

It was moved by Mr. McLaren, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having taken into consideration the subject of Deeding the College property, declare in favour of a deed which secures the property to the principles of our church as at present defined in the Standards of this body, the property to be held by Trustees, elected annually by the Synod.

It was agreed that the two last motions should be put to the house against each other, which having been done, a majority supported the motion made by Mr. McLaren.

The first motion viz: that made by Dr. Burns, and that by Mr. McLaren, were then put to the house, when 39 voted for Mr. McLaren's motion, and 20 for Dr. Burns' motion.

Mr. McLaren's motion was then declared to be carried, and in accordance with it, the Synod re-appointed the Committee, instructing them to obtain a Deed in accordance with the motion now passed, and, on obtaining such a deed, to proceed to receive donations and subscriptions, and to obtain suitable plans and estimates, the result to be submitted to next Synod, or if the Committee choose, to a meeting to be specially called.

At the following diet, it was, on motion made and seconded, unanimously

**Resolved**—That in the appointment of Trustees for holding the College property, according to the motion passed at last sederunt, the second resolution adopted at the special meeting in November last be retained, to the extent that each congregation shall elect an individual, being a member of the Church, and transmit the name of such person to the Clerk of Synod, on or before the 1st June, and that from the individuals thus chosen by the congregations the Synod shall appoint Trustees.

On an application from the Presbytery of Toronto, the Synod agreed to sanction the employment of Rev. A. C. Geikie, under the direction of the Home Mission Committee, until he shall be formally received as a minister of this Church.

The Synod entered into a discussion on the subject of Union with the United Presbyterian Church. The Report of the Committee on Union, and various petitions from congregations, on the same subject, were read.

The following motions were submitted:—

It was moved by Mr. John Ross, and duly seconded,

That the Synod believing that it is its duty to welcome a friendly conference with brethren holding forth to us the hand of fellowship, and at one with us regarding the grand truths of the Gospel, and the order of the house of God, although differing from us on other points which we deem of importance as belonging to the constitution of this Church, and believing farther that such conference would tend to remove mutual misapprehensions and to promote that harmony of sentiment and affection which might in due time lead to a lasting union, appoint a Committee to confer with any Committee appointed, or that may be appointed by our brethren of the United Presbyterian Church, on the subject of Union.

It was moved by Mr. Laing, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having heard the report of the Committee on Union, with the United Presbyterian Church, and petitions on the same subject, express their deep regret that owing to a misunderstanding of the deliverance of this Synod last year, the Committee of the two bodies were

prevented from meeting, and thus understanding more perfectly the position of each; and, being extremely desirous to come to a more thorough understanding of that position, declare it as their conviction that the principal if not the only hindrance to Union is, that this Synod consider it the imperative duty of nations and magistrates in their public and representative capacity to legislate and rule in subjection to the authority, and in accordance with the dictates of revelation, where these are known,—yet appoint a Committee to confer with the Church, if they agree to such conference, and in the meantime tender to them their fraternal regards, and recommend friendly intercourse and interchange of good offices between the ministers and office-bearers of the two communions.

It was moved by Dr. Burns, and seconded,—

That the Synod deeply regret the circumstances which have hitherto kept asunder two bodies so nearly at one, on great principles, as the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and the United Presbyterian Church; and the members of this Synod cannot but cherish just alarm, lest errors of a dangerous character, regarding the nature of Christ's supremacy over the nations, and the responsibility of nations, as such, for the manner in which they deal with the written revelation of God, have made serious inroads among the Ministers and Members of the Church in these lands. The Synod appoint a Select Committee to draw up, and print in the *Record*, a short and well digested declaration of principles as held in the standards of the Church, in opposition to those now avowed through the accredited organs of the United Presbyterian Church, and the same Committee shall hold conference when desired with brethren of other churches who may harmonize with us in sentiment on such vital matters, and farther, that this Committee shall be required from time to time to vindicate from misrepresentation the doctrine really held by this Church in its accredited standards, and in the belief and practice of its members.

The vote being called for, the second and third motions were put against each other, when the second carried by a majority. The first and second having been then put to the house, 22 voted for the first, and 33 for the second,—viz: that moved by Mr. Laing, which was accordingly declared to be carried.

The Committee was appointed as follows,—viz: the Moderator, Dr. Burns; Messrs. Ure, Laing, Ross, McLaren, Inglis and Duncan, Ministers; and Messrs. Heron, Young, and Fisher, of Hamilton, Elders; Mr. Ure, Convener. Closed with prayer.

On the evening of Tuesday, the Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was taken up; when it was moved, seconded, and agreed,

That the same be received, and the thanks of the Synod given to the Convener and Committee; that the Synod express their regret that the Committee have been unable to secure Missionaries to go out to the foreign field; that the Committee be re-appointed, with instructions to keep the claims of Foreign Missions before the members of the Synod, through the pages of the *Record*. The Synod further authorised the Committee to employ one or more of those Missionaries already in the field of India, who may be found suitable, until such time as they can obtain men from Canada, who may be found suitable and willing to undertake the work.

The Rev. Mr. Tanner afterwards addressed the Synod on the progress, position and claims of the French Canadian Missionary Society.—The following motion was adopted, viz:—

That the thanks of the Synod be given to Mr. Tanner, and that we assure him of the deep sym-

pathy and interest felt by this Synod, in the work in which the Society which he represents is engaged, and of the unfeigned joy and gratitude to God, felt by the Synod, for the measure of success which has already crowned its labours. The Synod farther agreed that a Collection as usual, be taken up in all the Congregations of the Church, in aid of the fund of this Synod.

The Committee appointed to examine the Public Accounts of the Church, gave in a Report. On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Report be received.

The Committee on the Statistical Returns gave in a report.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed,

That the Report be received, and the Synod record its thanks to the Convener, Rev. S. C. Fraser, for the excellent tables which he has so carefully prepared. The Synod ordered the Report to be printed in the columns of the *Record*, empower the Synod Clerk to correspond with ministers who have neglected to forward returns, and enjoin Presbyteries to see to the preparation of reports for the future, by all the congregations within their bounds.

The Synod then took up an overture, on the subject of the support of the ministry, brought in by the elders attending the meeting of Synod. The Synod sustained the overture, and renewed the recommendation of last year in regard to the increase of the stipends of ministers in a rate commensurate with the greatly enhanced cost of living. The Synod also recommended all congregations to make arrangements for defraying the travelling expenses of their ministers and ruling elders, when attending the meeting of Synod.

On Wednesday morning, the Committee appointed to revise the Records of the several Presbyteries, gave in their reports, which were sustained, and the Records ordered to be attested accordingly.

The Synod then took up an overture on the subject of the establishment of a Board of Publication and Colportage. The following motion was agreed to, viz:—

That the Synod cordially approve of the object, earnestly recommend Presbyteries to take immediate steps to establish a system of colportage within their bounds, and appoint the following Committee, to mature a scheme for a general Board of Publication and Colportage, to report to next Synod, viz: Mr. Inglis, Convener; Dr. Burns, Messrs. Irvine, John Alexander, Laing, Scott, King, Gregg, Thos. Wardrope, Ministers; and Messrs. McLellan, Begg, Mitchell, Shaw, and Catnach, Elders.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools gave in a Report, which was sustained, and the Committee re-appointed. In accordance with an overture, the same Committee were appointed to take steps for publishing a periodical suitable for Sabbath School teachers and scholars.

The Committee, which had been appointed on previous Diet, to examine the manuscript of the Book of Discipline, prepared by the Committee, of which J. W. Smellie was Convener, gave in a report to the following effect:—

The Committee appointed to examine the manuscript presented by Mr. Smellie, beg to report to the Synod that the Convener of the Committee has perused the manuscript, recommended that the work should be published by the author, and that the Synod, while not responsible for its contents, should give it a general approval, as a work calculated to be very useful to minis-