

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA

THE MACDONNELL CASE.

After the General Assembly had received the letter of Mr. Macdonnell on Monday, the 18th inst., it was resolved to defer further consideration of the matter until Tuesday. On that day the case was happily disposed of in a manner which appears to give general satisfaction. At the opening of the session the Rev. Mr. Middlemiss, of Elora, Ont. moved a lengthy resolution, reciting the history of the case, and concluded by referring the matter to the Toronto Presbytery as desired by Mr. Macdonnell. The Rev. Dr. Proudfoot seconded the resolution. After some debate, another motion was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, that a committee be appointed to confer upon the subject, and if possible, make a satisfactory arrangement. This was carried almost unanimously, and a committee was accordingly appointed. In the afternoon the committee presented the following report:—

“The committee appointed by the General Assembly with a view of presenting a basis for a settlement of the matter relating to Mr. Macdonnell, beg leave to report that they have ascertained from Mr. Macdonnell through a sub-committee that in intimating in his last statement to the General Assembly his adherence to the Confession of Faith, he intended to be understood as saying, ‘I consider myself as under subscription to the Confession of Faith in accordance with my ordination vows, and I therefore adhere to the teachings of the Church as contained therein on the doctrine of the eternity of the endless duration of the wicked, notwithstanding the doubts or difficulties which perplex my mind.’ The committee, therefore, unanimously recommend that this state-

ment be accepted as satisfactory, and that further proceedings be dropped.

(Signed.)

“JOHN JENKINS, D. D.

“Convener.”

The reading of the report was received with applause, in which the whole Assembly joined. Its adoption was moved by Dr. Topp, seconded by Dr. McGregor, when the whole Assembly testified its approval by a standing vote. A feeling of great relief ran through the Assembly at this happy termination of the matter. The members joined in a hymn of praise and in the offering up of prayer. Many were affected to tears, and so deep was the emotion which prevailed that the further transaction of business became impossible, and the Assembly adjourned on the motion of Dr. Topp.

COLLEGE REPORTS.

On Monday reports were presented of the Knox College, Queen's College, Morin College, Presbyterian College, Montreal, and the Ladies College, Brantford, all of which were satisfactory. The debt upon Knox College was stated to be \$13,000. Respecting the Ladies College, the Revs. Dr. Topp, Principal Snodgrass, and Dr. Waters spoke in highly complimentary terms of the institution, and a motion was passed that the Assembly express its interest in it.

THE SUSTENTATION FUND.

On Wednesday several overtures were laid before the Assembly on the subject of the Sustentation Fund. After considerable discussion the following resolution moved by Dr. Topp was adopted:

“The General Assembly, deeply regretting the fact that, notwithstanding the great strength of the Church, so many of our ministers should be inadequately supported, expresses its deep interest in the subject brought before it by the overtures now read and supported, and therefore appoint a committee to-