

hope that they may receive from Mr. Pollok, at least annually, some report of his labours under an appointment which is earnestly designed to forward the cause of theological education in the Lower Provinces among a people who are very dear to the mother Church of Scotland, and train up a faithful ministry of the Word of God for that and many lands.

*Extracted from the Minutes of the Colonial Committee by*

GEO. B. WILSON, *Secretary.*

At a Meeting of the Colonial Committee held at Edinburgh, the Seventeenth Day of November, Eighteen Hundred and Seventy-four :

*Inter alia, —*

The Convener laid on the table an Extract Minute of Meeting of the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, of date 22nd Oct., 1874, along with letters from the Rev. Robert McCunn, 29th Oct., 1874 and the Rev. G. M. Grant, 3rd Nov. 1874.

These documents having been read and considered, the Committee find—

1. That while deeply deploring the threatened division in the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, they have no authority on the part of the General Assembly, even if they were sufficiently informed in regard to the elements involved in the question, to judge their brethren as to the painful issue of their negotiations for union.

2. That the Colonial Committee exists for the purpose of *promoting the religious interests of Scottish Presbyterians abroad* who apply to them for assistance; and that the progress of their operations as a Committee, with the full approbation of the General Assembly, supplies ample precedents to support them in meeting the peculiar circumstances in which their assistance is now asked by their brethren in the Maritime Provinces.

3. That, while expressing no opinion on the steps which have led to the present position of affairs, the immediate duty of the Colonial Committee seems to them to be to accept the situation as it stands in these Provinces, and under the shelter of precedents in their practice, which have received sanction from the Supreme Court, to proceed as best they can to carry out the great purpose of their commission from the General Assembly.

4. That the Committee have therefore no difficulty, on the one hand, in frankly accepting and recognizing the continued adhesion to the Church of Scotland of those congregations in Pictou who have not been

able to follow their brethren into an incorporating union with the other Presbyterian Churches in the colony; while, on the other hand, they have just as little difficulty in preparing for cordial coöperation, in any way possible to them, with Churches anywhere in Canada, as in all the Colonies, united upon a basis satisfactory to the General Assembly.

5. That, with regard to the special object of coöperation referred to in the extract deliverance of Synod transmitted by Mr. Grant, the Colonial Committee, in full accord with the deliberate judgment of our brethren in Canada, have for some years past fairly entered upon a policy of encouragement to the rearing in the Colonies of their own ministry, and of discouragement to the sending of their students to Scotland, or elsewhere, for preparatory education; and nothing that has yet happened has put the wisdom of that policy in question. In pursuance of that policy, the Committee had resolved to meet advances made to them, on the *unanimous* vote of the Synod of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland, for coöperation with the sister Presbyterian Church in these Provinces in their Theological Hall in Halifax, by nominating, and contributing, for a time, to support in that Hall a Professor of Church History and Pastoral Theology. The Committee further nominated to that Professorship the Rev. Allan Pollok, whom now they learn, with lively satisfaction, the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, by *another unanimous vote*, had resolved to recommend to them for the appointment. And, in view of all these facts, the Colonial Committee are very unwilling to believe that anything has occurred which need even seriously embarrass, far less effectually prevent, the carrying out of plans carefully laid in the lines of a policy which our brethren in Canada have themselves so cordially approved.

In consideration of the above findings, the Committee further resolve, by extracts of this minute transmitted as their reply to the several communications quoted above, to entreat all the parties concerned in this negotiation with them to "follow after the things that make for peace;" so that there may forever be cherished sentiments of mutual respect and confidence which shall make it easy for them cordially to coöperate with one another, and with the Colonial Committee, in the work they would attempt for the spiritual welfare of Scottish Presbyterians in Canada.

*Extracted from the Minutes of the Colonial Committee by*

GEO. B. WILSON, *Secretary.*