

together with four elders. Session Records not yet produced were again ordered for examination. By circulars Presbytery was informed of the intention to apply for permission to receive as ministers of this Church Mr. Neil McDougall of the Kirk, Mr. James Douglas of the Congregational Church, and Mr. Boyd of the American Presbyterian Church. A scheme of missionary meetings was adopted. Mr. Mitchell presented an instructive statistical report, of which a summary was ordered to be printed for circulation among the congregations. The deputations about to address missionary meetings were instructed to submit for consideration the importance of congregational libraries, and to urge the duty of hearty co-operation in the general work of the Church. Mr. Drummond gave notice that at next meeting he would move that the ordinary meetings of Presbytery be held at Stratford; and Mr. Musgrave, that commissioners to General Assembly be elected by ballot. The name of the congregation at Stratford was changed to "Knox Church, Stratford," and Presbytery gave its sanction to mortgaging its church property to secure money for paying debt thereon. A Presbyterial Conference was held on Sabbath school work, which was opened by Mr. Hamilton reading a paper on the subject. He was requested to publish it, and procure 3000 copies for circulation among the congregations. A committee was appointed to prepare suggestions for the improvement of Sabbath Schools. A motion of condolence with Mr. Hall on the decease of his partner in life was adopted. The clerk stated that Mr. Hall, being unable to be present, had requested him to lay before Presbytery the overture he had intended to propose. It was laid on the table till next meeting, and is as follows: Whereas, considerable dissatisfaction is believed to exist on account of the present method of appointing the standing committees of the Church, and whereas, it is believed that the interest of its members and office-bearers in its affairs would be promoted by some change, it is therefore humbly overtured to the venerable, the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church, that it would adopt the following, or other such rules as it may deem requisite. *First*: That the nominating committee shall consist of one member to be appointed by each Presbytery—the convener to be designated by the moderator. *Second*: That the nominating committee shall submit a list of the standing committees as proposed for the ensuing year, and also an alphabetic list of all the names contained in the same, together with the names of the various committees on which they are respectively placed, and shall cause these lists to be posted in the hall of the place of meeting not later than the first Friday of assembly. *Third*: That the assembly shall vote the standing committees on the next Wednesday. The remit on the standing of retired ministers was approved *simpliciter*. Mr. Gordon gave notice that at next meeting he would move that Mr. John McFavish of Woodstock be nominated Professor of Systematic Theology in Knox College. Mr. Thomas McTherson was nominated moderator of next General Assembly. Presbytery adjourned to meet for ordinary business at Stratford on the second Tuesday of March next at eleven o'clock.

JOHN FOTHERINGHAM, Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF SIMCOE.—This Presbytery met in the Barrie Presbyterian Church, on the 17th December, at 11 o'clock a.m. Eleven ministers and four elders were present. The chief items of business were as follows:—A call was submitted from Stayner and Sunnidale in favour of Mr. R. Moodie, late of Tecumseh, and was sustained. A stipend of \$600 besides a free house was promised. (Mr. Moodie has accepted the call). The state of the Muskoka Mission was considered; and since, from the poverty of the people, the students who laboured there last summer, have only been partially paid, the Presbytery resolved to effect a temporary loan to pay up the students' claims. The next meeting was appointed for the first Tuesday in March next, at 11 o'clock a.m., in the Barrie Presbyterian Church. Steps were taken to effect the payment of a sum of money, due by Guthrie Church, Oro, to the Rev. M. Fraser, of Barrie. An application from Willis Church, Oro, for a supplement of \$50 was recommended to the