

by a moderator even if reversed by the Court, than that a long discussion, much resembling a wrangle, should be allowed.

The moderator was forbearing and good natured even to a fault, and allowed No. 14 of the Synod rules that no member speak more than once till others are heard, to be practically ignored altogether. On many subjects this evidently lowered the tone of the debate, and the interest of listeners. Hearers complain too of reiteration of the same truths by different speakers, and of repetitions, of themselves, in many instances by members, which in future we should carefully avoid. Both in speeches and in prayer there should be much more *conciseness* and *concentration*. The devotional exercises were solemn and impressive, but if the prayers had been one half the length, and double the number had engaged with more directness of petition, the effect would have been, a more devotional meeting, a meeting with more of the felt power of the Divine Spirit.

We have much to learn in making our annual gathering profitable and refreshing to the whole church. Defects, unless pointed out, may be overlooked and perpetuated.—We should pay more attention to our own States of Order, and should emulate the business-like spirit and tone of the Synodical gatherings of the British and American Churches. May the Lord own and bless to servants' work!

Presbytery of Truro.

This Presbytery met at Truro on May 15th. The principal business was the state of Onslow congregation. The Presbytery having, at a visitation there, as formerly reported, found some matters apparently in a condition not very satisfactory, directed the Session to call a meeting of the whole congregation in the Central Church, and appointed the Rev. J. D. McGillivray to attend said meeting, assist as required, and report. He accordingly submitted a report of that meeting, and also a report sent him by a committee appointed at that meeting to gather further particulars respecting financial affairs, and take a general oversight of these throughout the whole congregation. It was stated that the meeting had been well attended; that an excellent spirit had been shown in reference to the person and labours of their pastor, and that there was

an evident anxiety for increased christian prosperity throughout the bounds. It had been said that if anything could be done by which this might be secured, a much larger sum might be realized for the support of ordinances. On inquiring it would be found that the idea of a colleague had been favourably spoken of among some. This, Mr. Baxter, on being asked, expressed himself fully prepared to encourage, he having to preach in four churches and several stations. It was accordingly, after lengthened conversation, resolved,—“That, in the opinion of this Presbytery, the interests of the congregation of Onslow would be promoted by securing the services of a colleague to their present respected pastor, the Rev. John I. Baxter, in his extensive field of labour, and that therefore the Sessions be directed, at an early day, to ascertain the mind of the people on this point, and report to Presbytery.”

Other business was deferred, another meeting being appointed at same place, on Tuesday. 2nd inst. The Presbytery accordingly thus again met at time and place as appointed.

The day was principally taken up with the consideration of a lengthened report from a committee on the more systematic and adequate support of ordinances throughout the Presbytery. The report, as adopted, or the substance of it, was ordered to be printed for circulation among families and individual contributors, with the view of preparing the way for its being acted on in the various congregations.

Appointed to meet in Halifax at the call of the Moderator of Synod.

A. L. WYLLIE, Clerk.

Presbytery of Pictou.

The Presbytery of Pictou met in St. John's Church, Chatham, on the 28th ult., for the ordination and induction of Mr. Garvie into the pastoral charge of that congregation, and was constituted by the Rev. George Patterson, moderator, with whom were present the Revs. Dr. Bayne, John McKinnon, and J. D. Murray.

The Rev. Thomas G. Johnston of Blackville, being present was invited to sit as a corresponding member of Presbytery, and took his seat accordingly.

The Rev. Mr. Murray returned the Edict for ordination certified as duly served.

Mr. McKinnon was appointed to read it again to the congregation then assembled, and having done so, and no objections being preferred, the Presbytery agreed to proceed with the ordination.

Mr. McKinnon preached from Col. 1: 28.

Mr. Patterson narrated the steps taken to procure the Call, put the questions of the