

tery to take action on the memorial without full consent of all parties concerned, and inasmuch as, from the infirm condition of Mr. Mair's health, this Presbytery, in the discharge of their duties in reference to the spiritual oversight of the Congregations under their charge, take into special consideration the state of the united congregations under the pastoral care of Mr. Mair in respect of the dispensation of the public worship of God, and appoint another deputation with instructions to visit Mr. Mair and the Congregations of Chatham, Grenville and Hawkesbury, and confer with them as to the best mode of procuring a successor to Mr. Mair, or otherwise providing for the regular dispensation of public religious ordinances among them."

The above motion being put was unanimously agreed to and Dr. Mathieson, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Greenshields were appointed a deputation in terms of it.

Agreeably to notice given at last meeting, Mr. Patterson now moved that the Presbytery transmit to the Synod an overture the tenor whereof follows:

"Whereas the Synod did each year, from 1847 to 1852 inclusive, remit a draft form of procedure in the calling of ministers and did cause the same to be printed in the minutes of Synod, 1853, and transmitted as an interim act to Presbyteries for consideration from 1853 to 1856 inclusive; and, whereas at the annual meeting of Synod, 1857, only a small portion of said draft-form was revised and it was not then or since remitted as an interim act or passed into a law of the Church, and whereas it is desirable that, in a matter of such importance, the practice of the Church should be regulated by law, therefore the Synod is hereby overture to take the premises into consideration and do therein as may seem advisable."

There was read a letter from the Secretary of the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, intimating the appointment of the Rev. James Stuart to Point St. Charles and St. Joseph Street Suburbs.

"The Presbytery, having learned that the Rev. Mr. Stuart embarked on the 8th of Feb. last on board the Hungarian Steamship, which was wrecked on Cape Sable, and apprehending that he was there drowned together with all on board that ill-fated vessel, agree to record and hereby do record their humble submission to the Divine Will in this mysterious and sorrowful occurrence, by which numerous families have been deprived of dear friends, and the members of this Court of a fellow-labourer, who, they have reason to know from information received from various sources, was eminently qualified, both by his distinguished talents and excellent Christian character, for the sphere to which he was appointed; and their prayer to Him, whose paths are in the sea, that He would sanctify this dispensation to the surviving relatives of the late Mr. Stuart and to every member of this Court."

The Moderator read a copy of a letter addressed by him on the 5th of March last to the Secretary of the Colonial Committee, intimating the great probability of Mr. Stuart having been drowned and expressing the hope that the Committee would

endeavour to supply another Missionary without delay.

The Presbytery approve of this action.

The Moderator read a petition from 60 heads of families residing at Point St. Charles, expressing their gratitude to the Presbytery for the interest hitherto taken in their welfare and craving such ministerial supply for the future as lies in their power. Mr. Paul was appointed to officiate on the 13th, and Mr. Patterson on the 20th of May and Mr. McDonald on the 10th of June.

There was read a requisition numerously signed from the vacant Congregation of Beauharnois, asking the Presbytery to take steps to moderate in a call in favor of the Rev. Mr. Sym, of Russelltown, also a statement of the manner in which the Congregation propose to raise the revenue necessary to the support of Gospel ordinances, namely, by seat rents and subscriptions, showing further that the probable revenue will be \$445 per annum.

The Presbytery agree to meet at Beauharnois on Wednesday the 23rd of May at noon for the purpose of moderating in a call agreeable to said requisition, Dr. Muir to conduct Divine Service, and Dr. Mathieson to serve the Edict of Moderation on Sabbath the 13th. Mr. Paul is appointed to supply Beauharnois on the 27th of May.

The Clerk laid upon the table and read circular letters from the Presbyteries of Kingston, Toronto and Bathurst, showing that, having had the necessary certificates laid before them, they propose to take the following Divinity students on public probationary trials, viz., Alexander H. Boyle and Robert Campbell from the Presbytery of Kingston, James Carmichael from the Presbytery of Toronto and George Porteous from the Presbytery of Bathurst.

In reference to the overture transmitted by the Synod anent the support of ministers the Presbytery resolved that the overture be not approved, but that the Synod be recommended to take the whole subject of the maintenance of ministers into serious consideration.

Enquiry was next made whether Ministers had given their Congregations an opportunity of contributing by collection to the French Mission Fund. Replies in the affirmative were received as follow:—from George Town, Lachine, Huntingdon, Russelltown, St. Paul's, Montreal, Hemmingford, Laprairie and Longueuil and Dundee.

Enquiry was also made whether Congregations had made and sent in congregational statistical returns for the past year. The following were found to have done so: St. Andrew's, Montreal, Georgetown, Huntingdon, Russelltown, St. Paul's, Montreal, Hemmingford and Dundee. Instructions were given to sessions not having made returns to do so without delay.

Session Records, in terms of instruction

given at last meeting of Presbytery, were now called for. There were laid upon the table and examined the Records of the Sessions of Ormstown, Georgetown, Huntingdon, St. Paul's, Montreal, and Hemmingford.

The following Committee of Supply was appointed: Dr. Mathieson, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Snodgrass, Ministers, and Messrs. Alexander Morris and John Greenshields, Elders.

The Presbytery Roll was next revised and ordered to be attested and transmitted to the Synod as the Roll of this Presbytery.

This concludes the business of the meeting, which was closed with prayer, and the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in this place on the first Wednesday of August.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The usual Quarterly meeting of this Reverend Court was held in St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, on the 16th May. The following ministers were present, Mr. Brown, Moderator; Messrs Tawse, Johnson, Barclay, Mackerras, O'land, Gordon, Bain, Campbell (Brock), Douglas, Mackay, Ross and Camelon. The Eldership was also represented by the following members, viz. Messrs Barker (Markham), Stirling (Scarboro'), Mackay (W. Gwillimbury), Lockhart (Vaughan), Forrest (Hornby) and Madill (Pickering).

After the usual devotional exercises the minutes of the last regular meeting in February, and of the special meeting held at Scarborough on the 6th March, were read and sustained.

Circular letters were read from the Presbyteries of Kingston and Bathurst, intimating it to be their intention, with the sanction of Synod, to take on public probationary trials for License Messrs Robert Campbell, Boyle and Porteous.

A communication from the Knoxville congregation, craving the Presbytery to appoint assessors to receive the nomination of elders for that charge, was read. Said request was granted, and Messrs Mackerras, Porter, Camelon and Sharpe were appointed to meet the congregation for the object desired, and report the names of the elders elect to the Presbytery at their meeting in August.

Mr. Mackay, of Orangeville, reported that Mr. Lewis and he had fulfilled the appointment given them at last meeting to preach and ordain elders in the congregation of Artemesia. The reverend gentleman stated that they had met a most cordial reception from our adherents in that remote settlement, and had preached to large and attentive audiences.

Mr. Tawse intimated that he had engaged Mr. Hugh Cameron, Student in Divinity, to labour in his congregation during the ensuing summer, and requested the sanction of the Presbytery to this arrangement, which the Court cordially agreed to give.