

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SYNOD OF NEW BRUNSWICK IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

*St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, }*  
*Saturday, July 14. 1860. }*

After devotional exercises, the Synod was opened by prayer by the Moderator. The Reference from the Presbytery of Miramichi was again taken up, and, after due deliberation, was remitted back to the Presbytery to take such steps as they might deem most advisable to reconcile the parties.

The Rev. Mr. McCurdy, who was present, was invited to take his seat along with the Synod, which he did, and afterwards addressed the Synod, expressing the desire he had to maintain friendly intercourse with the ministers of the Presbyterian Church in connection with the Church of Scotland, and his sincere wish that the day might not be far distant when the differences which now keep apart the Presbyterian Churches might be all removed, or they might again be united in one harmonious and powerful body. He had always endeavored to act in such a spirit of Christian forbearance and friendliness as should be conducive to bring about the establishment of a closer union. Several members of Synod bore testimony to the friendly manner in which the Rev. Mr. McCurdy had acted, and their full concurrence in the wishes of the reverend gentleman, that such friendly intercourse should be cultivated between all the Christian bodies of the Province as might ultimately lead to a closer union.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the overture for rescinding the act of last Synod, dividing the Presbytery of Miramichi into the Presbytery of Miramichi and Restigouche. After due deliberation it was unanimously resolved that the said Act be rescinded,—that the two Presbyteries be re-united, forming the Presbytery of Miramichi, that their first meeting be held this day after the adjournment of the Synod, and that the Rev. James Steven be Moderator.

The Synod then resolved itself into the Corporation of the Synod, when the Chairman having taken the Chair, and the minutes of yesterday's sederunt being read over and sustained, the Committee appointed to draw up a code of Bye-laws for the said Corporation, reported that they had done so, and the bye-laws being read over, were, after due deliberation, adopted; office-bearers were then appointed in accordance with said Bye-laws.

The Synod having resumed its sitting, it was agreed that the minutes of the Synod should be printed as usual.

The time at which the collections for the several schemes should be remitted to the Treasurer, was fixed. The Synod then adjourned to meet on Monday at 10 o'clock.

The Synod met again on Monday. The usual devotional exercises were engaged in. The Synod being constituted, the second over-

ture was taken up, which was to the effect that "Whereas a great burden is thrown upon the Church of Scotland for the support of ministers or missionaries sent to labor in the lower districts of this province. And, whereas much might be done to alleviate that burden by combining the energies of our adherents throughout the Province, it is overtured unto the Reverend the Synod of New Brunswick, in connection with Church of Scotland, that they take the matter into their serious consideration, and endeavor, by the formation of Lay Associations, or such other means as they may deem most proper, to lighten the burden lying on the parent Church." The Synod adopted the overture, and resolved that Lay Associations should be formed in each Parish. The Synod also appointed a Committee to devise some plan for aiding the several schemes carried on by the Church, and to report to next meeting of Synod.

The Committees appointed to revise the Presbytery Records, gave in their reports, and the Records were attested.

It was resolved that a report of the statistics of all the congregations and mission stations in connection with our church, should be prepared and submitted to next meeting of Synod.

The Overture on Intemperance was then taken up, and after reasoning, it was unanimously resolved:—

I. That all ministers and elders be careful to discourage intemperance both by their example and influence.

II. That ministers be directed in an especial manner to call the attention of their people to the dangerous consequences arising from the improper use of intoxicating drinks.

The question of the union of the Presbyterian bodies being brought before the Court, the Synod expressed their deep sense of the desirableness of such union, and appointed a Committee to consider the whole subject, instructing them to acknowledge the receipt of certain papers on the subject, received from the Rev. Wm. Elder; and further as tending towards the object contemplated, they recommend to all the office-bearers of the respective Presbyterian Churches, mutual forbearance and co-operation with each other in common objects.

As the Tricentenary of the First General Assembly of the Reformed Church of Scotland occurs in December of this year, it was resolved that in order to commemorate this event, which has been productive of so great blessings, it be recommended to all ministers of this Synod to preach a sermon on the subject, on Sabbath the 18th December, and where practicable, that a lecture be delivered on the subject in each congregation, on Thursday the 20th of December, the day on which the first General Assembly was held.

An address to the Prince of Wales on his arrival in this Province was read, and approved.