conveyed to the Rev. James Murray, their late Moderator, for his very able and appropriate sermon, and that he be requested to transmit the manuscript to the Editor of the *Montreal Presbyterian*, for publication.

Thanks were accordingly given to Mr. Murray from the Chair, to which he made a suitable reply; and, in reference to the publication of his sermon, begged for a short time to consider the matter.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures

reported that five Overtures were laid before them, the titles of which were read, and that they had agreed to transmit the whole to the Synod.

The Synod called for the usual Statistical Returns, and the same were given in by all the Ministers except Mr. Scott and Mr. Macrobie, who, having lately arrived in the Province, were not in a condition to make any such Return.

On motion of Dr. Brooke, a Committee was appointed to prepare draft of an Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor. Dr. Barclay and Dr. Brooke were named as a Committee to prepare such draft, and the same was ordered to be laid before the Synod to-morrow morning.

The Committee appointed to examine the Records of the Presbytery of Miramichi, reported that they had attended to that duty, and that they found them regularly and correctly kept, with the following exceptions, viz.:

1st. At the meeting of the 15th October, 1856, the appointment of Moderator is deferred till the conclusion of the business, instead of being done at the commencement.

2nd. In the resolution to admit and induct the Rev. William Macrobie, at Tabusintac, the Presbytery do so without a Presbytery Certificate, and a Certificate of qualification to Government; and that they did induct him, without recording that they had the requisite documents before them.

The Rev. Wm. Henderson, Clerk of the Presbytery, gave such explanations as were satisfactory to the Synod, and the Records were ordered to be attested, which was done accordingly.

The Committee appointed to examine the Records of the Presbytery of St. John, reported that they had attended to that duty, and found them regularly and accurately kept, whereupon the Synod ordered them to be attested; which was done accordingly.

The Synod called for the Report of the Treasury Fund, which was given in by Mr. Donald, Convener of Committee; and the same being read was approved of, ordered to be kept *in retentis*, and to be printed in Appendix to the Minutes.

The Synod re-appointed the Committee, consisting of Mr. Donald, Dr. Brooke, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Russ, Mr. Wm. Napier, and Mr. Wm. Girvan. Mr. Girvan continued Secretary and Treasurer.

The Synod called for the Report on Kings College, and Mr. Donald gave a *vera voce* report, stating what had been done, and what was proposed by the Committee.

The Synod re-appointed the Committee, consisting of the Moderator, Dr. Brooke, Mr. Donald, Mr. Henderson, and Mr. Hunter, with instructions to watch the proceedings of the Legislature in the matter, and to endeavor to procure such alterations in the printed Bill as may afford a suitable guarantee for the moral and religious training of the young who may become students in that Institution.

The Synod called for the Report on the Here Mission and Synod Fund, which was given in and read by the Rev. W. Donald, approved of, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

On motion of Mr. Donald, the Synod resolved that certain recommendations contained in said Report, be adopted for the future, viz.:

1st. That the annual collection on behalf of this Fund be made and remitted to the Treasurer, at least one month before the meeting of Synod.