

now being put forth by our friends in Truro be successful, I have not the least doubt but the building will be boarded in and securely covered over during the winter, and when the spring comes it will be proceeded with to its completion in 1861.

GEO. W. STEWART.

Little River, Musquodoboit, Nov. 1st.

MINUTE OF THE PREYSEBTERY OF HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, N. S.

St. Matthew's Church, }
1st Nov., 1860. }

Which day the Presbytery of Halifax in connection with the Church of Scotland met according to appointment, and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

Sederunt—Rev. John Scott, Moderator—Rev. Messrs. Martin, Boyd, and Jardine—Ministers: Messrs. W. Hesson and P. Thompson, Elders.

The minutes of last ordinary meeting were read, sustained, and ordered to be engrossed.

The Rev. Wm. Stewart reported that he had ordained the elders referred to in the former minute, and dispensed the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sabbath, 23rd September, in Musquodoboit.

Mr. Martin furnished an account of the collections made and monies received from the different mission stations where he officiates for the last three months, and shows how he same has been expended, and was instructed to furnish a similar document at every meeting.

Wm. Stewart read a very interesting report of his missionary services in Musquodoboit and Truro for the last three months, detailing his ministerial duties and pastoral visitations, which afforded great satisfaction to the Presbytery.

The Clerk read the following documents from the session and congregation of Musquodoboit, namely, one giving an account of the sums paid to missionaries prior to the arrival of Mr. Stewart and others, stating how much has been paid to Mr. Stewart, setting forth the claims of the congregation, and desiring to be informed by the Presbytery what amount should be subscribed to secure the future services of a minister amongst them. After considerable deliberation, it was agreed that the Presbytery are not prepared, in existing circumstances, to return a direct answer to their enquiry, as they are not in a position to withdraw Mr. Stewart's services entirely from Truro, and the Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of this deliverance to the session of Musquodoboit.

It was then agreed that Mr. Stewart should be appointed to preach in Truro and Musquodoboit on the following Sabbaths, till the next meeting of Presbytery, viz., in Truro, Nov. 4th and 11th; Dec. 2nd and 9th;

January 1861, 6th and 13th, and February 3rd; in Musquodoboit, on Nov. 18th and 25th; Dec. 16th, 23rd and 30th, and Jan'y 20th and 27th; and he was instructed to bring a written report of his labors.

The minutes of the Synod were read, and the attention of the Court was called to those portions which specially refer to them.

Mr. Martin reported that he had been fully employed since last meeting of Presbytery in giving missionary services to the stations under his charge.

The Rev. Mr. Scott, the Moderator, stated that since last meeting of Presbytery he received a letter signed by three clerical brethren of the Presbytery of Pictou, bringing to his notice a statement said to have been made by the Rev. Professor King before the Free Church General Assembly, which met in Edinburgh last May, and suggesting the propriety of presbyterial action with a view to ascertain the truth or falsehood of the statement. The letter was read; also the Moderator's reply. A letter received by the Clerk from the Clerk of the Presbytery of Pictou on the same subject, was also read.

The Moderator then observed that, as known to the members of Presbytery, an explanation had been elicited from Professor King, at a Synodical meeting of the Free Church held in Pictou, on the 4th of October, and that if the Professor's explanations, a copy of which, as reported in the *Halifax Witness* newspaper, he (the Moderator) held in his hand, were read, it would be for the Presbytery to consider whether any or what deliverance should be recorded in reference to the same.

After some remarks by the members it was moved by Mr. Scott, seconded and agreed, that the Presbytery are concerned to have to animadvert on the explanation: They have to record their regret that when Professor King found he was made in the *Edinburgh Witness* to charge in effect with treachery and double-dealing the ministers of the Established Church of Scotland in this Province, he did not deem it necessary to have the report of his statement corrected in the papers in which it appeared,—and all the more, that he had reason to believe the report would be copied into the provincial prints, as in fact they have been—the editors of the papers giving currency to the calumny in the faith that they had the Professor's authority for the statement.

The Presbytery also observe with sincere sorrow that there was no expression of regret on the part of the Professor, on the occasion of his making the explanation for the incorrectness of the report, but instead of what would have been so natural, as in accordance with gentlemanly and Christian feeling, and of what, in the circumstances in which he was placed, was so called for, there was the taunt or wipe, so uncharitably conceived—"No one who knows anything of the