

morning at 7 o'clock, for devotional exercises. This was felt to be a very refreshing season, and similar meetings were held on several other mornings during the Session. At 10 o'clock the Synod met for business, but was chiefly occupied with various routine matters, not of public interest. A report was made of the principal subjects which were to come before the Synod, and the order in which they should be taken up was determined. Arrangements were made for supplying such of the Congregations and missionary stations as were within reach on the approaching Lord's day. An act was adopted attaching the Rev. Professor Esson, to the Presbytery of Toronto, he having since last Synod demitted the Pastoral charge of the Congregation of St. Gabriel street Church, Montreal, and entered on the discharge of his duties in the Theological College at Toronto, as also an act for the division of the Presbytery of Kingston: the result of which will be sufficiently seen by an inspection of the Synod roll.

At this diet, it was announced that a donation of £200 sterling had been transmitted by the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, to aid the weaker congregations in the erection of places of worship. This generous and seasonable gift was duly acknowledged, and it was remitted to the Committee on accounts to receive applications for aid from this fund to report on their comparative claims, and on the conditions to be required of those receiving aid from it. This Committee reported before the close of the Synod, but we are not sure that we shall be able to give this report in the present number. They were all re-appointed however, and had various financial matters entrusted to them, requiring attention throughout the year. We accordingly give the names of the Committee, John Burns, Esquessing (convenor) J. P. Westland, Toronto, George Davidson, Aberdeen, James Paterson, Streetsville, Esquires, Elders, and Messrs. Stark, Alexander, and Harris, ministers. In the afternoon, the Synod heard the report of the Committee for the preparation of a Model Trust Deed: which was read by the convenor, Mr. Gale. The leading provisions of the document prepared by the Committee, with the assistance of legal counsel, were approved of by the Synod, and the Committee was re-appointed with instructions to have it completed, availing themselves still further of legal advice, printed and circulated throughout the Church. The full sanction of Synod could not in the circumstances, be given to the Deed, but the publication of the draft in the meantime, was designed, not merely to afford all parties an opportunity of making suggestions for its improvement, but also to assist congregations having immediate occasion to take conveyance of land; as to the proper mode of doing this, according to some uniform general principles. The Model Deed, we may here state briefly, provides for the holding of the real property belonging to congregations, and does not include any provisions respecting their ordinary pecuniary management.

The meeting on the evening of this day, was one of much interest, and the audience was large and attentive. The first subject taken up was a circular respecting the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of John Knox in Edinburgh. It was introduced by Dr. Burns in an able address, and the following minute was made in regard to it.

The subject of a monument to John Knox, in the course of erection at Edinburgh, on the side of the house which was inhabited by the great Reformer, and intended to consist of three Churches and Schools with a massive tower, was brought before the Synod by Dr. Burns and Mr. Stark, who had been named by the Committee in Edinburgh as corresponding members, when after due deliberation the Synod did and hereby do, cordially approve of the undertaking, recommend it to the liberal patronage of the members and friends of this Church, and appoint the following as a Committee, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of receiving and transmitting subscriptions in its behalf, The Moderator, Dr. Burns, Convenor of Committee, Mr. Stark, Mr. Gale, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Leishman, Mr. Clugston, Ministers, with Messrs. Westland, Burns, Milne and Gibb, Elders. The names of several other gentlemen were suggested as co-sponsors in this good work, a complete list, however, will no doubt be given by the Committee. The Synod, according to previous

arrangement, then heard the deputies of the Free Church of Scotland,—the Rev. Messrs. Fraser & McTavish. They were introduced by the moderator, and addressed the Synod at considerable length; dwelling principally on the revived state of religion in Scotland, since the disruption in 1843, and stating many cheering evidences of the general diffusion of a new and growing interest in Divine things; which in not a few places has assumed a very decided and spiritual character, betokening the gracious presence and working of the Holy Ghost. A series of resolutions expressive of the gratitude and affectionate regard which the Synod and Presbyterian Church of Canada cherish towards the Free Church of Scotland, and the able and devoted men she has from time to time deputed to visit and labour, was moved and seconded in very appropriate terms by the Rev. Mr. Hamilton of Picton, and John Burns, Esq. of Esquessing. A resolution was then moved and unanimously adopted expressive of the Synod's interest in the branch of the Church planted in New Brunswick, and of their desire for correspondence with the Presbytery of New Brunswick. A memorial from certain office-bearers and members of the congregation of Amherstburg and Dundas, urging on the Synod the immediate adoption of measures for the establishment of a Ministers' Widows' fund; was next taken up. The discussion on the subject was commenced by George Davidson, Esq. Elder, from Galt; who, after showing by various statements and calculations the practicability of bringing such a fund into successful operation in the course of a few years; and the duty incumbent on the Church in the matter, Moved that a Committee be appointed to consider the subject, especially as to any immediate steps, which it may be expedient for the Church to take in regard to it. After hearing the views and suggestions of several members, Mr. Davidson's motion was adopted, and a Committee was appointed who reported on Monday. On their report and after farther deliberation, the Synod appointed the following standing Committee on the Widow's fund,—viz: Messrs. Smellie and Gale, Ministers and Messrs. Davidson and Burns, Elders, with instructions to prepare a scheme of a Widows' fund, consulting some experienced actuary & corresponding with the Rev. Dr. Gordon on the subject; and in the meantime, to take immediate steps for raising a fund through subscriptions of Ministers, collections in congregations, donations from individuals, &c. This important matter was taken up with much cordiality, and we trust will be carried forward with vigour. It is intimately connected with the best interests of the Church, apart altogether from the personal feelings of Ministers.

Friday, 5th June.—After being engaged for some time in devotional exercises, the Synod proceeded to hear the report of the Sustentation Board, which was read by James Walker, Esq. the able and indefatigable Secretary of the Board; it having been agreed to take the discussion on the sustentation scheme, in connection with an overture on the subject from the Presbytery of Montreal on Tuesday. The report of the Board was received, after some animadversions by Dr. Burns, on certain expressions contained in it, and the diligence, faithfulness and disinterestedness of the Board in the matters committed to them, were duly acknowledged. The Board was re-appointed with some alterations and additions, intended to introduce into it a more equal representation of the various sections of the Church. It is composed as follows:—John Redpath, Esq. Montreal, President; Messrs. Andrew Jeffrey, (Colbourg) and James Gibb, (Quebec) Vice-Presidents.—William P. McLaren, Esq. Hamilton, Treasurer; James Walker, Esq. Hamilton, Secretary; and Messrs. J. McMurich, James Shaw, J. Westland and J. McGlashen, of Toronto; C. C. Ferris, D. MacNab, J. Osborne, J. Davidson, and W. Cook of Hamilton; Messrs. W. Notman, and J. MacKenzie, of Dundas; Messrs. Dickson and MacKenzie, of Kingston; Mr. Fraser, of London and Mr. Dougal of Amherstburg; Messrs. Orr and MacIver of Montreal, and Mr. Mann of Quebec.

The Synod next heard the report of the College Committee, which was read by the Rev. Mr. Rintoul, Convenor. This all important matter engaged the attention of the Synod in the way of conference, till the afternoon hour of adjournment, when it was agreed that it should be again taken

up on the morrow. At the evening meeting, the Synod was addressed by the Rev. John Turnbull, of Miramichee; who gave a minute account of the proceedings of the brethren in New Brunswick adhering to our principles, after they had renounced their previous connection with the Scotch establishment, as also of the state of religion in that Colony.

SATURDAY, 6th June.—At the morning meeting of this day, the conference on the subject of the College was renewed, and continued for some time, after which, Committees were appointed to consider the suggestions and recommendations contained in the Report in connection with the views elicited in the course of conference, and to prepare a deliverance on the subject, to be submitted to the Synod. As also to report on the course of study to be pursued by candidates for the holy Ministry. An early adjournment took place to-day, to enable Ministers to reach the stations they had been appointed to supply on the Lord's day. In the evening, however, an interesting meeting was held for special prayer for the revival of religion—the Rev. Mr. McTavish giving an Address on the occasion.

Monday, 8th June.—At this diet the Rev. Thomas McLachlan, another of the Deputies from the Free Church of Scotland, was introduced to the Synod, and invited to take part in the proceedings. The subject which first engaged the attention of the Synod on this day, was the correspondence with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland; and it was resolved that a special request should be addressed to that Church, through their Moderator, that they will send out a Deputation to visit Canada. This matter we doubt not will be pressed in respectful but urgent terms; and we trust with success. Much as we have been indebted to the Irish Church, they will be convinced when they visit this land, that it has still larger claims upon their attention. Applications were made by the Presbyteries of Toronto and Hamilton for leave to take certain students on trials for license. Leave was accordingly granted to the Presbytery of Toronto, in the case of Mr. Peter Gray, who has completed the prescribed course; and conditionally in the case of Mr. Robert F. Burns, and Mr. Boyd; and to the Presbytery of Hamilton, in the case of Mr. Lachlan McPherson, and Mr. William Ross Sutherland.

The Synod next called for the Report of the Committee on union with the United Secession Missionary Synod, which was given in by Mr. Gale, the convenor. After lengthened reasoning, it was moved by Dr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLean, and unanimously agreed to, that the Synod, without giving any opinion on the statement of principles drawn up and now read by the Committee of this Synod, approve of their diligence, and of the kind and pacific spirit in which the conferences appear to have been conducted; find that no statement of principles on the part of the Committee of the Missionary Synod has been given in, and that therefore the Synod are precluded from coming to any decision on the matter; and therefore renew the Committee with instructions to receive any such statement that may be given in, to give it their serious and mature consideration, and report their opinion respecting the same. The Synod further resolve to record their conviction of the vast importance of the principle, that men in their national as well as in their individual capacity, are bound to honour God, and to regulate their proceedings by the rules of His Word, and that Christ is King of Nations, as well as Head of the Church; and the Synod, having ample confidence in the faithfulness of their Committee on this as well as on the other branches of the testimony of this Church, commend them to the guidance of that wisdom which cometh from above, which is first pure and then peaceable.

The Synod next heard the overture from the Presbytery of Montreal, on the encouraging of Popery and Popish practices, and the following deliverance was agreed to on the subject:—

After reasoning on the subject, it was moved and seconded, That the Synod receive the Overture with approbation, and resolve to issue a strong declaration against the errors of the system of Popery, combined with a pointed disapproval of the conduct of those professing members of this church, who give countenance to the system by their con-