

appointment was made. A call was given to Mr. Livingston, which having been accepted by him, he was inducted on the 19th of May.

At a subsequent meeting the Rev. David Stott, from New Brunswick, was received as a Missionary, and appointments were given him.

A memorial from Paisley to the Colonial Committee for aid in building a church was sanctioned and sent up to the Synod.

Mr. Masson having fallen into bad health, so as to be unable, for a time, to fulfil appointments involving severe travelling, he was, at the request by memorial of St. John's Church, Hamilton, stationed there for three months, where he has been able to labour without interruption, and his health is improving.

The Presbytery met at Hamilton soon after the meeting of Synod, and proceeded to give effect to the decision of Synod in the Dundas and Ancaster Case. The induction of Mr. Herald was appointed to take place on the 30th of June. A motion was made for holding a Presbyterial Visitation at Ancaster, to ascertain the condition and circumstances of the Congregations there; but this was negatived, and a Moderator appointed to organize the Elders at Ancaster into a Session, who will then communicate with the Presbytery as to their circumstances and wants.

Mr. Stott was appointed to Brantford for some months, and other appointments were made.

The Presbytery met at Dundas on the 30th June, and inducted Mr. Herald. Having laboured there as a Missionary for three months, Mr. Herald and the Congregation were not strangers to each other, and there is a cheering prospect that his harmonious settlement will be blessed to good results in his Master's work.

A Committee of Presbytery has been engaged for some time in collecting information respecting the great Home Mission field in the North Western part of the Presbytery's bounds. Although not yet well explored, enough has been ascertained to show that the Counties of Bruce and Grey have, with astonishing rapidity, become settled with a population containing upwards of 30,000 Presbyterians, of whom a large proportion are our adherents. Some townships are almost entirely filled with recent immigrants from the Highlands, and are in want of Gaelic Ministers. It is to be hoped that the Colonial Committee will turn their efforts to bear on this field of labour, and send us from 10 to 20 Missionaries without delay.

#### PRINTED MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The Clerk of the Synod has caused parcels of the printed Minutes of last Session to be sent to all Ministers and, in the case of vacancies, to Representative Elders, whose names appear on the Roll,

for distribution to members of sessions. Omissions and deficiencies, if any, will be supplied when the same are notified to the Clerk.

According to "Hill's Practice," at the first meeting of a Presbytery after the meeting of the Synod to which it belongs, the minutes of Synod, which are required to be transmitted to all the Presbyteries within the bounds, are read over.

According to Act 18th of the General Assembly, 1705, the agent for the Kirk is required, in all time coming, after every Assembly, so soon as the acts thereof shall be printed, to transmit as many copies of the same to every Presbytery as there be parishes therein; and both Presbyteries and Sessions are ordained, at their first meeting after receiving the said acts, to cause read so many of them as are of public concern, in order to their observing thereof.

The practice and instructions just quoted it is of the greatest importance for our inferior Church courts strictly and regularly to observe. They supply the most effective yet simple means we can think of for giving effect to the acts and procedure of the Supreme Court. The Synod could easily ascertain whether Presbyteries are in the habit of attending to this matter by enjoining the Committee appointed to revise Presbytery Records to see that the discharge of this duty is duly minuted, and in like manner Presbyteries could satisfy themselves in regard to the practice of Sessions.

When matters are transmitted for the consideration of Presbyteries, in order to their reporting thereon to the next meeting of the Supreme Court, it is of the greatest importance that the consideration of them should not be delayed until it be near the time of that Court's meeting, because Presbyteries may be thereby prevented from doing full justice to them, or perhaps from sending up any opinion at all; and, in reference to questions on which it is very desirable that the Supreme Court should be put in possession of the opinions of the Church as fully as possible, it is a good arrangement for Presbyteries to allot the consideration of such to certain meetings, instead of entering upon them immediately, so that all members may have an opportunity of informing themselves when the discussion of them is to take place, and so of being either present or inexcusable if not.

We now present the following list of instructions to Presbyteries and matters transmitted for consideration by the last meeting of Synod in the order in which we find them in the printed Minutes.

1. To see that a collection is taken up, as ordered last year, in all the congregations of the bounds, for the Jewish and Foreign Missions Fund.

2. To direct their attention to the arrears due the Synod Fund.

3. To furnish the Secretary of the Board of Managers of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund with intimations of all Ordinations and Inductions, and full reports of the regularity with which congregations, vacant or not vacant, make their collections for the Fund, with certification that, if they neglect this duty, they incur the censure of the Synod.

4. To see that individual Ministers make returns of the Church Property with which they are connected to Judge Logie, Hamilton.

5. The Overture from the Presbytery of Quebec on the representation of the Eldership in Synod.

6. To transmit to Dr. Mathieson without delay a full and particular account of all vacancies and localities where new congregations may be formed.

7. The Report of the Presbytery of Montreal on the nature and powers of the Commission of Synod—Appendix G, p. 59.

#### THE MEETING OF SYNOD.

In last issue we supplied to our readers the minutes of the recent meeting of Synod, in the belief that the more our readers are familiarized with the proceedings of this Judicature, and are led to form an intelligent opinion with regard to them, the better it will be for our Church. We shall also insert from time to time the various interesting reports that were submitted to the Synod. The meeting was an exceedingly interesting and harmonious one. Differences of opinion of course arose, as they will do in every assembly of freemen; but the members of the Court agreed to disagree, and respected the expression of each other's honest opinions.

There was much important business transacted. Our Church is evidently taking a step in advance. The numbers of our ministers are increasing, and there is a prospect that our many vacancies may be supplied. There is a wide field too for our Church to occupy, and we trust our people will yet create a large Home Mission Fund to enable her to do so.

It was a fitting thing that the Moderator of the Synod, the Rev. George Bell of Clifton, should have been the first licentiate of our Church in Canada. He is the first minister, born and chiefly educated in Canada, who has been called to that high office, the duties of which he discharged with befitting dignity. Five Students were ordered to be admitted to licence. The Jewish Mission Committee reported gratifying progress, and on their application the Rev. Mr. Epstein was admitted as a probationer of the Synod, and is now engaged in visiting the congregations in our bounds.

The Widows' and Orphans' Fund Report was on the whole of a gratifying nature.