

# ABSTRACT

## FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SYNOD OF THE PRESBY- TERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA-SCOTIA.

1843.

Pictou Church, July-11, 1843.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova-Scotia met, after 6 o'clock, by the Rev. William MacCulloch, the Moderator, from 1 Tim. iv. 15. "Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them, that thy profiting may appear unto all,"—and was constituted.

The Presbytery of Truro reported, that Mr. James Bayne, Preacher of the Gospel, has been ordained to the collegiate charge of the congregation of Londonderry since last meeting of Synod, and that his name has been added to the Roll of the Presbytery.

Ordered, that his name be added to the Synod Roll.

The Presbytery of Truro farther reported, that they have licensed Mr. James Byers, Student in Divinity, to be a preacher of the Gospel since last meeting of Synod.

The Presbytery of Pictou reported that they have licensed Mr. John Cameron, Student in Divinity, to be a preacher of the Gospel since last meeting of Synod.

Rev. John Campbell was chosen Moderator, and took the chair accordingly.

Committees were appointed, and the evening sederunt was spent in devotional exercises.

Read the minutes of last meeting of Synod.

The Rev. Mr. Trotter gave a verbal report of his proceedings as Convener of the Committee appointed at last meeting of Synod, to correspond with any similar Committee which may have been appointed by the Synod of Nova-Scotia in connection with the Church of Scotland. His prudence and diligence were approved.

The Presbytery of Pictou gave a detailed account of their dealing with the congregation of Tatamagouche, respecting the payment of arrears due from it to the Rev. Hugh Dunbar, in compliance with the injunction of Synod at its last meeting. The diligence of the Presbytery was approved, and they were enjoined to continue their exertions to secure to Mr. Dunbar the balance still due to him from that congregation.

JULY 12.

The Synod entered upon the general state of the Church, with a view to the adoption of such measures as, by the blessing of God, may promote her purity, enlargement, and permanence. On motion, it was agreed that a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Dr. MacCulloch, the Rev. Messrs. Kier and Trotter, and Messrs. Cameron, Clarke and Stewart, be appointed for the purpose of preparing a statement of measures to be adopted for the advancement of the interests of religion within that portion of the Church of Christ with which this Synod is immediately connected. The Committee were enjoined to prepare the statement and submit it to the Synod with an illustration as possible.

The Presbytery of Prince Edward Island reported that they have admitted the Rev. John C. Sinclair to the pastoral charge of the congregation of Pictou and Pictou Point; and that his name had been added to the Presbytery Roll. Whereupon the following Resolution was put and unanimously agreed to, viz:—

"Whereas reports are in circulation injurious to the character and tending to diminish the usefulness of the Rev. John C. Sinclair, therefore—

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to enquire into the circumstances and conduct of the said Rev. John C. Sinclair, and report thereupon at some future Sederunt of this meeting of Synod, in order that this court may be able to judge of the influence which these are likely to exert upon the interests of Religion, and the respectability of this body.

The Rev. Mr. MacKinlay read the draft of a pastoral address to the members and friends of the Presbyterian Church of Nova-Scotia, which, in compliance with the request of the Synod at its last meeting, he had prepared. The diligence of Mr. MacKinlay was highly commended and 1000 copies

without delay. The Rev. Mr. MacKinlay was requested to superintend its publication, and to transmit, at his earliest convenience, copies of it to each minister in connection with this Synod, for distribution; and the Synod enjoins upon all the ministers in its connection to read the address from the pulpit, and to urge upon those entrusted to their care an attentive perusal of its contents, and compliance with its directions.

Received the report of the Committee appointed to correspond with the United Associate Synod of Scotland, in order to obtain from that body two preachers to labour under the inspection of this Synod. Read also a letter from the Rev. John MacKerrow, addressed to the Rev. Thomas Trotter, Convener of said Committee, informing him that the Committee of Foreign Missions of the U. A. Synod of Scotland have received an offer from Mr. Andrew Miller, a Proclaimer of that body, to proceed to Nova-Scotia as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made; and that the Committee will continue their exertions to procure another preacher to be sent out to labour in connection with this Synod. The diligence of the Committee was approved, and the same brethren were appointed a committee for the purpose of carrying into effect the object of their original appointment.

Reports on the overture on the representation of vacant congregations in Church Courts by one elder, were received from the several Presbyteries in connection with this Synod. The Presbyteries of Pictou and Truro, recommend its adoption. The Presbytery of Prince Edward Island do not recommend its adoption. After recessing, the Overture was adopted. It is as follows:—

of Minutes 1843