

trated and purified by the influences of the Gospel, we should see nothing to envy in any other country, or in the physical condition of any other people.

The Rev. Doctor Brown, Professor of Greek in Marischal College, Aberdeen, was Moderator of the late General Assembly of the Free Church, and seems to have discharged the duties of that office with great ability. Deputies were present from the Presbyterian Churches of Ireland and of England, as also Dr. Capadose, Le Comte D'George, Professor La Harpe, and M. Bost, connected with various sections of the Protestant Church on the Continent.

The only subject which gave rise to debate, was the recent movement in regard to Christian Union and Evangelical Alliance. An effort was made to procure from the Assembly a declaration of its approval of the recent proceedings in this matter; and the question was actually brought to a vote,—the first, we believe, that has been taken in that Assembly since the Disruption. The Assembly, however, divided almost unanimously, only seven voting in the minority, against the desired disapproval which would have operated as a prohibition on the ministers of the Free Church taking any part, even individually, in the union proceedings.

The Sustentation Fund is still prospering,—amounting to £23,600 for the past year. We shall afterwards be able to give further notices of this Assembly, the interest of which seems fully to equal that of their former meetings since the Disruption.

THE SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA.

The following sketch of the proceedings of the Synod, at its last meeting, is prepared from notes supplied by the Clerk; and although hastily drawn up, may yet be depended on for accuracy.

The Synod met in Knox's Church, Hamilton, according to appointment, on Wednesday the 3d June. At 7 o'clock, P. M., of that day, the Rev. ROBERT BURNS, D. D., Minister of Knox's Church, Toronto—the last Moderator—conducted public worship, and preached from Ephesians i. 22—"And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the Church;" and Colossians i. 18—"And he is the head of the body, the Church."

Besides the members of Synod, a large proportion of whom were already in their places, a numerous body of the people were present on this occasion. The object of Dr. Burns in this discourse was to state and illustrate certain particulars—first, respecting Christ's Headship over His Church—and, secondly, respecting His Headship over the nations. It was listened to with marked attention by the audience, and we are glad to be able to state that it is Dr. Burns' intention that it be printed and circulated among the office-bearers and members of the Church. A discourse on a subject so important and so extensive and complicated in its bearings ought to be printed. It can hardly be adequately appreciated, without being deliberately perused.

Public Worship being concluded, Dr. Burns took the Chair, and proceeded to constitute the Synod with prayer. The Synod Roll having been made up, was read by the Rev. Mr. RINTOUL, the Synod Clerk, when the Rev. JOHN BAYNE, Minister at Galt, in the Presbytery of Hamilton, was unanimously chosen Moderator of Synod. Mr. BAYNE, on taking the Chair, addressed the Synod at some length, and in very appropriate and impressive terms; but we regret that we are unable to furnish even an outline of what he said.—The appointment of Committees for Bills and Overtures, and for various departments of the routine business of the Synod, closed the proceedings of this evening. At the end of the report of this session will be found a copy of the Synod Roll, on which there now stand the names of 46 Ministers—just double the number which ap-

peared on it at the period of the disruption. This is surely a cheering fact, evidencing in a very unequivocal manner the extensive assent and approval which the great principles we are seeking to uphold and the position which we have assumed for the vindication of them, command among the Presbyterians of Canada. It may also be confidently asserted that our roll would certainly have been ere now increased by the addition of at least a third of its present members, had the congregations which are ripe for settlement been able to obtain Ministers. But we should feel at liberty to lay but little stress even on such a fact as this, were we not able in looking at it to discern the good hand of the Lord, and to cherish the hope that our Ministers are indeed men of God, whom the Lord Himself hath commissioned and sent forth in fulfilment of his own promise to His people—"Though the Lord give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers and thine ears shall hear a voice behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand and when ye turn to the left." It is our trust and belief that the Lord has been fulfilling this promise amongst us, and on that ground alone would we rejoice in increasing numbers. The promise is still left for those of our beloved people who are yet mourning over silent Sabbaths, and the privation of a stated Gospel Ministry. Ought they not to look at it as it now stands, unchanged and unchangeable in the record of God's grace, and rejecting all impatience and despondency repose in believing confidence on the Divine faithfulness, pleading earnestly and continually the fulfilment of His promise, and using diligently all such means as the word of God sanctions and requires, and his providence and grace supply. The fact we are adverting to is surely designed to teach this lesson to our destitute congregations. Let them mark then how the Lord has been fulfilling his promise to others in circumstances precisely similar to their own, and let them take courage and exercise patience.

We would also notice here the presence of several deputies from the Free Church of Scotland, at the meeting of Synod, viz: the Rev. ALEXANDER FRASER, of Kirkhill; Rev. JOHN McTAVISH, of Ballachulish; and the Rev. THOMAS McLACHLAN, of Moy, or Stratherrick; as also of a member, the Rev. Mr. TENNANT, of the Presbytery of New Brunswick. Mr. WILLIAM BURNS, whose labours have been so signally blessed in Scotland and in Canada, was also present. These brethren were welcomed with the utmost cordiality—had seats assigned to them in the Synod, and took a lively interest in the proceedings generally. We notice their presence here, more especially with reference to the incalculable benefit which they and their predecessors have conferred upon the Church, by their extensive and incessant evangelistic labours among our destitute people. Our obligations in this respect to the Free Church and her representatives, we can never sufficiently acknowledge: many a spiritually desolate place in this land has been made glad by their visits, and we have good reason to believe that the great day of the Lord will shew that their labours have not been in vain in the Lord. We feel constrained, moreover to express what we know to be the universal sentiment of the members of Synod, that the visits and fellowship of these devoted and able Ministers of the Gospel, have been felt throughout to be peculiarly refreshing and animating—a privilege which, as we have enjoyed it from time to time, has furnished us with a kind of experimental and practical evidence of the rectitude of the position we have assumed in regard to the Christian Church in Scotland, and which has greatly endeared that position to us, as having opened up and secured to us such spiritual intercourse and advantages. One other circumstance we must here advert to, viz: the full attendance of members at this meeting of Synod. There were present 34 Ministers and 25 Elders—in all, fifty-nine. With the exception of the meeting at Kingston, in 1844, at which the question of our relations with the Scottish Establishment was to be decided—we think the undivided body never furnished out so large an attendance of members as the above. In particular, the proportion of Elders present on this occasion was unusually great, and very gratifying, affording, as we think it does, satisfactory evidence

of a reviving interest and concern about the welfare of Zion amongst us.

SYNOD ROLL.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

HAMILTON.—Alexander Gale, Minister; Robert Ewen, Elder. DUNDAS AND ANCASTER.—Mark Y. Stark, Minister; William Miller, Elder.—ZONNA.—Donald McKenzie, Minister; Alexander Rose, Elder. GALT.—John Bayne, Minister; George Davidson, Elder. THOROLD.—Angus McIntosh, Minister; James Kenning, Elder. STRATHROY.—Daniel Allan, Minister; Matthew Neilson, Elder. FUSLISCH.—William Meldrum, Minister. GURZBY.—Daniel Eastman, Minister. PORT SARNA.—William McAlister, Minister. SALTPILEET AND BIRNBOURGH.—George Cheyne, Minister; John Colville, Elder. AYR.—Robert Lindsay, Minister. FERGUS.—George Smellie, Minister; Charles Allan, Elder. AMHERSTBURGH.—Robert Peden, Minister. TUCKERSMITH.—William Graham, Minister; Samuel Carnahan, Elder. ST. THOMAS.—John McKinnon, Minister; John Turner, Elder. CALIFORNIA.—Andrew Ferris, D. D., Minister. WELLINGTON SQUARE.—Gilbert Bastedo, Elder.

MARK Y. STARK, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

TORONTO.—Robert Burns, D. D., Minister; James F. Westland, Elder. STREETSVILLE.—William Rintoul, Minister; James Patterson, Elder. James Harris, Minister. Henry Eason, Minister. VAUGHAN.—D. Campbell, Elder.—NEWVAL.—D. McKinnon, Elder. WEST GUILDFORD.—D. G. McKay, Elder. UNION CHURCH, *Esqueping.*—James Fraser, Elder. NASSAWAYTA.—John Bell, Elder. ACTON.—John Burns, Elder. OAKVILLE AND TRAFALGAR.—David Duff, Elder.

WILLIAM RINTOUL, *Presbytery Clk.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

CAVAN.—(south).—James Douglass, Minister; Robert Seaton, Elder. PETERBOROUGH AND CAVAN.—John M. Roger, Minister; John Stotert, Elder. COBOURG.—Thomas Alexander, Minister; Andrew Milne, Elder. GRAFTON AND COLBOURN.—William Reid, Minister; Donald McKee, Elder. DARTINGTON.—Alexander Steele, Minister.

WILLIAM REID, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

PICTON.—W. Hamilton, Minister; D. Andrew, Elder. DEMORETTEVILLE.—James Rogers, Minister; Geo. Boulter, Elder. CAMDEN.—Thomas Wightman, Minister. KINGSTON, (*Bagot St.*)—Robert Reid, Minister. GANAQUAKE.—Henry Gordon, Minister; A. Auchinvole Elder. Alexander McLean, Minister.

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

BROCKVILLE.—W. Smart, Minister; George McNeish, Elder. PRESCOTT.—Robert Boyd, Minister; Geo. Scott, Elder. EDWARDSBURGH.—James Geggie, Minister; John Miller, Elder. OSOODE AND GLOUCESTER.—Wm. Lochhead, Minister. SOUTH GOWER.—Wm. J. McDowell, Minister; Andw. Carson, Elder. BELLAMYVILLE.—Alexander Luke, Minister.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.

PERTH.—Thomas Wardrope, Minister; Donald Kennedy, Elder. RAMSAY.—William Johnston, Minister; Robert Davidson, Elder. PERTH.—Andrew Melville, Minister.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

QUEBEC.—John Clugston, Minister. INDIAN LANDS.—Daniel Clarke, Minister; John Munro, Elder. SAINT THERESE.—David Black, Minister. LA CRUTE.—Thomas Henry, Minister. PORTNEUF.—S. C. Fraser, Minister. ST. GABRIEL-STREET, *Montreal.*—William Leishman, Minister; James Leslie, Elder. COTE STREET, *Montreal.*—Thomas Malachlan, acting Minister; J. Redpath, Elder.

DAVID BLACK, *Presbytery Clerk.*

ALEXANDER FRASER, JOHN McTAVISH, THOMAS McLACHLAN, Deputies from the Free Church of Scotland; JOHN TENNANT; Deputy from New Brunswick.

THURSDAY, 4th June.—According to arrangement on the previous evening, the Synod met this