

while conducted with freedom, were characterized by good feeling and a spirit of harmony and forbearance. In the course of the session, the Synod on three different occasions held a conference on the state of religion, and the feeling of all the brethren was that the time was well spent. Several brethren gave interesting details of religious revival in their congregations, and others, in whose fields of labour no special movement had taken place, joined in the conference, and gave the results of their observation and experience as to the progress of religion. An able report was presented by Mr. M'Tavish, the Convener of the Committee on the State of Religion, and a Committee was appointed to draw up a minute as the result of the whole. We call attention to this minute, which will be found in another column.

One feature of great interest, and almost new in the Church, was the appearance of so many deputies from other Churches. We had the Rev. Donald Fraser, formerly one of our own ministers, as a representative of the Free Church of Scotland, and in addition we had three delegates from the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and one each from the Old School Church, the Reformed Church in America, and the United Presbyterian Church in North America. The eloquent addresses of these delegates added largely to the interest of the meeting.

We were struck with the large attendance of the members and friends of the Church at the various diets. The church in which the Synod met was crowded almost every evening, and not a few were in attendance at other times. We rejoice to mark the growing interest taken by the people in the proceedings of the Supreme Court.

The Synod recently held is, in a double sense, the last Synod. It will not meet again as the Supreme Court of the Canada Presbyterian Church. Henceforth the General Assembly, consisting of representatives of the several Presbyteries, will be the Supreme Court. We are thus advancing and rising to a higher degree of ecclesiastical organization. We trust that this outward progress will be marked by a corresponding advancement in inward life and power, and that our Church will not only rise to a higher degree of external organization, but to a higher degree of spiritual prosperity and activity.

We give the following synopsis of the proceedings of Synod:—

#### OPENING OF SYNOD.

The opening sermon was preached by the retiring Moderator, Rev. A. Topp, from Isaiah lxii: 6.—“I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the Lord keep not silence.” The sermon was earnest and powerful, full of gospel truth, forcibly stated, and earnestly urged on the minds and hearts of the hearers. For the manner in which Mr. Topp had discharged all the duties of Moderator, he received the warm thanks of the Synod. On proceeding to the election of a Moderator, it was found that the Presbyteries had, with almost entire unanimity, nominated the Rev. Dr. Ormiston, of Central Church, Hamilton. Dr. Ormiston was accordingly declared duly elected, and in taking the chair briefly and in very appropriate and happy terms addressed the Synod.

From the Rolls and the Reports from the several Presbyteries of the Church it appeared that there were on the Synod Roll 295 ministers,—that during the year three ministers had died, viz., Rev. T. Henry, of Lachute; Rev. George Riddell, of Newtonville and Newcastle, and Rev. G. Murray, of