

ment of its Sessions. The Committee consists of the following individuals, viz. Mr. T. Dallas, Convener, Messrs. J. Gray, J. Laing, W. Reid, and W. Gregg.

On Tuesday the Synod took up a dissent and complaint of Mr. Dow against a finding of the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa. Parties being called, no appearance was entered for the complainant, when the Synod agreed that the complaint should be regarded as fallen from.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the letter of the stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. The same was given in and read. It was in the following terms, viz: "The Committee to whom was referred the letter of the Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and the instruction of the Synod to consider whether a correspondence should be held with the 'United Presbyterian Church of America,' commend to the Synod to instruct the Clerk to give a courteous answer to the letter referred to. The Committee cannot recommend the appointment of a delegate to the next meeting of the Assembly of that Church, although in their opinion the Synod should throw no obstacle in the way of that Assembly's giving this Synod the fullest information respecting the principles held by that Church.

"The Committee likewise recommend that a letter, signed by the Moderator and Clerk of this Synod, be transmitted to the Moderator of 'the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church of America,' congratulating that Synod on the union which has lately taken place among them, and expressing the Synod's interest in their welfare, and desire to maintain a fraternal correspondence with them."

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to receive and sustain the Report, and adopt its recommendations.

The Synod afterwards took up an Overture from the Presbytery of London on the subject of worldly amusements. The Overture was read, and Mr. T. McPherson was heard in support of it. On motion made and seconded, it was agreed "that the Synod having considered the Overture on the subject of worldly amusements, affectionately and earnestly call the attention of the members of the Church to the necessity of avoiding the appearance of evil, in the way of conformity to the customs of an ungodly world; and the Synod further direct the attention of Sessions to the great importance of acting with caution, affection, and faithfulness, in dealing with any who may seem to conduct themselves inconsistently in the matter referred to.

The Agency Committee presented their Report, which was received. The Committee was re-appointed.

The Synod took up an Overture on the licensing of Students. It was agreed to send it down to Presbyteries in terms of the Barrier Act.

The Synod also sent down to Presbyteries an Overture on the calling and induction of Probationers.

The Synod called for the Report of the Com-

mittee on the laws of the Church. The Report was given in by Mr. Kemp, Convener. It was agreed to receive and sustain the Report, and record thanks to the Convener.

The Synod appointed Messrs. J. M. Roger, and J. B. Duncan to be a deputation to attend the next meeting of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, and to reciprocate the fraternal greetings of that Church.

The Synod called for the Report of the Foreign Mission Committee. The same was given in and read by Mr. D. Fraser. It was agreed to receive and sustain the Report and record the thanks of the Synod to the Committee. The Synod re-appointed the Committee.

The Synod called for Report of Home Mission Committee. The same was given in and read. A special Report was given in by Mr. King with reference to the Buxton Mission, and a supplementary statement was made by Dr. Burns with reference to the Red River Mission.

The Report was received and adopted, and the Rev. J. McFavish was appointed to proceed to the Red River with the view of encouraging and assisting for a time the Rev. J. Black, and making inquiries in regard to other fields of Missionary labour.

Mr. King and Dr. Burns were appointed a Committee to consider the best means of obtaining funds for the erection of new buildings in connection with the Mission at Buxton.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on Sabbath observance. The same was given in and read.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Synod receive the Report and adopt its recommendations, and re-appoint the Committee, directing their special attention to the present state of the law respecting Sabbath observance. The following members compose the Sabbath Observance Committee, viz: Mr. P. Gray, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Wilson, Mr. R. F. Burns, Mr. Hodgskin, ministers, and Dr. Holden, Messrs. J. McLaughlin, and Stewart, elders; Messrs. Burns and Gray, Joint-Convener.

The Rev. D. Fraser presented to the Synod a commission from the French Canadian Missionary Society, requesting and authorizing him to address the Synod on the subject of the Society. Mr. Fraser accordingly addressed the House on the present position of the French Canadian Missionary Society.

The Synod appointed the Presbytery of Montreal, together with Dr. Burns, Mr. Ross, Mr. Scott, Mr. Laing, and the Moderator, to consider and Report at next meeting of Synod as to the best means of discharging the duty which the Church owes to the French Canadians in Lower Canada.

The quarterly collections were appointed as last year, viz:—

1. For the French Canadian Missionary Society, on 3rd Sabbath of July.
2. For Buxton Mission and Synod Fund, on 3rd Sabbath of October.
3. For Foreign Mission, on 2nd Sabbath of January.

4. For Widows' and Orphans' Fund, on 3rd Sabbath of March.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed:—

"That the thanks of the Synod be given to the office-bearers of the McNab Street Church for the comfortable accommodation afforded to the Synod during its session; also to the accommodation Committee, and the friends in Hamilton, generally, for the hospitable manner in which they have received the ministers and elders of the Synod; and to the authorities of the Grand Trunk Railway for their liberality in granting return tickets to the members of Synod."

The business of Synod being now concluded after singing part of the 122nd Psalm, and prayer, the Moderator addressed the Synod in appropriate terms; appointed next ordinary meeting of Synod to take place in Toronto, on the second Tuesday of June, 1858, at half past seven p.m., and dismissed the Synod with the Apostolic blessing.

Communications, &c.

OBITUARY.

Died at Springfield, Township of Saltfleet, Canada West, John Colville, Senr, in the 76th year of his age. Mr. Colville was highly respected by all who knew him, as a man of worth, and of more than average intelligence, whose counsel was highly valuable and greatly to be depended on. He was a native of Ayrshire, Scotland; but previous to immigrating to America, was several years in the South of Ireland, in the midst of a Roman Catholic population. Mainly through his efforts a Presbyterian Church was organized, and a minister in connection with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, was settled. Of this congregation, he was chosen an elder, and discharged the duties of that office until he left the country. He immigrated to Canada in 1833, and settled in the Township of Saltfleet. At that time there was no minister of the Presbyterian Church, either in Saltfleet or at Hamilton, and he took part in the formation of the congregation in that town under the late Rev. Mr. Gale, so well and favorably known to the Church. He also filled the office of Elder in that congregation until a minister was obtained for Saltfleet and Binbrook in the year 1843. He was chosen an elder in these congregations, which office he held till the day of his death. At the separation from the Established Church of Scotland, on the ground of the independence of the Church of Christ of all control in spiritual and ecclesiastical matters of the Civil Government which has been invaded by the Government, and permitted by that Church, Mr. Colville held a clear and intelligent and correct view on the subject at issue, and gave in a firm adherence to the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and the principles which governed her. While he was a man of sterling honesty and uprightness in temporal things, he was less imbued with deep religious principle, and supreme regard for the word of God, and attention to the ordinances of religion. Though from a constitutional diffidence, he did not take any prominent part in public religious exercises, he was zealous in promoting Christ's cause, and liberal in contributing to the various schemes of the Church. He saw the great importance of our College to the prosperity of the Church in the land; and took a great interest in it, and contributed liberally according to his means towards its support. During the winter he had been in a very feeble state of health, which