

Church as at present defined in her standards. The employment of the Rev. A. C. Geikie, by the Home Mission Committee, till he be formally received was sanctioned. The next business related to union\* with the U. P. Church, and of this we gave the report in our last No. It was agreed that a collection be made by all the congregations for the French Canadian Mission. An overture was presented by Elders in favour of the better support of the Ministry. The Synod approved and recommended Congregations to make increased efforts, and also to defray the expenses of Ministers and Elders attending Synod. An overture in favour of Colportage was presented. The Synod approved and recommended Presbyteries to introduce a system of Colportage in their bounds. A Committee was also appointed to mature a scheme for a Board of Publication and Colportage. On receiving the report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools, it was agreed that a Periodical suitable for Sabbath School Teachers and Scholars should be established. The Synod appointed a Committee to prepare a small Manual of discipline for the guidance of Church Courts. An overture was presented respecting the introduction of instrumental music in public worship. The Synod declared such music not to be permitted in the Church, and recommended the cultivation of vocal music. Committees on the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths, and on Sabbath Observance, were re-appointed. The Synod strongly disapproved of some parts of the Act for secularizing the Clergy Reserves, as perpetuating the evil. An overture and various papers on Intemperance were presented. The Synod recommended Ministers to give prominence to the subject in every competent way and petitioned the Legislature for a Prohibitory Law. The Synod approved of overtures for the establishment of Congregational Libraries, and for procuring books for Ministers on reasonable terms, and referred these subjects to Committees. After some other pieces of business of less public interest, the Synod having been addressed by the Moderator, adjourned to meet at London on the second Wednesday of June, 1856.

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#### SYNOD OF THE U. P. CHURCH, SCOTLAND.

We resume our report from page 183.. The Synod received all the applicants there named. On re-admitting the Rev. Alex. Rutherford, no longer a Morisonian, the Moderator said, "I have much pleasure in stating to you, in a public manner, that the prayer of your petition has been answered by this Church, that the sentence of suspension has been taken away, and that you are now restored to the full status of a minister in connection with it. Not only so, but this deed has been done unanimously, and not only unanimously, but in the most frank, hearty, and cordial manner. I think, Sir, that all of us who know you are satisfied that whatever errors you may have committed in connection with this subject, were errors of judgment, that you have been always honest and conscientious in the changes of opinion that have taken place; and for my own part, much as you have erred in this manner, I feel my heart warmed to see the full, frank, and cordial manner in which you have come forward and declared that, as an honest man, you have now changed your opinions, and wish to come back to the bosom of that Church from which you had been estranged. It does you much credit that you not only retracted your opinions, but had the manliness and moral courage to come forward and ask re-admission into that Church with which you were formerly connected."—An overture from the Presbytery of Paisley and Greenock was taken into consideration, proposing that the Synod should recommend ministers, elders, and members to use constitutional means for securing that Proclamations for Fast-days should be couched in terms less offensive than that lately issued, and more adapted to the circumstances of a free community. The Synod appointed a Committee to frame a minute strongly disapproving of such language as that of the late edict.—An overture was adopted, from the Presbytery of Kilmarnock, proposing that a committee should be appointed to devise and carry out some method for the more effective explanation and recommendation of the several schemes of the Church.—The Committee on the better Support of the Ministry, reported that they had visited a number of congregations, and corresponded with more, urging those which gave stipends under £150, with manse, to make an effort to raise that sum; also urging those whose stipends were under £120, to make additional efforts, and affording them supplement to that