

when, the question being taken, the amendment was preferred by a large majority.

#### Postponed.

The overture of the Presbytery of Halifax in favour of the adoption of the Hymn Book of the Free Church or that of the English Presbyterian Church could not be considered for lack of time. It was left over till next year. Rev. John MacKinnon's motion respecting constituent members of Church Courts was left over for the same reason.

#### Insurance of Churches.

Rev. G. Patterson, reported the action of the Committee on the insurance of churches, showing the applications, so far had been too limited in number to warrant the Committee in putting the scheme into operation.

Agreed that it be remitted to the Committee to prosecute the scheme, and they are authorized to put the scheme in operation so soon as the numbers making application will warrant it.

The order of last year for the Committee to consider the practicability of including manse, was renewed.

#### Evangelists.

Rev. Dr. McCulloch gave notice of motion next year for the revival of the office of Evangelists in the Church, and asked that Presbyteries should in the meantime, consider the subject.

#### SUPPLEMENTING FUND.

Rev. T. Sedgewick reported as follows, from the Committee on Supplements:—

In submitting their annual Report to Synod the Committee would begin by briefly presenting some account of their work during the past year; how they have carried out the Synod's recommendations, what success has attended their efforts, and to what extent their obligations have been fulfilled.

The Synod will remember that at their last meeting, full power was given to the Committee to take what steps they considered best to improve the condition of the Fund. It will not be forgotten that at that time it was far from being in a satisfactory state. More than fifteen hundred dollars had to be drawn from the Home Mission Board to meet deficiencies, while the amount asked for by the Committee far exceeded that of any former year. At the first meeting of Com-

mittee after the rising of Synod this question was the matter of long and anxious deliberation on their part and the conclusions to which they came were as follows:—

1. They felt themselves in the first place under necessity of authorizing the Secretary to communicate with the Colonial Committees of the Free Church of Scotland and the Irish Presbyterian Church, and instructed him while making no formal appeal, to give them a somewhat full account of the position and work of our Church, in the hope that they might take our circumstances into consideration and render us some assistance. The Synod are perhaps already aware that the Colonial Committee of the Free Church has responded by granting £100 sterling for two years, thus adding another to the many proofs they have already afforded of their interest in us. The Committee rejoice to think that in acknowledging their liberality they will be able to inform them at the same time that a part of their grant will be devoted to supplying the spiritual wants of that large colony of Scotch people who have recently settled in New Brunswick. No official reply has as yet been received from the Irish Presbyterian Church. Much to his surprise the Secretary's communication appeared in the *Record* of that Church with the remark appended that a good case had been made out, and from this and other facts in the Committee's knowledge, they entertain a strong hope that a favourable response will be given by them as well.

2. The Committee, in further carrying out the instructions of the last Synod, caused two circulars to be drawn up, explaining and enforcing somewhat fully the claims of the Scheme, the one intended for Kirk Sessions and the other for those individual members of the Church most likely in our judgment to help us. These circulars obtained a somewhat extensive circulation throughout the Church, and though the response to them was not perhaps so widespread and liberal as we expected the Committee feel that the result has amply justified them in taking this course.

3. And lastly Presbyteries were also visited by members of Committee in the interests of the Scheme, and it was kept before the Church throughout the year in the pages of the *Record*.

Such then are the means which the Committee adopted in carrying into effect the Synod's instructions and they are happy to be able to report that at the close of the financial year the fund was in a better position than ever before. All our obligations if not met altogether, have been very nearly so. Whether this result is in any measure owing to the Committee's efforts they will not presume to say, but be this the case or