

Meeting of Canadian Synod.

THIS Court met at Kingston on the 1st day of June. The retiring Moderator, Rev. John Campbell of Nottawasaga, preached from 2 Cor. vi. 1. The names of 105 Ministers and 89 Representative Elders were upon the Roll; and during the session, 71 Ministers and 27 Elders were present.

Rev. Archibald Walker, of Belleville, was chosen Moderator for the current year.

The Synod expressed their deep sense of the loss sustained by the Church in the removal, by death, of Rev. Principal Leitch and Rev. Dr. Skinner, since last meeting of Synod, and by resolution bore testimony to their sterling Christian worth.

A Report from the managers of the Temporalities Fund showed a deficiency up to 26th of May, of \$1200. The receipts for the year amounted to \$40,693.46; expenditures, \$40,906.87.

The Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund was found to be in a prosperous state. \$6895.36 had been received during the year,—being an increase over last year's receipts of \$1084.91. The annuities to widows came to \$2150. The annuitants now number 21.

Mr. Snodgrass read the French Mission Report, which exhibited signs of progress. A day-school has been opened in the mission-premises at Montreal; a Ladies' Auxiliary Association has been formed in that city; and the committee have engaged the services of another missionary, M. Antoine Geoffroy, to assist Mr. Tanner, who, is still in a feeble state of health. A gratifying increase was reported in the funds of this scheme. The contributions to the Building Fund had been very handsome, and particular attention was drawn to those of congregations in the Lower Provinces.

The Report of the Bursary Scheme showed that assistance had been given to 26 students, in sums not exceeding \$40 each, unless specially requested by donors. During last College session, \$1190 was disbursed, but of this amount only \$365.72 were supplied by congregational collections. The committee expressed regret that this scheme was so much overlooked by ministers,—only 23 congregations having contributed towards it last year.

Applications for leave to retire from the active duties of the ministry on the ground of ill health, presented by Revs. Joseph Anderson of South Gower, James Thom of Woolwich, Donald Munro of Finch, and Wm. Jobson of Lindsay, were reported upon by a committee, and, agreeably to their recommendations, granted.

Rev. F. Nicol, of London, submitted the Report of the Hymn Book Committee, which stated that a volume of Hymns had been published, with the view of exciting a fuller consideration of the subject than could be devoted to it by a committee. They gave it as their opinion that the time had not arrived

for the Synod to take immediate steps for the adoption of a Hymn Book, yet in a few years, such a collection might be secured as will be at once a credit and a benefit to the Church. An interesting discussion followed, but no express deliverance was given by Synod.

A Report on Sabbath Schools was read by Rev. Geo. Macdonnell. Returns had been received from 47 schools, which were attended by 3,712 scholars. There are 409 teachers, 225 being females. Besides these, 202 attend Bible Classes. Increase during the year, 215. Most of the schools have libraries.

Respecting a Foreign Mission, the committee appointed at a former diet to consider the documents submitted by the F. M. Committee, reported that the latter had not entered upon the proposed mission to Beyrout, chiefly because they had found themselves limited by the deliverance of last Synod to the funds on hand. The offer of a licentiate to go out as missionary had been withdrawn. The amount of available funds was now \$2659.90, and they therefore solicited authority to commence the scheme. For this purpose, three propositions were submitted, the result of correspondence with the Colonial Committee—1st., The institution of a Tamil mission in Ceylon; 2nd., the origination of a mission to the Pacific Territories of B. N. America; 3rd., aiding the Church of Scotland in her mission to these Territories. The committee reported against the institution of a separate mission, and in favor of assisting the Church at home in her mission schemes, which Report was adopted.

The Synod had under consideration the subject of Sabbath Observance, and, after some discussion, it was resolved to petition the Legislature on the question.

The Juvenile Mission Report was handed in, and read by John Paton, Esq. This Report appears on another page of the *Record*.

The Synod will meet at Ottawa next year, on the first Wednesday of June.

The above brief record of proceedings is compiled from the *Canada Presbyterian*.

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A HINDOO PAPER ON THE BIBLE.—The *Sajona Rejana*, a native Bengal paper, advocating the introduction of the Bible into government schools, describes it in remarkable language as coming from a heathen, as "the best and most excellent of all English books, and there is not its like in the English language. As every joint of the sugar cane from the root to the top is full of sweetness, so every part of the Bible is fraught with the most precious instructions. A portion of that book would yield to you more of sound morality, than a thousand other treatises on the same subject. In short, if anybody studies the English language with a view to gain wisdom, there is not another book which is more worthy of being read than the Bible."