

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

An ordinary meeting of this court was held in St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, on Wednesday the 3rd day of August.

There were present the Revds. Frederick P. Sym, Moderator, Dr. Mathieson, Dr. Muir, William Simpson, Alexander Wallace, B.A., James T. Paul, John McDonald, William Snodgrass, James Patterson and John Moffat, ministers.

Elder's commissions having been called for, there were read and sustained commissions in favor of Alexander Morris M.A. from St. Andrew's Church Montreal; Daniel McDougald, George Town; Thos. Allan, Lachine; Hugh McLeod, Beechridge; Donald A. Livingstone, M.D., Russelltown; John Greenshields, St. Paul's Montreal, and Frederick S. Verity, M.D., Hemmingford. Messrs. Daniel McDougald, Thomas Allan, Hugh McLeod and Donald A. Livingstone, M.D., being present, took their seats as members of court. The clerk is ordered to write to such sessions as have not made returns of representative Elders, instructing them to do so before next meeting of Presbytery.

The Rev. William Snodgrass of St. Paul's, Montreal, was chosen Moderator for the ensuing year. Mr. Snodgrass being present took the chair accordingly.

The Rev. William H. C. Clark of Middleville in the Presbytery of Bathurst being present, was invited by the court to take part in the deliberations of this meeting.

After several other matters of business arising out of the minutes of last meeting were disposed of, Mr. Snodgrass gave satisfactory reasons for delaying in the meantime his motion anent the formation of a Presbyterian Church Society.

There was read a letter from the Secretary of the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, granting the sum of £30 stg. for one year, to aid the Beauharnois Congregation in the maintenance of religious ordinances. This is but one of several similar benefits conferred by this committee upon weak and struggling congregations within the bounds of this Presbytery.

A letter was read from the Congregation of Dundee, praying the Presbytery to take steps to have the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, dispensed to them on the last Sabbath of September. The Presbytery find it inconvenient to make arrangements for that day: but appoint Mr. McDonald of Beechridge, and Mr. Patterson of Hemmingford, to proceed to Dundee and make the necessary arrangements for dispensing this sacred ordinance on the first Sabbath of October, and instruct Mr. Patterson to attend to the election of a representative elder for that congregation.

There was laid upon the table and read a petition from the Elder's Trustees and Temporalities Board of the Congregation at Hemmingford to the Colonial Committee

of the Church of Scotland, praying for a renewal of last year's grant, also a letter from F. S. Verity, M.D., in name of the petitioners, desiring the Presbytery to transmit the petition with a recommendation to the Colonial Committee to grant the prayer of the same. The Presbytery unanimously agree to forward the petition, certify the facts thereof, and hope that the committee may grant the prayer of the petitioners, and instruct the clerk to transmit an extract of this minute to the secretary of Colonial Committee along with the petition.

The Rev. John Rannie read a report of his missionary labours within the bounds of the Presbytery since last meeting, which was sustained as highly satisfactory.

Then was produced and read an extract minute of the Presbytery of London, accompanying a call and relative documents from the congregation of Chatham, C.W., in favor of the Rev. John Rannie missionary within the bounds of this Presbytery. Mr. Rannie having signified his intention to accept the same when duly presented to him, and having asked to be transferred to within the bounds of the Presbytery of London, the Presbytery agree to grant him a letter of transference in due form.

Mr. John Livingstone, B.A., student of Divinity, as directed by the Presbytery at their *pro re nata* meeting at Hemmingford, on the 24th of June, now appeared to be taken on trials for license. He delivered his trial discourses, appointed at said meeting, and was catechetically examined in Divinity and church history, and in the Greek and Hebrew languages. The Presbytery being alone, unanimously agreed upon a conjunct view of the whole trials to sustain the same as most satisfactory, and to license him accordingly to preach the Gospel. The usual questions were put to Mr. Livingstone, to which he gave satisfactory answers and declared his willingness to sign the usual formula, by all which he came under the engagements to the doctrine, worship, discipline and presbyterian government of the church, contained in the said questions and formula. Whereupon Mr. Livingstone having been suitably addressed by the Moderator, was licensed to preach the Gospel of Christ, and to exercise his gifts as a probationer for the holy ministry, and the clerk is instructed to give him an extract of license accordingly.

Dr. Mathieson memorialised the Presbytery to take the usual steps necessary towards the ordination of probationers in the case of the Rev. H. Story, licentiate of the Church of Scotland, at present acting as assistant in St. Andrew's Church, Montreal.

The Presbytery agree to grant the prayer of this memorial, instruct the Moderator to prescribe trial discourses to Mr. Story, and appoint a special meeting of Presbytery to be held in that place, on the first Wednes-

day of September, at 10 o'clock A.M., for the purpose of taking Mr. Story on trials for ordination.

Mr. Hay reported as to the performance of the missionary appointment given him at last meeting. He requested and obtained leave of absence for 4 weeks, to supply a vacancy in the Presbytery of Glengarry, and was appointed to proceed thence to Hawkesbury and Grenville, till the first Wednesday of November.

There was read a petition from Oak Creek, townships of Elgin and Godmanchester, county of Huntingdon, representing the past history and present condition of the inhabitants of that district, amongst other interesting facts, that they had recently completed a neat and substantial stone church, and now desiring to be erected into a congregation, in connection with the Church of Scotland, to have such supply in the meantime as the Presbytery can afford, and to have such steps taken as may lead to the speedy settlement of a minister among them.

The Presbytery unanimously agree to record their high satisfaction at the intelligence conveyed by this document, express their earnest wish to encourage the memorialists in the good work they have entered upon, hold out to them the hope of being organised into a congregation, request Mr. Wallace of Huntingdon to draw up a concise and particular statement of the case, transmit it to the clerk and order the clerk to transmit a copy of it to the Colonial Committee, accompanied by a statement of such other spiritual destitution as exists within the bounds of the Presbytery; and solicit the Committee to appoint another missionary to labour within the bounds of this Presbytery.

The clerk submitted his account of the Presbytery fund which was examined and passed.

The Moderator laid upon the table a copy of the printed Synod minutes.

Some of the members having left, the Presbytery delayed the enquiry as to the taking up of a collection on behalf of the Jewish Mission Fund, till next ordinary meeting, which was appointed to be in this place on the first Wednesday of November next.

SYNOD MINUTES.

The Synod Minutes have been printed and issued. Parcels of copies have been sent to Ministers for distribution among the members of sessions. Irregularities and omissions reported to the Clerk will be attended to. The minutes are neatly printed by Mr. Lovell, and, considering the quantity and kind of proof-reading required for such a production, the mistakes are few, and, with one exception, of a trifling nature. The exception referred to is the omission of Dr. George's name from the list of Professors of Queen's College. This has happened inadvertently, and was not noticed until pointed out by a correspondent.