

Committee on Synod Fund.—Rev. R. J. Cameron, and John Cook and John Hegan, Esqrs.

Committee on Business.—Revds. D. McRae, R. J. Cameron, G. M. Grant, James Anderson, James Murray, and Wm. McMillan.

Resolved to grant Presbyteries permission to meet at the call of their respective Moderators during the meeting of Synod.

Resolved, unanimously, that a most cordial vote of thanks be conveyed to the retiring Moderator, the Rev. T. Duncan, for his attention, kindness, courtesy and ability during his term of office; which was conveyed accordingly. Adjourned to meet at 2 p. m.

The Court met at 2 p. m., and after devotional exercises by the Moderator, resumed business.

The Convener of the Committee on Business reported, suggesting the following as the order of business:—1. To hear the Report of the MONTHLY RECORD Committee. 2. Report of the Committee on Dalhousie College Fund. 3. Report of the H. M. Board Committee, and 4. The Report of the W. and O. Committee.

MONTHLY RECORD.

In the absence of J. J. Bremner, Esq., Convener, the Rev. R. J. Cameron read the following Report on the MONTHLY RECORD :

The Committee regret that in laying before the Synod the accounts and estimates of the RECORD for the current year, they cannot congratulate themselves upon its satisfactory financial condition.

The Secretary's account to date shows a balance on hand of \$17.77, and the estimate for the remaining seven months shows an apparent surplus of \$15.87. When, however, it is considered that the large amount of \$609.93 remains unpaid of subscriptions for the current year, and the sum of \$209.95 for subscription previous to 31st December, 1874, it can clearly be seen that at the present rate of outlay there must be a deficiency at the end of the year.

From the accompanying comparative statement of the circulation of the RECORD it will be seen that, whilst compared to the previous year there is an increase of subscribers in Halifax of 20, and in Miramichi of 2, making in all 22, there is a decrease in other places of 390, making the nett decrease 370. In one section of Pictou County, where last year the number taken was 110, this year it is 6. In another where the number taken was 70, this year it is 19. There will also probably be 50 more numbers discontinued after the issue of the present month, which will decrease the amount of subscriptions to be collected for the current year.

A considerable amount of loss has been caused by agents not sending in, in time, their lists of subscribers. The lists are not usually completed before March, and, expecting that on the whole the number would not be smaller than last year, the usual number of copies was printed during the first three months of the year. A number of agents this year not only ceased to act, but even failed to inform the Committee of their intention. If all agents who did not intend to act, and those who knew that the number of their subscribers this year would be much smaller than previously, had so informed the Committee, considerable unnecessary loss would have been avoided.

From accompanying statement it will be seen by whom amounts remaining unpaid are due.

If the publication of the RECORD is to be continued it might be possible to go on for a time shewing a surplus in the estimates for the current year, and commencing the following year with a debt larger than could be paid by amount to be realized from subscriptions due, but if the affairs of the RECORD have to be wound up, and debts due paid, steps will have to be taken to meet liabilities from some other sources, or the expenses for next six months will require to be reduced.

Respectfully submitted.

JAS. J. BREMNER, *Convener of Committee.*

Halifax, N. S., 3rd June, 1875.