

would most faithfully support their views.

He therefore would be willing to go still farther and change the law so that the election should take place within forty days after the meeting of Synod, instead of within two months after.

Rev. Mr. Muir, advanced the same views as Dr. Machar.

After a few words from Dr. McGill, which were imperfectly heard.

Dr. Mathieson said, there need be no difficulty in having the congregations represented, if the Ministers did their duty. They only required so distinctly to define the law, that all might understand precisely, what they had to do, and enjoin on Presbyteries to enforce the rules of the Synod. He thought great inconvenience would result from the adoption of Dr. Machar's proposition.

On a division being taken, the amendment was lost, and the original overture adopted.

On motion of Dr. Cook, the Presbytery of Quebec was revived, Three Rivers being added to its former bounds.

Mr. Sinclair being recommended by the Presbytery of Bathurst for examination, admission and ordination, and the petitions of the congregations of North and South Hants, to whom he had ministered for some time as a missionary, that he might be ordained their minister being submitted to the Synod, together with Mr. Sinclair's statement and application, was examined by the Committee, and the Presbytery instructed to admit him.

The Committee appointed for that purpose reported favourably on the proposition to appoint corresponding members to the Synods of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and recommended the appointment of the Rev. Dr. Mathieson and Rev. Professor George to Nova Scotia, and the Rev. Dr. McGill and Professor Weir to New Brunswick, and the Moderator (Rev. A. McKid), and Synod Clerk (Rev. A. Bell), as Alternates. The Report was adopted.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to Her Majesty reported.

Dr. Mathieson called the attention of the Synod to the fact, that there were eleven congregations, viz: two in the Presbytery of Hamilton, three in that of Toronto, five in that of Glengarry, and one in that of Montreal, needing Pastors provided for them, and recommended that the Moderator should be instructed to communicate with the Colonial Committee of the Church upon the subject. Three or four of these would require Gaelic preachers.

WEDNESDAY, 6th June, 1855,

The Synod met at 10 o'clock. The opening devotional services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Cleland.

An application to the Colonial Committee from the Congregation at Beech Ridge, Beauport, for aid to enlarge their Church, was admitted, approved, and recommended by the Synod.

The Report of the French Canadian Mission, under the charge of Mr. Charbonnel, was presented on behalf of the Presbytery of Montreal by the Rev. Dr. McGill, shewing considerable and gratifying progress in the work.

An increase of salary of the Missionary was recommended, and a grant of £100 for the purchase of globe land. Rev. Dr. McGill was appointed Convener of the Missionary Committee.

New Ramsay, W. Edmonstone, Jno. Green, and A. Morris, Esquires, were named as Standing Committee on the Property of the

Church, with corresponding members in the principal towns of the province.

After the transaction of some farther routine business—

The Reverend Moderator then closed the proceedings of the Session of the Synod with the following Address:—

The business of the Synod having come to a close, it is expected, that I address a few words to you before we separate, as is our practice.

Fathers and Brethren,—Allow me again to thank you for the honour conferred on me in unanimously electing me to preside over your deliberations on this occasion. In undertaking the highly responsible duties of the Moderator of this Assembly, I did so with hesitation, being fully aware of my own inability to perform the duties required of me in such a manner as to justify my choice. I have to tender you my most grateful thanks for the kind indulgence with which you have borne with my faults and failings; and I may be permitted to say that in whatever point I may have come short, it was my constant wish and endeavor to perform my duty conscientiously and impartially. With reference to the proceedings of the synod, permit me to say, that I trust the feeling which seemed to pervade every one, at our first meeting, on listening to the pathetic, solemn and Christian appeal of Dr. Mathieson, may be lasting. Sad and wide, indeed, was the breach that had been made by the hand of death in our number since the previous meeting—and need we wonder, then, that in accordance with the melancholy circumstances brought before us, a gloom should have been on our spirits—a feeling of our deep responsibility, and of our need of greater supplies of that grace which can alone fit us for the active duties of time, or the more solemn objects of eternity. I pray God that this feeling may produce lasting effects—that we may be not only four men in our various stations and relations,—needing not to be ashamed—but that in our character of ambassadors for Jesus, we may be filled with a double portion of that spirit, whereby our ministrations may be blessed to others, and our own souls given to us for a reward.—Discipline, although necessary for the purity and well being of the Church, is at all times painful to those who are engaged in the investigation. I think I am borne out in this observation by what has taken place during our present Session—painful was the nature of the evidence—distressing were the feelings displayed and difficult indeed was it for members to arrive at a satisfactory judgment—yet I trust that the judgment came to may, through the blessing of God, be as well for the welfare of the Church at large, as for the benefit of the congregation especially concerned, and that our erring brother may be brought to see the error of his way, and that by repentance and humility he may be restored to the status, from the duties of which he is now suspended, and be spared yet to be the instrument—in the hand of the Spirit—of much good to the Church.

The verbal report of Dr. Cook, with reference to the commutation of our interests, must have been heard with satisfaction by all. It has been an element in our Constitution, handed down to us by our reforming forefathers, that it was the duty of the State not only to watch over the general interests of religion, but also support its ministrations. The history of our Church, since its formation in this Province, now stands on the records of the country affording a lesson to all who choose to read it.

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We claimed our share of that provision which had been made for the support of the Established Churches in this Province. We obtained a share, though not the full share of what we were entitled to. Against this a Legislative enactment has been made, whereby the State cuts off all connection with the Church, but guarantees to incumbents their present allowances for their lives. I congratulate you, on the near prospect of a scheme being wrought out, whereby these allowances will be put beyond the reach of any more legislative enactments, and whereby a permanent fund shall be secured, through the liberality of a self-denial of the ministers.

Brotherly love and communion is, on all occasions most desirable and becoming our character and profession. I trust the appointment of the deputation to meet with our brethren in the Lower Provinces, at their synods, will be productive of much good and promote a permanent union of the Presbyterian body. So that, by this union, we may be able to form a General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in communion with the Church of Scotland in this Province. A scheme well worthy the attention of all, as being fraught with great advantages.

It is a matter of sincere pleasure to the Ministers of this Church, to find the subject of lay representation taken up so warmly as it has been, and I trust that the terms of the overture on that subject will not be lost sight of, and means will be found to secure a larger attendance of elders. When I mention that there are the names of seventy-two elders on the list of members, and that only six of these attended, it must be evident to every one, that it is time that something was done to remedy this evil.

In addressing my fathers and seniors, I feel it would be presumptuous in me to offer an advice, but I would merely say, that, from the experience you have had in the vineyard of our Lord, and having already borne the heat and burden of the day, I trust that now, in the evening of life, you may still be enabled vigorously to work out the work given you to do, and that in the gleaming time the clusters you gather may be not only ripe, but large and abundant, even as the clusters of Eschol.

To my brothers and equals I would say, that the work in the field of the world may, in many instances, have proved laborious, but what does our gracious master say to encourage us to persevere: "my grace is sufficient for you, and my strength will be perfected in the midst of your weakness." Let not your hands be weary in well doing, but may you see the work of the Lord prospering in your hands. Let not your hearts fail within you—he not dismayed—for the work, though arduous, is glorious. Do not despond because you cannot discern that success you would wish. Remember you are not called on to judge, but to labour. Though the portion of the field you labour in may appear rugged and unfruitful, and the seed you have scattered over it may not appear in that healthy and vigorous state you could wish remember the suitable exhortation which was addressed to us by my predecessor at the opening of the Synod—"A Paul may plant, and an Apollas may water; but it is God alone that can give the increase." You know not what refreshing influences the dews of the Spirit may yet have upon your labour;—it is only when the harvest shall have been completed, and the crop gathered into the garner, that the result will be known. Remember the Owner of the field requires none to work for nought. He will pay us our wages; and whilst