

ing and important information relative to the Church at home and in the colonies, for which the people were grateful, and which ministers must be delighted to have in circulation. Already it had greatly strengthened their hands and advanced their cause. The people could speak on matters of which before they knew little or nothing. It had awakened new feelings of interest and attachment. It enabled them, to some extent, to meet the unfounded charges of weakness and inefficiency, to see how false were the rash predictions, put forth, so busily by the enemies of the Church a few years ago. He was sure there exists but one feeling of gratitude to the gentlemen in Halifax, who had so cheerfully consented to undertake the pecuniary responsibility attending its publication, but one feeling of approbation of the excellent and laborious services rendered by the editors, but one feeling of duty on the part of members of this court with reference to its more extensive circulation and to their more combined support of it. The manner in which the printing had been executed, and the form in which it appeared were also in the highest degree creditable. He would move the following resolutions:

1. That the thanks of the Synod be tendered, and they are hereby unanimously tendered to those gentlemen in Halifax, who have so kindly and cheerfully stepped forward, and taken upon themselves the pecuniary responsibilities involved in the originating and maintaining of the Monthly Record for the current year.

2. That the thanks of the Synod be tendered to Messrs. Martin and Sprout, the Editors of the Monthly Record, for their excellent and laborious services.

3. That this Synod recognize and declare "The Monthly Record of the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia, and the adjoining Provinces," to be the organ of the Church of Scotland in the Provinces under their ecclesiastical jurisdiction.

4. That the Synod strongly urges the members of this court to give all diligence, in communicating original articles and matters of interesting intelligence, and recommend the same duty to such of the laity as can possibly fulfil it.

5. The Synod is pledged, individually and collectively to increase the circulation of the Monthly Record. These resolutions were seconded by Mr. MacGillivray, who spoke of, the extent to which it was circulated in his congregation, of the good it had effected during the short period of its existence, and of the interest with which the people looked for each succeeding number. Almost every member spoke in similar terms, several of them giving interesting statements connected with its brief history, and a variety of suggestions as to the means which might be adopted to increase its circulation. It was plainly implied in all that was said that the court should not rest satisfied with the bare point of success which had been reached, but that a higher and a higher degree of success should be aimed at.

The resolutions were put and passed unanimously. The clerk was instructed to communicate the action taken in this matter to the Committee of management. The Moderator, on motion, left the chair, when the ex-Moderator, in the name and by the order of the court, tendered to Messrs. Martin and Sprout, the vote of thanks passed in terms of the second resolution, which those gentlemen suitably acknowledged. The Moderator having resumed his seat, the Synod adjourned to meet in this place this evening at six o'clock, of which

public intimation was made and that sederunt closed with prayer.

Evening Sederunt.

The Synod met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted. Sederunt as before. The minutes of last sederunt were read, and after some remarks sustained.

APPEAL TO STUDENTS OF DIVINITY IN SCOTLAND.

The overture on this subject, praying the Synod to take steps to furnish the members of the Missionary Societies in connection with the different Universities in Scotland, with information on the spiritual destitution prevailing within the bounds of the Synod, was introduced and supported by the clerk. He said that last year the Synod had appealed to licentiates of the Church in Scotland, he would ask them to go a step further back this year and appeal to the students of divinity in connection with the Church. The most of his brethren were aware that in each University there is a Missionary Society, the members of which laid themselves open to the reception of such information as he would desire to send them. And were this communicated to them before they had formed any particular ties with the home country, were a proper representation of the many vacancies in these Provinces placed in their hands before they had connected themselves with congregations in Scotland, he could not but hope that their attention would be directed to the field here in such a way as to lead to the services of some of them being ultimately secured, under the auspices of the Colonial Committee. He would, therefore, move the appointment of a committee to draw up an appeal of the nature he had referred to, and to despatch a copy, at whatever time might appear to the committee the most suitable, to be laid before each of the University Missionary Societies in connection with the Church. This motion being seconded by Dr. Avery, and having passed unanimously, the Synod appointed a committee, in terms thereof, consisting of the Moderator, Messrs. MacGillivray, Pollock, McLean, and MacKay.

OVERTURE ON STATISTICS.

This was an overture introduced by Mr. Snodgrass, praying the Synod to take steps to procure from year to year, statistics in regard both of temporal and spiritual matters, connected with the several churches, congregations, and stations within their bounds. He spoke at some length on the necessity and the advantage of statistics furnished annually to this court. It is by a suitable collection of these, that a history of the Church may be best obtained and preserved, that the state of religion in different localities may be known, that the rise and progress of congregations may be traced; that grounds for reasonable deliberation and action by the superior courts may be furnished. Congregations may be expected to supply what is wanting in their organization, to correct what is wrong. Those that are strong will be taught in what respects they may sympathize with, and assist them that are weak. A salutary influence will be diffused throughout the Church, existing organizations will become more perfect, new schemes will be called into operation, old schemes will become more prosperous. The labours of ministers will be better directed, the liberality and zeal of the people will flow in more appropriate channels. Mr. Snodgrass was not prepared to say what course he would recommend the Synod to adopt, but solicited members to express their views. An interesting

and protracted discussion ensued. At length Mr. Sprout moved, that the Synod approve of the overture, and appoint the Moderator, Messrs. Scott, Pollock, and MacKenzie,—Mr. Pollock to be Convener,—a committee to prepare schedules, and suggest such other means as to them may seem advisable for the attainment of this object. The committee to submit the same to this meeting of Synod, at a subsequent sederunt. This motion was seconded by Dr. Avery, and passed unanimously.

OVERTURE ON GAELIC DEPUTATIONS.

At the request of the clerk the court consented to depart a little from the order of business in reference to the overture, and proceeded to the consideration of an overture on the above subject introduced and supported by Mr. Sprout. He explained the object of the overture to be to meet, temporarily, the destitution of religious ordinances prevailing in a great and lamentable extent among the Gaelic population within the bounds of the Synod. Many congregations had long been without ministers and were still vacant. Their two or three Gaelic ministers gave services, each of them, to more than one congregation, and even under this arrangement, there were others, who could be visited and ministered to, but very seldom indeed. It became a matter of great concern to the Church, what should be done in the meantime. These congregations could not be overlooked without serious harm to the Mission of the Church and the cause of religion. He referred to the good which had been effected by previous deputations even during their very brief sojourn in these Provinces, and he thought that a Gaelic Deputation or Deputations sent out by the Colonial Committee and labouring for a few months under the direction of the church courts would be the means of accomplishing much in behalf of the church. Their movements could be better directed now than formerly, they could minister on successive Sabbaths to the same congregation. He believed there could easily be found, two or three ordained Gaelic clergymen in Scotland, who would most willingly entrust their charges for a few months to the Presbyteries, and come here under the auspices of the Colonial Committee. As to the expense that would be very much less than any previous Deputation, for, labouring in a more limited sphere their travelling expenses would come to very little. Once in the country, he was sure, the people would relieve them of their charges. And, he doubted not, their expense in coming to the country, would be most cheerfully refunded to the Colonial Committee. The plan at all events was worthy of a trial. He would propose, that a committee consisting of Messrs. Herdman, Sprout, McLean, and MacKenzie, be appointed to prepare an appeal to the Colonial Committee on the subject of the overture, the committee to submit their appeal for the approval of the Synod at a subsequent sederunt.

Mr. Snodgrass, thought the plan just proposed was most admirable and well-timed, and could not but feel it had in itself the very important element of success. He seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

OVERTURE ON VACANCIES.

This overture was introduced and briefly supported by the clerk. The object of it, he said, was simply this—to furnish without delay a complete list of the vacancies within the bounds of the Synod for the guidance and direction of applicants to the Colonial Committee. He had reason to know that such a list had been inquired for but could not be given, and missionary's applying for com-