

Mr. Cheyno and Mr. Robert F. Burns were empowered, if they shall see fit, to organize a Congregation at Grimsby.

Mr. Smellie was appointed to moderate in a call from the Congregation at Elora, on the 24th inst.

It was resolved, on the petition of parties concerned, to hold a Presbyterial visitation of the Congregation at Owen's Sound, under the charge of the Rev. John McKinnon, on Wednesday, the 14th day of May, at noon, with a view of removing some grounds of difference which have sprung up in the Congregation there. The deputation to consist of Rev. David Inglis, Rev. Geo. Smellie, Rev. Samuel Young, and Rev. Alexander McLean, Jr., and Mr. James Cowan, Eldor. The Deputation to report to the next ordinary meeting thereafter.

In reference to a remit of the Synod, respecting the appointment of a Board for the examination of Students, it was resolved by a majority, to recommend that a Board be appointed, consisting of, at least, two members from each Presbytery, who shall be required to examine students before they enter upon the Theological course, and to superintend their studies throughout their course, it being understood that this Committee shall not supersede Presbyterial superintendence.

The following overture to the Synod was laid on the table, by Mr. Inglis.

Whereas some Congregations in connection with the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and under the inspection of its Presbyteries, do commit the management of their Congregational affairs to Pew-holders, Pew-owners, or Subscribers, instead of communicants, and, whereas, the tendency of such practices is to bring the Church into bondage, Therefore, the Presbytery of Hamilton, do overture your Reverend Court to order that Congregations, hereafter organized under the supervision of Presbyteries of this Synod, shall be organized in consistency with the word of God, and our subordinate standards, giving the right of suffrage and management only to communicants in regular standing, each communicant having only one vote; and where the constitutions of existing Congregations are at variance with this rule, that they be directed to conform to it, and that special attention be directed to the Synod's former action in regard to the formation of Deacons' Courts.

Intimation was given of several other overtures to the Synod, which would be presented at the next regular meeting.

A petition to the Legislature against Sabbath labour in the Public Departments, and on the Public Works, was ordered to be prepared, signed by the Moderator and Clerk, and forwarded.

A Committee was appointed to report on the Draft of a Book of Discipline.

Reports of the holding of Missionary Meetings throughout the bounds of the Presbytery were given in, and while in some instances they had failed, the meetings were generally satisfactory.

The Report of the Convener of the Home Mission Committee of the Presbytery was read and sustained. Petitions for supply from Allansville, Doon Mills, and Now Hope, Walpole, Jarvis, Derby and Sullivan, Glenelg, Bentinck and Normanby, were given in, and read, and various appointments were made for these and other stations, so far as the limited supply of Missionaries and Catechists would admit.

The Convener was instructed to apply to the Synod's Home Missionary Committee for seven Missionaries, or more if possible.

The Rev. Alexander McLean of East Puslinch gave an interesting report of his Missionary Tour to the Owen's Sound district, and received the thanks of the Presbytery.

The Convener reported the result of his enquiries in regard to a glebe lot belonging to the congregation of this Church at Durham.

The Presbytery then adjourned to meet again

on Tuesday, the 6th of May, at two o'clock. P. M., and within McNab Street Church, Hamilton, for ordinary business.

In the prolonged absence of Dr. Bayne, the following supplies were made for the pulpit at Gull, April, 13th, Mr. Samuel Young; April 20th, Mr. Choyne; April 27th, Mr. McKuar; May 4th, Mr. Gilchrist; May 11th, Mr. Middlemiss; May 18th, Mr. Inglis.

M. Y. STARK, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

This Presbytery met, *pro re nata*, at Cobourg, on the 1st of April, 1856.

The Rev. Thomas Snell, of the Congregational Church, Cobourg, appeared and applied for admission to this church. The Presbytery were satisfied with the documentary evidence of his good standing in the Congregational body, and heard his reasons for the desired admission.— They held a conversation with him on the scriptural authority for Presbytery, the duty of the civil magistrate in reference to religion, the extent of the atonement, and the work of the Holy Spirit. They also ascertained his course of professional study, in Classics, Philosophy, and Theology. Brethren present, having been intimately acquainted with Mr. Snell for six years, gave satisfactory testimony as to his ministerial character and efficiency. The Presbytery having been satisfied on all the foregoing points of inquiry, agreed to make the desired application to the Synod, and instructed their Clerk to write the usual circular letters to the Clerks of Presbyteries. Understanding that it is in the design of Mr. Snell to go within the bounds of the Presbytery of London, the Presbytery cordially recommended him to the brethren there, as one, whom, with the utmost propriety, they may immediately employ in the missionary field.

JAMES BOWIE, Pres. Clerk.

THE TORONTO CASE—REASONS OF COMPLAINT AND APPEAL.

TORONTO, April 19, 1856.

MR. EDITOR,—

You were kind enough, some time ago, to insert my reasons of "appeal" to the Synod. You would do me a great favor were you to insert in the May number, my reasons of "complaint" also; together with the names of those members of Knox's Church who adhere to the "appeal." I know I can only ask this as a favor, but, perhaps, in all the circumstances of the case, you may see it competent to grant it.

Mr. Editor, yours faithfully,

ROBT. BURNS.

Reasons of Protest and Complaint to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, against a sentence of the Presbytery of Toronto, by which the Regulations of 1706, regarding Presbyterial Visitations, were applied to a case which they were never intended to cover.

First, Because these Regulations, although adopted as an Overture, never received the sanction of the Church of Scotland as laws of the Church.

Second, Because this Presbytery has only of late resolved to enter on the work of Presbyterial Visitation, the rules for it having received its sanction at last meeting; and it does not seem meet to select as the first case, that of a minister and congregation so recently deprived of the benefits of an eldership.

Third, Because the constitutional law of Presbytery, requiring the case of a congregation without a Session, to be laid *instantly* before the Superior Court, in order to their supplying the want in the ordinary way, was promptly followed by me; and it was ungenerous as well as illegal to take advantage of this circumstance, to en-

graft on my communication to the Presbytery, a resolution for a sweeping review of my ministry for ten years past.

Fourth, Because, by placing me in the anomalous position of a party in this case, a most grievous injury has been done me, by depriving me at the very outset of the case, of all my deliberative and judicial rights.

Fifth, Because the resolution to go on in the face of my appeal, is at variance with all law, and subversive of all constitutional rights.

For these and for other reasons to be urged at the bar of the Superior Court when it meets, I protest and complain to the first meeting of the Synod of the Church, to be held at London, in June, 1856, or whosoever it may assemble.

ROBERT BURNS.

Toronto, C.W., 6th December, 1855

Reasons of Protest and Appeal from a Sentence of the Presbytery of Toronto, in the case of Knox's Congregation, Toronto, 12th Dec., 1855.

I protest and appeal to the Synod, 1. Because the sentence is not warranted by the evidence, and was pronounced without giving me a hearing.

2. Because no censure is pronounced on Messrs. McMurrich and Shaw for charging me with "dishonesty," although the Presbytery pronounced the charge unsupported by proof.

3. Because the Presbytery have given no directions to the Session how to act in the premises, but have hung up a matter in which so many feelings are interested, to an indefinite period.

For these and other reasons to be urged at the bar, I hereby protest and appeal to the Synod, to meet at London, in June, 1856, and crave extracts.

ROBERT BURNS.

We, whose names are appended, do concur with the above as parties and appellants:—James Johnston, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Dick, John Kerr, James Bain, Alexander Mason, Wm. Clyne, Robert Stewart, R. D. Macpherson, Wm. Gordon, Donald Campbell, William Hannah, George Oal, Thomas Mackay, George Mowat, Daniel Macdonald, James Macdonald, William Mather, James Dick, David Carlyle, Samuel Fullerton, James Grant, Donald Fraser, Norman Bain, Robert Wishart.

The above twenty-five persons are all in communion, and, with the exception of one, are all heads of families.—R. B.

[We shall also publish the answers to the above reasons, which, we presume, the Presbytery will in due time furnish.—EDITOR.]

MISSIONARY TOUR—ST. VINCENT, EUPHRASIA.

DEAR SIR,—

I send you a brief statement of my late Missionary tour to the North Western district of our Presbytery; hoping that the sympathies of those who enjoy the stated ministrations of the Word may be enlisted, and something done for a people in want of similar privileges.

Extent of the field. My nearest brother-minister to the North, through this district, is Mr. McKinnon, of Owen Sound, at a distance of 20 miles; and to occupy the quarter with profit to the people, would take at least, five ministers, stationed in the intervening townships of Caledon, Mono, Melancthon, Artemisia, Holland, Euphrasia, and St. Vincent. The population of the country is principally protestant; many of them Presbyterians, expecting from our Presbytery ministerial supply; but now destitute of the preached word for many months in succession. A child, in a family about to take possession of their new dwelling house, enquired where was the closet for private devotion; so a people when they settle in a new country should take into consideration the parties with whom they are to mix, and the importance of frequenting places where prayer would usually be made.