

Stewart and John Boyd.

Rev. Mr. Donald submitted the report on Sabbath Schools, showing returns from 207 schools, with 2,229 teachers, 18,108 scholars, besides 3,174 in Bible classes. 1291 of the S. S. scholars are in full communion with the Church of whom 447 were received during the past year. \$3,461 was contributed for missions by S. Schools and Bible Classes. 21 schools report teachers meetings, 18 that the S. School lesson is taken up in the weekly prayer meeting. The report was followed by a short, vigorous, practical discussion on the subject.

The subject of Temperance was then taken up. There was no report from the Committee, but a discussion of the subject in which several members took part. At the close the following resolution was adopted.

"The Synod anew records the sense of the great importance of the temperance movement, its thankfulness to God for the progress made during the past year, and its determination to labor with increased zeal and earnestness in this branch of christian work."

#### *Friday Morning.*

Synod met at nine o'clock. The unification of the Augmentation Scheme was considered when it was resolved on motion of Dr. McGregor,

"That while the Synod anticipate with pleasure the prospect of unification in the augmentation movement, yet we are of opinion that such union should be postponed for one year, until the scheme is more fully developed in the Maritime Provinces, as at least to approximate the desired \$750 and manse."

Dr. McGregor submitted a report from the College Board, showing that in accordance with the instructions of last Synod in reference to withdrawing wholly or in part from Dalhousie College, that the Board had conferred with the Governors of that institution, that the latter were willing that the Principal should retire, and that in the event of his doing so, they would grant him an allowance of \$200 a year from the funds. The Board had expressed their opinion that the retiree should take place, and had

offered him a retiring allowance of \$800 in addition to the \$200 offered by Dalhousie College, making in all \$1000. The Board also reported their decision that the retirement should take place May 1st 1885. The Synod unanimously received and adopted the report of the College Board and directed them to prepare a resolution expressive of their appreciation of the services of Dr. Ross.

Rev. J. D. McGillivray presented the Synod report on Sabbath observance. It states that so far as known, no new form of Sabbath breaking have come into existence within our bounds, but that there is need for improvement. The running of trains on the Government railways still continues to some extent.

There is an impression that there is a larger proportion of the population absent from the House of God on Sabbath than formerly, which has a bearing on this subject.

Magistrates should do their duty in enforcing the Sabbath laws, and ministers should be faithful to theirs, in seeking to form a more healthy public opinion on the Subject.

Dr. Patterson presented the report of the Committee of the Widows and Orphans Fund, showing \$62,000 in fund, and nearly \$3,500 annual revenue which is more than enough for present needs. There are 90 ministers paying into the fund of whom seven belong to the Synod of the Church of Scotland, and nine elsewhere. There are 18 widows receiving from the fund.

Mr. McCurdy presented the report of the Committee on Systematic Benevolence. It showed that though last Synod had directed the Committee to endeavour to circulate literature on giving, and that though the Committee had expended about \$40.00 in the gratuitous distribution of samples of such literature, in order to induce Sessions and congregations to purchase, there had only been, of the kind furnished, purchases to the amount of four or five dollars during the year.

Leave was granted to the Presbyteries of Wallace and Pictou to transfer to the latter the congregation, of Earltown should they find all parties agreed.

The cordial thanks of the Synod were given to the people of Pictou for their generous hospitality, to the press, and to Railway and Steamboat Companies for reduced fares.

The Moderator closed with an appropriate address, and the Synod closed to meet in St. John's on Tuesday, after the first Sabbath of October, 1885.