

Presbyterian missions from 342 congregations who had reported was £9885:5:7. 288 congregations had reported the number of volumes in their libraries to be 121,688 being about a volume to each member of the church.

PSALMODY—THE HYMN-BOOK.

Dr. Joseph Brown laid on the table of the Synod the new draft of a hymn-book prepared by the committee on psalmody. He said they had been restricted to the number of 300 hymns, but, in preparing a volume which should be worthy of this church they had trespassed beyond the limits assigned by about 150. About 50 of the paraphrases had been incorporated with the work.

Dr. Thomson moved that the psalmody committee be re-appointed, with instructions to send down copies of the hymn-book to each minister and session, requesting such suggestions for its further improvement as they may deem proper, and that after considering these suggestions the committee be authorised to publish the hymn-book forthwith for the use of the church in such edition and at such prices as they may approve of.

Mr. Houston, Newcastle, he was a believer in the absolute sufficiency of the Psalms of David, and did not think they stood in need of the addenda either of Paraphrases or Hymns. That hymn-book, so long as he retained his present feelings, would never be opened by him. He moved that the thanks of this court be given to the committee for the great diligence they had displayed in this matter, but that no re-appointment be made. Mr G. Dunlop seconded this amendment.

On a vote being taken, only five or six hands were held up for the amendment, so that Dr. Thompson's was carried by an overwhelming majority,

At a subsequent stage of the proceedings Mr. Houston and two elders who adhered

to him lodged the following reasons of dissent:—"The undersigned dissent from the decision of the Synod in this case, inasmuch as it is their conviction, that the Psalms of David, being designed by the Spirit of God for the use of the Christian as well as the Jewish dispensation, furnish all necessary materials for the worship of the church in the article of praise."

SELLING SPIRITS ON THE SABBATH.

An overture was read from the presbytery of Dumfriesshire, praying the Synod "to declare that it is the law of the church that all ordinary traffic be suspended during the whole of the Lord's day, and especially the traffic in drink; and to adopt such measures as will secure the observance of this most salutary law."

Mr M'Dowall of Alloa, Mr Macgill, Glasgow, Dr. M'Farlane, of Glasgow, and Mr Elles, of Saltcoats cordially approved of the overture; and on the motion of Mr-Sinclair, of Greenock, it was unanimously agreed to.

A petition to the Legislature on the subject of Australian marriages was agreed to, and ordered to be sent for presentation to the Duke of Argyle and Mr Cowan.

A petition was also cordially adopted in favour of Mr Cowan's bill for the abolition of Tests in Universities.

PASTORAL ADDRESS.

A committee was appointed to prepare a pastoral address adapted to the times, a special reference to Popery.

CLOSE OF THE SYNOD

On Friday evening the proceedings having come to a close the Moderator delivered a brief valedictory address.

The Moderator having engaged in prayer and pronounced the benediction, the Synod adjourned, to meet again on the Monday after the first Sabbath of May 1852.

Finance, &c.

MEETING OF SYNOD.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia met in Prince Street Church, Pictou, on Tuesday evening 25th ult. after sermon by the Rev. James Bayne, retiring Moderator, from John xvii. 21: "That they all may be one; as thou, fa-

ther, art in me, and I in thee, that the world may believe that thou has sent me."

The Presbytery of Pictou reported, that since last meeting of Synod, the Rev. W. Millar of Mabou had demitted his charge of that congregation, which had been ac-