

Presbytery of Pictou, and Lot 16 in P. E. Island.

#### Election of Moderator.

The Moderator having acknowledged in a brief address the honour done him in his election to the Chair, and the satisfaction with which he had presided over the Synod's deliberations, expressed thanks to the brethren for their courtesy, and stated that the time had come for the choice of a new moderator; the Clerk read the nominations by Presbyteries. By the Presbytery of Halifax, Rev. George Patterson. All the other Presbyteries had named Rev. Wm. Duff. Mr. Patterson requested that his name be withdrawn, in order that Mr. Duff's election might be unanimous. Mr. Duff not being present it was moved by Rev. G. Christie that the choice of a moderator be delayed till to-morrow morning, and till then Mr. Patterson's request be not granted. The Synod by resolution determined to proceed immediately, Mr. Patterson's request was granted, and Mr. Duff was unanimously chosen.

The Synod met on Thursday at 10 o'clock, Rev. William Duff presiding. The Moderator briefly addressed the Synod, acknowledging his deep sense of the honour conferred on him, and reviewing the principal subjects that would come before the Synod.

#### Calvin Church.

Rev. S. Houston, in behalf of the Building Committee of Calvin Church, made request that the moderator of Synod should, on Saturday afternoon lay the foundation stone of the new edifice which was to replace their burned building last winter. The request was cordially agreed to.

#### Order of Business.

According to the Report of the Committee on Bills and overtures it was agreed to meet every morning at 10 o'clock, and adjourn at 1 o'clock. Resume at 3 and adjourn at 6, resume at half-past seven and adjourn at half-past nine, except on the last evening, when the Sederunt may be prolonged *ad libitum*. It was agreed that a prayer meeting be held every morning from seven to eight o'clock, and the Lord's Sup-

per dispensed in this place on the evening of Sabbath first.

#### The Sermon.

On motion of Rev. James Watson the thanks of the Synod were tendered to Rev. R. Sedgwick for his able and appropriate Sermon, and he was asked to give it for publication in the *Record*. A Committee was appointed on motion of Rev. A. L. Wyllie, to consider the general subject of printing Synod Sermons.

#### Committees.

A large amount of the work of the Synod is done by Committees who devote many hours to their task, the Synod and the Church never knowing anything but the results of their labours. This morning there were Committees appointed on Devotional Exercises, on the Minutes of Presbyteries and Boards, and on Travelling Expenses.

#### Seats in Church Courts.

The question, Who are constitutionally members of the higher Church Courts? has been before the Church almost every year since 1861. The overtures proposed last year were now then finally dealt with for want of time. The first overture was by Dr. McCulloch requesting Synod to declare "Who are constituent members of the higher Church Courts"? The second was by Rev. Messrs. G. Patterson and J. McKinnon asking the Synod to enact "That besides ordained ministers having pastoral charges and representative Elders, those ordained Ministers separated by the Synod from the charge of particular congregations in order to be employed in the service and work of the Church at large, shall, while so employed, retain seats in the higher Church Courts; and that those included under this rule in present circumstances shall be Professors employed by Synod in teaching any branches of the preparatory course of students of theology, and the agent of the schemes of the Church." The third overture was by the Rev. Dr. Bayne, and adopted by Pictou Presbytery, "to grant a seat in Presbytery and Synod to Ministers, who having faithfully served the Church for many years, have demitted their charges, and according