

fatal, of the late esteemed Rev. John McLaurin, of Martintown. We sympathise with his large and attached congregation in this painful and so unexpected a bereavement. As doubtless we shall be furnished with further particulars, we abstain from the comments which respect would dictate.

## MEETINGS OF PROVINCIAL SYNODS.

Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, on the last Wednesday (the 30th) of May, 1855, at Montreal.

Synod of the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia on the first Tuesday (the 3rd) of July, 1855, at Halifax.

Synod of the Church of Scotland in New Brunswick on the third Thursday (the 16th) of August, 1855, at St. Johns.

## LIFE INSURANCE.

As a means of providing for the families of Ministers.

We have already on previous occasions referred to this important subject. Experience has abundantly established the benefits accruing from the system of Life Insurance, now so firmly established. It encountered at first many prejudices, but these have yielded to its manifest utility, necessity and real worth. Our intention is not, however, at present to enlarge upon the general advantages of Life Insurances, but especially to call the attention of congregations to the opportunity it affords of securing some provision to the widow and family of their ministers in case of their removal by death. Situated as ministers are, it is generally impossible for them to secure the leaving out of their narrow incomes anything for the after-support of their families. The Ministry as a class, and we speak of other bodies as well as of our own, receive far smaller stipends than can be obtained by the members of any other profession or calling in this Province: this should not be so, but still the fact is incontestable that it is so. Now it would relieve the mind of the Clergyman of much natural anxiety if he knew that by the liberality of his people a certain provision, in addition to the small sum afforded by the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, was secured for his family in the event of his being called away from the scenes of his labours by death. We are aware that in some of our congregations this is already done, and we commend the subject to the serious consideration of our people. We may revert to it on a future occasion, developing and explaining our views more fully, and illustrating them with a statement of the mode and cost of such assurances.

## LADIES' MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, KINGSTON.

For some years a Missionary Association has been maintained at Kingston, C. W., by the exertions of the ladies of St. An-

drew's Congregation there, and through the instrumentality of its former missionaries, the Revs. Messrs. Mowat and Morrison, was successful and useful. We are glad to notice, from the ensuing statement recently issued by them, that the Association is not relaxing its exertions, but is still endeavouring to occupy a waste field of the Vineyard. We trust that a blessing from on high will attend and own these efforts, and that the ladies of Kingston may be encouraged to persevere in this good work, and be permitted to behold the bread, scattered upon the waters, found again after many days. We always look upon such Missionary efforts as a pleasing evidence of Christian vitality, and as an acknowledgement of a plain Christian duty which is incumbent upon us all.

The following brief statement, embracing Resolutions which were passed at a meeting of the Ladies of the Church convened by notice from the pulpit, is presented to the Congregation with the view of enlisting their aid in maintaining a Catechist upon Wolfe Island.

It is believed that the circumstances of the case which has called forth this effort on the part of the Church are too well known to require lengthened explanation. A large island, containing a population of several hundreds, and entirely destitute of religious ordinances, or of the means of a Christian education, presents at our own doors the interesting but melancholy spectacle of a "Mission Field." Within sight of our homes, almost within sound of our Sabbath bells, are many who are debarred from the enjoyment of those sacred privileges which we so highly prize. As a natural result, irreligion has taken deep hold of the population, Sabbath desecration prevails, and the young, entirely without religious teaching and influences, are growing up in ignorance of all Sacred Truth.

With the view of endeavouring in some measure to provide for the exigencies of the case, a meeting of Ladies was held on the 24th January in Miss Fisher's School-house, Queen Street, the Rev. Dr. Machar in the chair. The plan of maintaining a Catechist or Scripture Reader upon Wolfe Island during the summer months having met with the cordial approval of the meeting, the following Resolutions were unanimously passed for the purpose of facilitating and systematizing the efforts which might be made to provide support by holding monthly sales of needlework.

"RESOLVED, 1st.—That every lady who undertakes to attend the sales, or to supply work, will be expected to do so, otherwise it will cause trouble and disappointment."

"RESOLVED, 2nd.—That on sending work for sale—to save trouble to those selling—the name of the worker and the price of the article be plainly written on one side of the ticket, and on the other the cost of the materials, that it may be refunded, otherwise it will be considered as a donation."

"RESOLVED, 3rd.—That the sales be held on the last Monday of every month, to avoid interfering with other Societies."

"RESOLVED, 4th.—That the following Ladies form a Committee to conduct the sales, and to make all necessary arrangements, viz:—Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. J. A. Macpherson, Mrs. Hopkirk, Mrs. Heath, Mrs. S. Strange, Mrs. J. Fraser, Mrs. G. Mowat, Mrs. George, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Kerr, Miss Gray, Miss Gardner, Miss Logie, Miss George."

"RESOLVED, 5th.—That those, whose duties do not permit them to aid the undertaking in the shape of work, be requested to give it their countenance and aid in such ways as may be practicable for them, and that, seeing it is of God to prosper this work, all unite in seeking His bless-

ing both upon the labours of the Catechist, and upon the exertions of the Association for his support."

To the above it may be added, that the work has been commenced. A Student of Queen's College, having a knowledge of the Gaelic language, which will give him access to many of the Scotch settlers on the Island, has undertaken the duty of Catechist. His first effort was to open a Sabbath School, and at this not less than 50 children were in attendance on the first day.

May the blessing of God rest upon these humble endeavours in His service, and may the seed thus sown be abundantly watered. While we give of our substance or of the labour of our hands to aid in the work, let our prayers also ascend at the Throne of Grace, ever bearing in mind that God alone giveth the increase.

KINGSTON, 17th February, 1855.

"The Synod, having heard the statements of the Honorable John Hargilton and the Rev. Professor George, a deputation of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Queen's College to represent to the Synod the claims of that Institution upon our Church, record their satisfaction with the representations that have been made respecting its condition and prospects generally, and in particular with the purchase of the Summerhill Property in the City of Kingston on terms so favourable, having on it buildings for all the purposes of the College for a long time to come; and the Synod, in compliance with the request made by the deputation to assist the Trustees of the College to raise the sum of £6000, the purchase-price of the property acquired, the Synod agree to recommend to all the congregations within their bounds to exercise their largest liberality in this behalf; and the deputation having stated that, if the Synod gave their sanction, it was the intention of the Trustees to send out some of the Professors in the course of the present summer to solicit contributions to pay the purchase-price of the property acquired, the Synod agree to recommend, and hereby do recommend, to Presbyteries, as soon as these Professors shall have come within their bounds, to appoint two Clergymen and two Laymen to act with them and assist them in their object, viz: to collect, as far as may be in their power, the unpaid subscriptions, and to obtain new subscriptions; and further the Synod recommend, in the conducting of this business, that the deputation appointed, before attempting to canvass within the bounds of any congregation for subscriptions, shall previously obtain the full consent of the minister, elders and temporal managers of said congregation; and further the Synod recommend that the Trustees do publish, on their part, a full exposé of the funds, plans, and prospects of the University; and, on the part of the Synod, the Synod authorise their Moderator to publish a pastoral letter in their name, enforcing on our people the duty of sustaining and extending this Institution, founded originally by their liberality; and further, should the deputation from the College deem it expedient to proceed to the Lower Provinces in the furtherance of their object, the Moderator is authorised to write, in the name of the Synod, a fraternal letter to the ministers and congregations there, requesting their cordial co-operation and effective aid; and finally the Synod recommend to the brethren who shall be engaged in this work to use their best exertions to stir up parents, possessing the means, to confer upon their sons that higher education which Queen's College was founded to give, and to consecrate to the work of the Ministry such of them as afford favourable indications of piety and talents, that the main design of this Institution may be secured, the preparation of young men for the Ministry of our Church.

A CALL.—The Rev. G. D. Ferguson has received a very unanimously signed call from the Presbyterians of our town. He is the son of Archibald Ferguson, Esq., of Montreal, well-known as one of the first proprietors and founders of the Montreal Herald. We have seen the plans of a very handsome Presbyterian Church, which is to be erected this summer on a site in Hart Street.—*Three Rivers Inquirer*, March 31.