

committee on systematic beneficence in each presbytery endeavour under direction of presbytery to meet with sessions and managers where there is want of system in collecting for salary or for the schemes of the church."

#### AGED AND INFIRM MINISTER'S FUND.

The Report on this Scheme was submitted by Rev. E. Grant, convener. Two things are specially desirable in connection with it: (1) That every minister should connect himself with the Fund, and pay to it the small amount that is required, and thus be in a position to share the full benefits of it, when aged or sick. (2.) That every congregation should contribute something, however small, to the Fund year by year.

#### SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The Report was submitted by Rev. T. Cumming. In it and the discussion which followed, it appears that there is a great deal of unnecessary railway traffic and that open well patronized livery stables are a growing source of Sabbath profanation. The following resolution was adopted:

"The Synod records its approval of the efforts now being made to obtain from Parliament a Sabbath law for the whole Dominion, recommends Presbyteries and Sessions to take action in support of it by petition or any other way that may be deemed expedient, and authorizes the Moderator and Clerk to forward to Parliament in the name of this Synod a petition in favor of such legislation."

#### PUBLIC EDUCATION.

A Committee is appointed year by year to watch over the interests of Public Education, and to see that it is in no way used for the promotion of Sectarian interests. A discussion on the subject took place shewing that in all quarters where there is an opportunity the Church of Rome is using her influence to do away with our public school system and to establish separate schools. The following resolution was adopted:

"That the synod expresses its unabated confidence in the system of public schools in the Maritime provinces and would deprecate and resist any attempt to impair that system; the Synod instructs the committee on public education to exercise continued vigilance and to take such steps as they may

deem necessary to prevent any violation of the law should such be attempted."

#### HOME MISSIONS.

Monday evening was devoted to this important branch of the work of the Church. Rev. D. M. Gordon presented the report. The Synod had, during the past summer, 92 laborers in the Home Mission field viz., 43 ordained men and 49 catechists. Some of these are probationers supplying week by week vacant congregations. Some are settled as ordained home missionaries and some labor in the mission stations.

We raised last year for the work \$11,300 being \$7,900 for the work in the Synod's bounds and \$3,400 for the North-West. We had 67 missionaries in 1888: 78 in 1889; 92 in 1890 and during the same years an advance from \$6680 to \$11,300 contributions to the work. He asked for \$12,000 for the coming year. He held that at least \$3,000 should be given by this synod for the work in the North-West. He would stamp this young land for Christ. The Canadian North-West has thus far had the advantage of the American North-West so far as that which really exalts a nation is concerned. The Christians of Canada should do it. It is their special field. If they don't attend to it it will not be attended to.

A number of addresses were given showing the extent of the Home Mission fields in the different Presbyteries and the good work done by the student catechists, when the following resolution was adopted.

"The Synod having heard the statement made on behalf of the General Assembly's committee on Home Missions for this section of the church, and reports from various Presbyteries, desires to record its gratitude to God for the success that has attended the labors of the year and its hearty appreciation of the work done by our Home missionaries.

It urges upon the Sunday schools, office bearers and members of our church the duty of diligently studying the wants of our Home Mission fields, and the privilege of praying and laboring for the increased success of the work—it expresses its continued and cordial sympathy with the work in Manitoba and the Northwest, and commends that work again to the prayers and the liberality of the congregations within its bounds. The Synod pledges itself to use all diligence to raise the money that is stated by the committee to be necessary for the current year, and anew invoke, the blessing