

SEVENTEENTH SEDERUNT.

At the City of Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church, there, Thursday, the eighteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, at half-past nine o'clock in the forenoon :—

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada met, pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with devotional exercises, Mr. J. H. Beatt, at the Moderator's request, offering prayer.

The Minutes of the last Sederunt were read and sustained.

STATISTICS.

The Assembly called for the Report of the Committee on Statistics. The report, embracing extended details of the growth of the Church, the condition and progress of its various enterprises, and the financial condition of the several Schemes, was presented by Dr. Torrance, the Convener, who, at the same time, drew attention to some of the items of interest in the report.

On motion of Professor Bryce, seconded by Professor Gregg, the report was received, its recommendations were adopted, and the thanks of the Assembly given to the Convener for his great work and important services in connection with the Statistics of the Church. The recommendations are as below :—

1. That Presbyteries be enjoined strictly to watch against arrears of stipend to pastors in their bounds, and that on such appearing in the returns received from the congregations, they take steps to have them removed.

2. That Presbyteries require interim Moderators of vacancies to collect from these the reports of their statistics and finances, that they may appear in their proper place among those of settled charges.

3. That Presbyteries require congregations and stations to answer all the questions proposed, as for example, as to the amount of stipend received from all sources, and that paid by the congregation alone, etc., as this information must be available generally from the Treasurer's books, and to make full entries.

4. That the Assembly renew its injunction to those congregations that have not already complied, to close their year for the Schemes of the Church with the calendar year.

FINANCE.

The Assembly called for the Report of the Committees on Finance. The Report for the Toronto Section was presented and read by Dr. Reid, containing details of College Funds, Home Missions, Stipend Augmentation, Foreign Missions, Widows' and Orphans' Fund, Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund and Endowment of the same, General Assembly Fund, French Evangelization, General Expenses, Salary Account, and General Balance. The books, accounts and vouchers were attested as correct and in admirable order by the auditors, Messrs. John Y. Reid and Andrew Jeffrey. The report was received and adopted.

OVERTURE—PRINTING STATISTICS AND MINUTES.

An overture from Rev. W. Bennett, transmitted by the Peterborough Presbytery, was presented and read. The overture bore upon the expense of the extended Statistical Tables, and of the large number of copies of the Assembly Minutes distributed to Sessions, and prayed that a committee be appointed to consider the possible reduction of the Statistical Tables and of the number of copies of Minutes distributed to Sessions.