

coming to a definite finding on the subject until Monday morning.

The Synod then adjourned to meet at the usual hour on Monday morning for devotional exercises, and this sederunt was closed with prayer.

FIFTH DIET.

*St. Matthew's Church,
Halifax, July 3, 1865.*

The Synod met, after devotional exercises, and was constituted—the Rev. George M. Grant, Moderator.

The minutes of Saturday's sederunt having been read and sustained as correct, the Synod resumed consideration of the overture anent "Theological Hall." It was moved, seconded, and agreed to, that the Synod adopt the principle of the overture—affirm the desirability of instituting a Hall of Divinity for preparing young men for the office of the ministry in connection with this Church and with the view to carrying the suggestion of the overture into practical effect, appoint Messrs. Grant, Herdman, McGregor, McKay, Pollok, Duncan, Hon. J. Holmes, D. A. Fraser, Esq., M. P. P., and James Thompson, Esq., a committee with instructions:

(1.) To treat with the sister Synod of New Brunswick, with the view of enlisting their interest in this subject, and ascertaining how much they will engage to give annually.

(2.) To treat with the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, with the view of obtaining their support and ascertain the amount, and generally, of gathering such information as may be of service to the Synod in coming to a practical conclusion on the subject.

(3.) To report on the whole subject at next meeting of this Court, and submit a scheme of operation; and,

(4.) That a Committee of Correspondence, consisting of Messrs. Ogg, McGregor, and Grant, be a delegation to consult on this subject with the neighboring Synod of New Brunswick.

The committee appointed to enquire into the case of the Rev. Alex. Romans, gave in the following report:—

"Your committee having met on two several occasions with Mr. Romans, and having heard his statements and his documents read, beg to submit the following information as the result of their inquiries:—(1) That Mr. Romans' testimonials and general character as a scholar and a man are of an unexceptionable nature. (2) That while it is matter of regret that Mr. Romans has not been able to obtain a Presbyterial certificate, it is the opinion of the committee that he is in no way to blame for the want of it, but has been the subject of severity. (3) That with reference to Mr. Romans' admission, inasmuch as Mr. Romans' position is somewhat peculiar, having been born and brought up in the Church of Scotland and having receded—a step for which he expresses his regret—the committee think that, whatever may be the decision of this venerable Court, Mr. Romans should not be received without subscribing fully the standards of the Church of Scotland and a declaration expressing regret for having left the

Church and helped to reduce her strength in this country—renouncing all the peculiar opinions of the Free Church in her controversy with the Church of Scotland, and declaring his full and perfect sympathy with the principles and position of the Church of Scotland at Home and in the colonies, and interest in her operations. The committee are also of opinion that Mr. Romans should not be admitted without a distinct understanding with him that he must be dependent for employment and support as a minister upon the voluntary invitation of the people.

Respectfully submitted.

(Signed) A. POLLOK, Convener."

The Synod having heard the report of the committee on Mr. Romans' case, approve the same; appoint the Presbytery of Halifax to correspond with the Halifax Presbytery of the other body with the view of ascertaining the reason why Mr. Romans has been refused a certificate, and that the final reception of Mr. Romans into the Church be deferred for a year.

The Report of the Committee on the Examination and Licensing of Students was read by Mr. McGregor. It is as follows:—

"Your committee beg to report that they have been able to give some attention to the very important matter entrusted to their care, but are not in a position to report upon the whole question given to them for consideration. With regard to the licensing of students your committee would recommend that, should any case come before any of the Presbyteries before the next meeting of Synod, the request for license do lie upon the table of the Presbytery concerned for at least six weeks, and that the Clerk of said Presbytery notify the other Presbyteries on the subject, and in the event of no objections being offered, the Presbytery may proceed with the usual examination, and grant license to such as show themselves duly qualified for the office of the ministry.

With reference to the other points entrusted to your committee, they have appeared so important as to require further deliberation before any definite action could be recommended. They would venture, however, to recommend that a small committee be appointed, whose members can meet for deliberation and bring up a well-digested report at next meeting of Synod, upon the whole subject. Respectfully submitted.

(Signed) S. MCGREGOR, Convener."

The Report of the Committee of the Examination and Licensing of Students having been read, it was moved, seconded, and agreed to, that the report be approved of, the diligence of the committee commended, and that the Rev. Messrs. McGregor (convener), McDonald, and McKay, be appointed a committee to attend to the points reserved by the committee, and to report fully at next meeting of Synod.

The Report of the Committee on the Home Mission Scheme was tabled and read. It is to the following effect:—

"The funds of which this committee takes cognizance are of two kinds:—(1) Those raised for Presbyterial purposes; and (2) those raised for the general or Synodical Home Mission. As to the first, the committee regret that there is no Presbyterial Home Mission in Prince Edward Island. One was instituted two years ago, but is now defunct. In Pictou Presbytery there is a vigorous Lay Association, supported, however, it