

ded he shall lay before the said Presbytery a Certificate of his having passed the Examining Committee.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, an Overture from the Presbytery of Montreal, anent Sabbath Observance, as follows:—

“Inasmuch as God hath in His Word commanded us to keep holy one day in seven by resting on it from all our ordinary employments and avocations, promising a blessing to those who keep his Sabbaths, and denouncing a curse against those who profane them; and whereas, there is much sin committed and danger incurred, by negligence in this matter, it is moved—That this Presbytery do overture the Synod to take this matter into serious consideration at its next meeting, and enjoin Ministers to call the attention of their Congregations specially to this subject, and enforce upon them the duty of a strict observance of the Sabbath, in their own person, and in their families, and in all their social intercourse, with a view to promote its observance by others through their example. Further, seeing that to make the law of God give way to any supposed public convenience, is a great national sin, when acted upon by rulers and acquiesced in by people, and likely to bring down public judgments upon every community where it is done; and whereas the Sabbath rest is constantly broken in this Province, in consequence of certain laws and regulations of the State—It is moved, That Ministers and Congregations be exhorted to remonstrate against this public breach of God’s commandment, and not to cease from using all lawful means for effecting a reformation, until the scandal be removed of a community professing Christianity requiring the servants of the public to minister to their convenience, by a habitual neglect of God’s law.”

After reasoning, the Synod agreed to enjoin Sessions and Presbyteries to enquire into what are the most prevalent modes of Sabbath breaking within their bounds, and report to the next meeting of Synod; and in the meantime to make all due efforts to discountenance and put a stop to Sabbath desecration. The Synod, also, enjoin Ministers to read this Overture to their Congregations, and preach on the subject of the proper observance of the Sabbath, before the first Sabbath in October. The Synod further agreed to petition the three branches of the Provincial Legislature, to take measures to prevent the desecration of the Sabbath, and especially to abolish Sabbath labour in the Post Office; and Mr. Bain was appointed to draft a petition to the Legislature for this purpose.

There was produced and read, a Reference from the Presbytery of Hamilton, for advice on behalf of the adherents of the Church at London, in regard to their Church Property. Mr. McKid, and other members of the Presbytery of Hamilton, having been heard, and papers read, the Synod agreed to encourage and countenance the adherents of the Church at London to seek for the restitution of their Property by a suit in Chancery.