

and Synod Fund, \$100 being charged to each fund annually, until the debt be discharged.

APPEALS, ETC.

There were several appeals from the inferior courts before the Synod. The 1st. was one by Mr. Silver, against a decision of the Presbytery of Paris. The case was referred to a committee on whose report the Synod dismissed the appeal and sustained the action of the Presbytery. The 2nd. was an appeal by the widow McLean against a finding of the Presbytery of Guelph, in a matter of discipline. This case was also referred to a committee, on whose report the Synod adopted a deliverance in which all parties acquiesced. The 3rd. was an appeal of Mr. J. Cunningham, for a decision of the Presbytery of London, in the matter of suspension from the membership of the church, by the Kirk Session of New Glasgow and Kintyre, on account of marriage with a deceased wife's sister. After lengthened discussion, the previous question was moved and carried in the affirmative. The vote being taken, the Synod, by a vote of 138 to 5, dismissed the appeal, and affirmed the decision of the Presbytery. The 4th case was a dissent and complaint of Rev. J. Anderson, and others, against a decision of the Presbytery of Montreal, on the report of a committee of Presbytery appointed to confer with the Kirk Session of Knox's Church, Montreal, in regard to a musical instrument employed in the service of public praise in said church. Papers were read, and parties heard at length. Two motions were submitted to the synod—the 1st. to dismiss the complaint, and sustain the decision of the Presbytery. The 2nd. was to sustain the complaint, and reverse the decision of the Presbytery, in so far as it expressed regret at the proceedings of the committee appointed to confer with the Kirk Session of Knox's Church. The second motion was carried.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC IN PUBLIC WORSHIP.

On the afternoon of Friday, 7th., the synod took up an overture and memorial from Knox's Church, Montreal, to the effect that the synod grant liberty, to such congregations as may wish the same, to employ the aid of instrumental music in conducting divine worship in their churches. A deputation from Knox's Church, Montreal, consisting of Mr. A. McGibbon, Mr. W. D. McLaren, and Mr. James Brown, appeared, and were heard in support of the memorial and overture. Several motions were submitted: Mr. Clark, of Quebec, seconded by Mr. Watson, moved in substance that, "permission be granted, meanwhile, to congregations who desired to use an instrument, to do so, with instructions to use only plain and grave tunes; and that the opinions of the Presbyteries be had, during the year, on the general question."

It was moved in amendment by Mr. John McLachlan, seconded by Mr. John Ross, that the Synod desires the overture, and enjoin the Kirk Session and congregation of Knox's Church, Montreal, to conduct divine worship agreeably to the law and usages of this church.

It was moved further by Mr. Cochrane, seconded by Mr. Inglis, that the memorial be sent down to Presbyteries for their consideration till next meeting of Synod, and that meanwhile an interim act be passed permitting the use of organs in churches where they are desired. The motion included a draft of the proposed act authorizing Presbyteries on petition from congregations to consider the matter and decide as to the use of instrumental music, the decision of the Presbytery to be absolute until and unless reversed by the Synod.

It was moved by Mr. Waters, seconded by Mr. Hall, that the Synod while recognizing the importance of the subject and the necessity for