

Ecclesiastical.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND SYNOD.

(By our own Reporter.)

MONDAY—FIFTH DAY.

June 10, 1872.

The Synod re-assembled at 12 o'clock, noon. Devotional services were conducted by the Rev. Robert Campbell, of Renfrew. Minutes of last night read and approved.

The report of the Committee on the life and work of the Church was read by Rev. D. Fraser, and referred to a Committee.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Ottawa was read, asking permission for the congregation of Iatfield to sell their manse and glebe, and divide the proceeds between the congregations of Havelock and Portage du Fort. Leave was granted by the Synod.

The Clerk then read a letter from the Secretary of the Colonial Committee, announcing that the Very Rev. Principal Campbell, of Aberdeen, had been appointed by the Committee to convey their fraternal greetings to the Synod.

Dr. Campbell being present, was introduced to the Moderator by Principal Snodgrass, and addressed the Synod as follows:—He said that his appointment was quite unexpected by him, and that the state of his health was such that he would scarcely have accepted if he had known that the other Scottish deputation were to have been present. The last time he addressed the Synod was 28 years ago, when he stood in nearly the same spot where he now was. Those were days of darkness and reproach, and at that time never was a Church so spoken against as the Church of Scotland. She did not do as she was done by, and the Lord has at length brought forth her righteousness as the light, and her judgment as the noon day. The Church of Scotland has increased the number of endowed churches to the number of 150 since he was a boy. The Synod of Canada is the eldest daughter of the Church of Scotland, and the one in which she recognizes most fully, her own lineaments and features. The mother Church had an interesting history, but this has a glorious future. He said he was not charged to convey anything in the way of advice or caution. The course of the Church of Scotland in regard to this Church has been one of non-intervention. This was wise. Although he had been once a minister of this Church and a Professor in the College, it was difficult for him to see the matters clearly enough to advise the Colonial Committee, and more difficult still, of course for those who had not been here. It would ill become him to say anything against the contemplated Union. The last words he spoke in the Synod were against the separation of the Churches. This separation was not to be wondered at considering the tendency of Scotchmen to magnify small matters into matters of principle. While we should not make too much haste in the matter of Union, we should always cultivate the spirit of unity, by taking our brethren by the hand and giving them credit for the sincerity of their offer and professions. It is out of this that the outward and organic Union should be allowed to grow. He closed by formally delivering the message of the Colonial Committee, saying that they wished us God speed; and with such pride in us as is lawful for Christian men, and thankfulness that God is with us, rejoice that we are contending earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints, sowing the seed which will make this wilderness a fruitful field and cause the rose and lily to spring forth where there are briars and thorns.

REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

This report was then read by Rev. Donald Ross, Chatham. They had examined Messrs. Lawig, Fraser, and Gaudier, and were highly satisfied with their attainments, and would recommend that they be taken on trial for license. They also recommend that Mr. Albert Whiting a licentiate of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, New Jersey, N. S., be received by the Church, and ordained without undergoing the usual year's probation required in such cases.

The report was received and adopted.

A letter was then read from the C. P. Assembly, appointing the Rev. Patrick Gray, of Kingston, as a delegate to this Synod. Mr. Gray being present was introduced to the Synod by the Moderator, and spoke as follows: He expressed the pleasure it gave him to convey to them the fraternal regards of the General Assembly of the C. P. Church. He had no direct instructions from the Assembly, but his appointment was significant, as he was well known to be rather an enthusiastic advocate of union. This he believed to be the most serious and important question we are called upon to face. In regard to the separation, strong feelings were awakened and harsh words spoken; but we should not keep harping on the past and casting reflections upon one another. He said that no fairly intelli-

gent man, thinking upon this matter rightly, could say that the men who led the division in Scotland did so without thinking that they had sufficient reason for the course they took. Whatever a man believes to be right and believes that God has commanded him to do it, he must do it at any cost. It is not strange that the past should sometimes be recalled and offences taken. Ephraim and Judah once vexed one another, but when the Healer came he brought them together, and I believe that the Great Healer is with us now. There would be sin lying upon us if we did not labour for union. Two thirds of the words of Christ were about brotherly love, and about being kind, generous, faithful, and true, and right. He honestly thought that if this Synod would appoint three men, and their Assembly another three good and true men, these, with two respectable men from the Lower Provinces, would be enough. We might say to them—We are satisfied to leave all things to you, and instead of sending it down to Presbyteries and Sessions, we will allow you to draw up the articles of union. We are agreed upon the great matters, and differ only on matters of detail. All Scotchmen ought to keep their eye upon that word, principle. This word has a peculiar sense in Scotland. A principle is a first truth. A man who is a traitor to principle is good for nothing. A man, however, may upset a great many principles in Scotland. Nineteen out of twenty will be found to be merely views of truth, right or wrong, as the case may be. In regard to the College, he said there was not a more ardent admirer of that institution than he was. He would oppose its removal. All the institutions might be received and dealt with afterward by the United Church. No fears need be entertained for Queen's College. It was once the College of us all. He was confident that after the union a large proportion of its students would be drawn from their body. In closing, he made a pleasing and affecting reference to the presence of Principal Campbell, before whom he once sat in the class-room. He also said that the success of the union between the Free and U. P. Church ought to encourage us to go on.

Rev. K. MacLennan proposed that a matter of difference between himself and the Presbytery of Toronto be referred to a Commission of Synod. After some discussion, this was agreed to.

The Presbytery of Perth were allowed, by request, to meet as soon as convenient for the ordination of Mr. Albert Whiting, whose case has already been referred to.

THE COLLEGE QUESTION.

This matter was then introduced by Principal Snodgrass. He examined the position in which it comes before the Synod. The resolution of last year was changed by the Joint Union Committee. The second resolution adopted by the Joint Committee, proposed a union of the Theological Colleges, and other radical changes. This he dissented from and it was not accepted by the C. P. Assembly in November last. That body adopted the first resolution with the addition that the Montreal and Kingston Colleges be so far endowed that they will be no burden upon the United Church.

He urged that we should accept the first resolution with scarcely any change. The attempt to amalgamate the Colleges has utterly failed. He complained that it was attempted to apply exceptional legislation to Queen's College. He was not yet inclined to agree to the proposal to put the College on an independent footing; or at least if this be done in the case of Queen's, he would demand that the others should be treated in the same way. He then moved the resolution above referred to, which is as follows:—That the negotiating Churches shall enter into union with the Theological and Literary institutions which they now have, and that application be made to Parliament for such legislation as will bring Queen's University and College, Knox College, the Presbyterian College, Montreal, Morin College, and the Theological College at Halifax, into relations to the United Church, similar to those which they now hold to their respective Churches, and to preserve their corporate existence, government, and functions on terms and conditions like those under which they now existed.

This motion was supported in brief speeches by Rev. Mr. Muir, of Galt, and McCroil, of Montreal; Revs. J. McCaul and Robert Campbell, Montreal.

Professor Murray then requested permission to express his views on this question. He said that it was a matter of deep regret to him that his connection with Queen's College was about to cease, and he took this opportunity of saying, lest any one should mistake him, that till the last breath he should draw he would never cease to take the deepest interest in its welfare. His present position enabled him to speak more freely than before. There have been many false statements made in regard to the College and its Professors have felt their tongues tied in answering these. Now he could speak out. He then referred to the small number of students, and said that an examination was easy.

During the past few years the very existence of the institution has been a problematical matter. Could we have expected students when the very existence of the College was in doubt. The wonder has been not that so few have come, but that there have been any at all. There was a temptation on the part of its Professors to try some kind of means to draw students, even at the expense of keeping up the standard. Now he would say fearlessly that we can open the records of Queen's College to the keenest scrutiny of its enemies and challenge them to detect anything that has tended to lower the standard of education in this country. With reference to the kind of Education given in Queen's College, having been for some years one of the examiners in the University of Toronto, he was in a position to compare the two. He could assure them that the education here was quite as thorough as that given in Toronto. He admitted that in consequence of the system of options in Toronto students could give their time to special subjects and reach a higher degree of excellence than our system permits. The students in Philosophy here take as far a position, to say the least, as those in Toronto. The proportion of marks required from passmen was higher here than in Toronto. He assured the Synod that from personal knowledge he could say that those in the General Assembly of the C. P. Church who were opposed to the Church having control over the superior education of ministers—were not wholly opposed to this, but merely held that our present circumstances did not require the Church to do this. He said that some such scheme as Dr. Cook's would satisfy all parties perfectly.

Rev. D. J. Macdonell, Toronto, said having been present at the C. P. Assembly, he could say that a large number were in favour of receiving Queen's College as it is. The large majority held that they did care about having Q. C. in the same relation, but they would not make this a bar to union. The minority, however, led by Professor Young, were influential, and their view ought to be respected, especially as they do not maintain the abstract principle so much as this, that it is not necessary at present for the Church to undertake the work of superior education. This is a matter of expediency, and we should make a compromise. He approved of putting the College on an independent footing, and thought that some of the Trustees might be appointed by the alumni.

MISSIONARY MEETING IN THE EVENING.

This meeting was held in the evening at 7.30. Interesting addresses were delivered by the Revs. Charles Tanner, Gavin Lang, and James Smith.

Messrs. Tanner and Lang confined themselves mostly to the French Mission and strongly urged that our Mission should unite as soon as possible with the French Canadian Missionary Society. Mr. Tanner said schools and some system of colportage were absolutely necessary to the success of the work. It was not possible for an obvious reason for ministers to do the work of colportage among the French Canadians.

TUESDAY—SIXTH DAY.

June 11th, 1872.

The Synod reassembled at 10.30 a. m. Devotional services conducted by Rev. John Ferguson. Minutes of last meeting read and sustained. Rev. J. S. Burnet gave in the report of the Committee and Presbytery records, which was received and adopted.

In the matter of the Rev. K. MacLennan's memorial the following commission was appointed, viz: Mr. Smith, Convenor, Dr. Bell, Messrs. J. B. Muir, James Craig and George Davidson, to meet at Whity at an early day with full powers to deal with the subject, and report to the next meeting of Synod.

Rev. R. Campbell, Montreal, gave in the report of the Committee on applications to retire from the active duties of the ministry. The following deliverance was agreed to:—That the name of the Rev. F. Nichol be placed upon the list of retired ministers, and that the Sustentation Board be instructed to grant him the same allowance from the funds under their management as if he were actively engaged in the ministry, and that application be made by the Presbytery of Toronto, to the Colonial Committee for a continuation of their grant to him. That the allowance to the Rev. John Whyte be continued for another year. That Mr. Johnson having resumed the ministry be granted his usual allowance from the Temporalities fund. Presbyterian certificates will be required from time to time hereafter, from all drawing from the Funds of the Church, who reside beyond the bounds of the Synod.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE LUMBER MISSION.

Rev. D. M. Gordon read this report. It was agreed unanimously that it be adopted, and 500 copies printed and circulated; that the Synod regard with satisfaction the progress of the mission; that the Committee be reappointed, and the cordial

thanks of the Synod be conveyed to them, and especially to the convenor, for the efficient and successful prosecution of this work.

REPORT ON THE REPORT OF THE MINISTERS WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

The Synod agreed to the following deliverance in substance:—That the report be received; that they regret that some congregations do not contribute to this fund; that Presbyteries be enjoined to remedy this as soon as possible; that the Synod rejoice in the increase of 10 per cent to the annuitants; that they record their satisfaction at having received a legacy from the widow of one of its original members; that they tender their thanks to the Board for their careful management, to the Hon. Alex. Campbell and Hon. A. Morris for their services in connection with the bill for amending the act of incorporation, and anew record their high appreciation of the valuable services of the Treasurer, A. Ferguson, Esq.

Rev. James Gordon was appointed assessor to sit with the Presbytery of Quebec, and Mr. Camelon assessor with the Presbytery of Saugeen.

REPORT ON THE REPORT IN REFERENCE TO "THE PRESBYTERIAN."

It was read by Rev. Mr. Black. It recommended that the present editorial committee, consisting of Revs. Dr. Jenkins, Lang, Black, and Mr. J. L. Morris be reappointed with Mr. Croil as Editor, whose salary with the other expenses of management be defrayed out of the funds of the periodical as the committee deem best; that an office be obtained, the expense connected with which to be paid out of the funds of the "Presbyterian," and out of the Temporalities and sustentation boards. The two last contributing \$100 each towards Mr. Croil's salary. Report received and adopted and thanks of Synod conveyed to Mr. Lang for his diligence in securing the success that has attended the publication of the "Presbyterian" in its new form.

The report of the Finance Committee was read by Rev. K. MacLennan, and adopted, and the Committee re-appointed.

REPORT ON THE REPORT OF THE MANAGERS OF THE SUSTENTATION FUND.

Read by Rev. J. Fraser. The Synod agreed to the following deliverance in substance:—That Mr. Borthwick be allowed \$100; that Presbyteries inform the Secretary-Treasurer of the amounts allowed to each congregation, and that they recommend some such system as the schedule, or envelope, for obtaining regular and liberal contributions to the fund.

An overture was read, signed by several members of Synod, craving that, any ordained Minister of this Church who shall be engaged in French Evangelization work, shall retain his full status in this Church.

On a division this was agreed to, and passed into an Interim Act, and sent down to Presbyteries for consideration, with instructions that they send up their opinions thereon at next meeting of Synod.

The Rev. John Gray, of Orillia C. P. Church, being present, was invited to sit and deliberate with the Court.

The Clerk presented the report of the Committee on References, Complaints and Appeals. Papers were held as read, and the Synod agreed to the following deliverance on the several appeals in order:—

(1.) *Morris vs. Presbytery of Montreal.*—Mr. Morris, having been recommended to withdraw his appeal on the ground that though his position may be technically right, yet that Mr. Johnson's appeal may be regarded as really a complaint and that could have been properly entertained. Agreed and withdrew his appeal.

(2.) *Johnston vs. Presbytery of Montreal.*—The Synod are of opinion that the Session had good grounds for judgment against the Appellant had they proceeded formally, and therefore, so far as concerns the merits of the case, dismiss the appeal. But inasmuch as the polity of the Church prescribes that before sentence can be pronounced on any person accused of an offence, a formal charge shall be served upon him, which was not done in this case, *quoad ultra* sustain the appeal. Further, inasmuch as the conduct of the Appellant in respect of the circular which he issued arose out of a misunderstanding of the proceedings of the Kirk Session, the Synod regret that the Session, instead of passing upon him so severe a sentence as suspension from the office of elder, had not in the first instance adopted the milder course of admonition and censure, and at the same time, in the opinion of the Synod, the reputation of the Appellant for truthfulness and integrity is in no wise compromised. And inasmuch as the Kirk Session have expressed, and do still express their anxious desire to secure Mr. Johnston's cooperation in their efforts to promote the peace and prosperity of the congregation, and have shown this desire by withdrawing the sentence of suspension, the Synod hope that in this respect the Appellant will cordially comply with the wish of the Session.

(3.) *MacLennan et al. vs. Presbytery of Montreal.*—The Synod dismiss the ap-

peal on the ground that there is nothing illegal in the changes of posture complained of, and nothing censurable in the means employed to ascertain the mind of the congregation in this matter; and approve of the finding of the Presbytery declining to interfere with such changes, but express regret that the Session did not, in accordance with the resolution of 1862, (vide minutes pp. 27) proceed with greater caution in sanctioning these changes in the face of a considerable opposition.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the report on the resolution against the College question.

Rev. Mr. McNish, Cornwall, strongly urged the necessity of maintaining the College, and as a graduate of the University of Toronto, could assure them that there was the kindest feeling among the professors of that institution towards this College.

Rev. S. Burnet forcibly maintained that the Arts department should be abandoned.

Rev. Dr. Williamson in an able speech defended the College.

Professor Murray then at length supported the proposition that the College should be put on an independent footing. He said (1) It was the only course that would secure the permanent existence of the College; (2) It will reconcile our opponents in the other Church; (3) It will obviate the difficulty of State grants in the case of Morin College; and (4) It will still preserve a real connection with the Church.

After further remarks by Dr. Snodgrass, Mr. Macdonell Mr. D. M. Gordon and others, the following committee were appointed, viz: Rev. Dr. Snodgrass, Messrs. Campbell, Muir, Clark, Macdonell, D. M. Gordon and Croil, and report tomorrow morning.

The Synod was then closed as usual with praise and prayer.

WEDNESDAY—SEVENTH DAY.

June 12th, 1872.

The Synod re-assembled at 10 a.m. Devotional services conducted by Rev. D. Camelon, London. The minutes of last meeting were read and sustained.

Rev. Gavin Lang proposed that an address of welcome be presented by this Synod to Lord Dufferin, the newly appointed Governor General, on his arrival in this country.

After a short discussion, this was agreed to, and the following Committee was appointed to draft an address and present it:—Revs. Gavin Lang, D. M. Gordon, and James Croil.

Rev. Dr. Bell then introduced the Rev. Professor Bryce, of Manitoba.

Rev. J. S. Burnet asked leave to move that overture ament the conferring of degrees, which had been rejected by the Committee on Bills and Overtures, be received and laid on the table.

After some discussion, this was agreed to.

A Committee was appointed to effect a union of the French Mission with the French Canadian Missionary Society, consisting of Revs. Gavin Lang, Dr. Jenkins, Black, and Campbell, and Messrs. Croil, J. L. Morris, Tillie, and A. MacPherson.

MANITOBA MISSION.

The report on this Mission was read by Rev. Dr. Bell. Only 24 congregations contributed last year. £125 were sent to British Columbia last year.

Professor Bryce then addressed the Synod on this Mission. He said there was a strong desire for union there.—There are five Ministers in the Presbytery. In Kildonan congregation there are 700 people. There is another congregation at Lower Fort Garry of 50 families, part of their half breeds. There is another at Portage du Prairie of 50 families, and another between them. The attendance at Winnipeg is about 120. Then there was an Indian mission to Saskatchewan district. The mission in Kildonan is self-sustaining, and costs \$1100. In Winnipeg \$800 have been raised since February. They have built a church at a cost of \$2,500. Two churches are to be built at Portage du Prairie at a cost of \$1,000 each. \$4000 was obtained for the College from the people; \$2,000 have been raised for a ladies' Seminary. The C. P. Church expends \$3,500 yearly on this mission. He advised that our missionary be instructed to cooperate with their Presbytery. He closed by referring to the debate in the C. P. Assembly now in session, on the headship of Christ, and said that the majority feel that the Assembly do not wish this Synod to ask anything about it. He believed there was substantial agreement on this point.

The report, on motion of Mr. D. Fraser, was referred to the Committee on the Mission, with the view of securing the services of Mr. Hart, and leave was granted to the Presbytery of Perth to ordain Mr. Hart.

The Committee on the College Question, appointed last night, reported as follows:—That the negotiating Churches shall enter into union with the Theological and Literary Institutions which they now have, and that application be made to Parliament for such legislation as will bring Queen's University and