

consider the whole subject, as also the best mode of accomplishing the end to be attained, and report at the next Assembly."

A variety of routine matters were disposed of, and the Assembly adjourned.

In the evening the Rev. Mr. Laidlaw, of Detroit, delegate from the Presbyterian Church in the United States, was formally received. The Home Mission Board was appointed. The reports of the Indians' Orphanage and Juvenile Mission Fund, of the Humbarries' Mission, and of the Committee of Revising Records were read and received.

On Thursday, the 21st inst., a number of miscellaneous matters occupied attention. Among those was a report on the "Presbyterian Record," which showed the circulation to be 34,469, and the balance of assets over liabilities to be \$16.26. A motion for the formation of a new Presbytery for Lanark was referred to the Synod of Montreal. A resolution was adopted expressive of sympathy with the sufferers in the fire at St. John, N. B. After this the Assembly was engaged up to the hour of adjournment in the consideration of a memorial prayer for a larger infusion of the lay element in the Committees of the Assembly.

The debate resulted in the adoption of a motion to the effect that the names in the Assembly should be taken in a certain order, so that all members should have their proper share of representation on the committees.

A motion was adopted in favor of extending the missionary operations of the Church among the Indians in the Northwest.

It was resolved to memorialize the Governor General, to suggest a day which should be observed as a general Thanks-giving day throughout the Dominion. An overture was also considered in favor of a uniform hymn-book for the congregations and schools.

STATE OF RELIGION.

A lengthy report was then presented on the state of religion in the churches, which spoke hopefully of the churches, and made a variety of suggestions as to future work. The total number added to the Communion roll during the year, as far as reported, is 11,195; removals, 5,427, leaving a net increase of 5,768. The total number now on the roll is 98,788. Though this is a large number, the committee refer to the fact that some 100,000 adult persons are nominally within the bounds of the church without having made a confession of their faith, and recommend ministers to exercise a friendly care over the young men just growing into manhood. The report speaks in cheering terms of the Sabbath-school work of the year, remarking that all children that were capable of availing themselves of Sabbath-school instruction do so during the whole or part of the year. The number of teachers reported during 1886 was 7,000, the number of pupils 79,204, of whom 17,099 were in the Bible classes. A long conversation followed, when, upon the motion of the Rev. G. M. Grant, seconded by Professor McVicar, the report was adopted.

On Saturday last the business transacted was of a very miscellaneous character. A resolution of sympathy was adopted with the Rev. Dr. Waters and the Rev. Mr. Mitchell, and their congregations, whose churches had been burned down at St. John, and knowing that in the circumstances their own congregations will be unable to rebuild them, commending the case to the Church in general as one peculiarly calling for sympathy and ready aid.

The committee on the Reception of Ministers from other Churches reported, recommending the reception of Messrs. Beamer, James Campbell, J. L. Robertson, R. Duclos, and B. Ouiriers. Much discussion followed on the several cases, which resulted in leaving them in the care of the respective Presbyteries.