

ters may be appointed with power to deal with this very important subject."

Mr. Martin as Convener of Committee on the address to the Prince of Wales, submitted a draft which was approved of, and entrusted to the Presbytery of Halifax for presentation.

The Report of the Lay Association was laid on the table and read, when it was moved by Mr. Lochead, seconded by Mr. Martin, and unanimously agreed to, that the Synod adopt the report, and that the thanks of the Synod be conveyed to the President, Office-bearers and members of the Lay Association, and more especially to their Secretary for his very excellent report, and these thanks be conveyed to them by the Clerk of Synod.

It was moved by Mr. Jardine and seconded by Mr. Pollok, that a Committee be appointed to confer with Mr. Lochead on the controversy between him and certain Office-bearers of the Lay Association. It was moved in amendment by Mr. McRobie and seconded by Mr. Christie that there is no case before the Court. The motion having been withdrawn, the Synod resolve in terms of the amendment.

Overture No. 2, anent the celebration of the Tricentenary of the Reformation from Popery, which is as follows, was read:—

"Whereas great, important and permanent civil and religious advantages, have resulted from the Reformation from Popery, which ought to be well known and highly prized, by the members and friends of the Church of Scotland in all ages, and to the latest posterity; and whereas it is desirable that the adherents of our Church in these Provinces should have an opportunity of publicly and devoutly manifesting their sincere and ardent gratitude for these inestimable blessings. It is hereby humbly overtured by the Presbytery of Halifax, that proper arrangements be made by Synod at its annual meeting, for the celebration of the Tricentenary of the Reformation from Popery in the year 1860. In name and by appointment of the Presbytery of Halifax. (Signed) JOHN MARTIN,

Convener.

Letters were read from the Rev. Alexander Sutherland on the part of the Free Church, and from the Rev. George Patterson, enclosing extract minute of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, requesting the co-operation of this Synod in the commemoration of this important event.

It was moved by Mr. Boyd, seconded by the Hon. John Holmes, and unanimously agreed to, that the Synod adopt the Overture; and whilst persuaded that the great, manifold and enduring blessings resulting from the glorious work of the Reformation from Popery, should always call forth gratitude to Almighty God. Yet on the interesting occasion of the celebration of the Tricentenary of the Reformation in Scotland, and as members of the Church of Scotland, this Synod do desire

to record their special thanksgiving to the Great Head of the Church, for the wonderful deliverance of the Church and nation from Popish Supremacy, and to acknowledge our privileges and obligations to maintain and extend the pure doctrines and light of Scripture thus bequeathed to us in opposition to Anti-Christian error. 2nd, that this Synod, in further carrying out the spirit of the Overture do recommend to Ministers and congregations within their bounds, to observe (if practicable) Thursday the 20th day of December next (being the Tricentenary of the meeting of the first General Assembly of the Church of Scotland when freed from Papal thralldom) for devout thanksgiving to Almighty God, and in grateful commemoration of the civil and religious benefits secured by the labors of the Reformers; and further, in those cases where the week-day might be found inconvenient, the Synod would recommend for the purpose, Sabbath the 23rd of December.

3rd. That this Synod do leave it to the discretion and judgment of Presbyteries, Ministers and congregations within the bounds, to unite, if they see fit, with other Evangelical denominations in the said celebration.

It was further moved, seconded and agreed to, that the Presbytery of Pictou be appointed a Committee for the purpose of conferring with other Committees, and that the Clerk be instructed to answer communications.

On Overture No. 4, anent thanksgiving days, which is as follows:—

Whereas it is the practice of our Mother Church, and a practice fraught with great advantage to the spiritual welfare of our people, to appoint at least two days in each year, one in spring and another in the fall, for the purpose of enabling our people directly to meditate on and thank God as the giver of our temporal blessings. It is humbly overtured by the undersigned that this Court do give instructions to Presbyteries, to see that this laudable practice is attended to in each of the respective congregations under their charge. (Signed)

JAMES MAIR.

It was moved by Mr. Herdman, seconded by Mr. Boyd, and agreed to, that the Synod approve of the Overture, and appoint sessions to take order thereanent as in circumstances they see fit.

The report of the Committee appointed to adjudicate on Synod Fund, was read and adopted.

It was unanimously resolved that the Synod having learned the valuable aid rendered by the Home Mission Association to the Home Mission Field, express their high satisfaction with their diligence, and enjoin the Presbytery of Halifax to co-operate with the Association.

It was moved, seconded, and agreed to that the six copies of *Monthly Record* sent to