

Dr. McMullen moved, seconded by Mr. Alex. Bartlett, as follows:—

The Synod of Hamilton and London having, as enjoined by the General Assembly, considered the action of the Presbytery of Hamilton, in appointing a Ruling Elder, Moderator of Presbytery, and having heard the Presbytery in justification of said action: in view of the far-reaching nature of such a change in the practice of the Presbyterian Church as that involved in the case under consideration, the Synod deems it expedient to refer the case, simpliciter, to the General Assembly.

The Presbytery of Hamilton was cited *apud acta* to appear before the next General Assembly, in view of said reference.

#### REPORT OF AUDITORS.

Mr. Alexander Henderson, on behalf of the Auditors, reported that they had examined the Treasurer's books and vouchers, and found the same carefully and correctly kept. The report was received and a unanimous vote of thanks given by the Synod to Mr. Rutherford, for his long-continued services as Treasurer.

#### BRANTFORD YOUNG LADIES' COLLEGE.

Dr. Cochrane presented the report of the Brantford Young Ladies' College for the year 1895-96, in which it was stated that in spite of the widespread financial stagnation prevalent during the year, the attendance of pupils was greater than last year; that the College had been visited and examined by the representatives of the Synod and General Assembly, and that there would be twelve graduates in the Arts and other departments in June next. The Directors of the College gratefully acknowledged the patronage extended the institution by the Ministers and officebearers of the Church in the past, and their continued assistance in making the College worthy of the denomination with which it is identified.

Dr. Cochrane having spoken in reference to the work done in the College, the following resolution was moved by Dr. John Thompson, seconded by Mr. Neil McPherson, and unanimously adopted:—

That the report of the Brantford Ladies' College be received and adopted.

Further, the Synod expresses its gratification at the high standard of efficiency maintained in all the departments of the College, and at the large attendance of students.

The Synod especially congratulates the Board of Directors on the superior attainments, ability and success of the present teaching staff, making special mention of Mrs. Rolls, the lady principal; and also notes with its highest approval the careful attention given to religious instruction.

The Synod confidently commends the College to the cordial sympathy and generous support of the Church at large, as an institution unsurpassed for its religious influence, pleasant surroundings, home-like comfort and thorough culture; and appoints the Rev. E. Cockburn, M.A., of Paris, visitor for the ensuing year.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE APPEAL OF MRS. GAVIN ROSS.

The Moderator nominated the following committee to meet with all the parties in the appeal of Mrs. Ross, with a view to an amicable settlement of the case: Dr. McMullen, Convener; Dr. Laing, Dr. Sutherland, Dr. Battisby, Dr. Thompson, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Tolmie, Ministers, and Messrs. Reid, Bartlett, Barrie and Wilson.