

an alien one and under ban throughout the empire, and that its influence, as might be expected from its teaching, and as fully confirmed by its history, is hurtful to the public welfare and dangerous to the public peace.

(2) To express emphatic condemnation of the Jesuit Estates Act, passed more recently by the same Province, on the ground that besides carrying with it an unconstitutional and dangerous recognition of the authority of the Pope and consequent invasion of the supremacy of the Queen, it diverts public funds and funds held in trust for educational purposes to ecclesiastical and sectarian uses and is thus subversive of well-understood civil and religious rights.

(3) For the foregoing reasons to authorize the Moderator to sign a petition on behalf of the General Assembly to the Governor-General in Council asking for the disallowance of the Jesuit Estates Act.

(4) The Assembly is of opinion that all legal and constitutional means should be adopted to obtain an authoritative expression of opinion as to the constitutionality alike of the Act and of the Act passed two years ago incorporating the Jesuits, and it desires to give all countenance and support in its power towards the adoption and prosecution of measures aiming at securing this end.

(5) To call special attention to these legislative enactments, as, along with other occurrences affording evidence of the growing influence and aggressive spirit of Ultramontanism in our country, and to its persistent aim to gain ascendancy within the Dominion and to urge upon the members of the Church in the interests alike of Scriptural and evangelical religion, and of these civil and religious rights so dear to us and once more imperilled, to have prayerful regard to the situation in the exercise of their political franchise and other ways.

(6) To appoint a Committee whose duty it shall be to guard the interest of civil and religious liberty, and either by themselves or in concert with other bodies, to take such action if opportunity offers, as may have the effect of removing or reducing present perils, and to report this action at the next General Assembly.

The first, second and third were passed practically without comment. On the fourth, in reply to Rev. Mr. Bruce, Dr. King explained that the steps to be taken must commend themselves to the Committee before they would enter upon them.

Regarding the fifth section, Dr. King explained that there was a more important and more potent fact than the mere passing of the obnoxious laws referred to, the aggressiveness of Ultramontanism in Quebec, and, as some believe, in Ontario, and certainly in the North West. The Committee held that the people of Canada were face to face with a great peril from an active foe that would make every point a basis for further advance. He thought they had the right to demand that with the members of the Church the question of guarding Protestant and Evangelical religion should not be overlooked or made subordinate in the meantime to any other considerations whatever.

Rev. J. R. McLaren noted that no mention was made of the teaching of French in the schools of Ontario, and thought that the "other occurrences" referred to in the resolution should be specified.

Rev. Dr. King We could not well specify them. We in the North-West know many. For instance—and this is one I would not like to mention in the report—by far the most active immigration agent we have is a Roman Catholic priest and from his personality you will be able to judge what the character of the immigrants is.

Rev. Mr. Carmichael, of Norwood, contended that the French in the schools should be referred to.

The Moderator—Each one must interpret these "other occurrences" for himself.

Rev. Dr. Campbell stated that he had been appointed to sustain the overture of the Synod of Montreal.

His argument was to show that Jesuitism was merely the expression of Rome, and that the aggressiveness now shown was merely the outcome of decisions already reached in the Vatican. He dealt with the moral claim which the Jesuit Estates Act was declared to settle to show that it did not exist, and also with the contention that the other Provinces had no right to interfere, contending that the right existed by reason of the fact that these lands had been handed over to the Province of Quebec at the time of Confederation for a single purpose, and the other Provinces had a right to insist that that purpose only should be followed.

Rev. Dr. Watson spoke briefly in sustaining the resolution, which was then carried unanimously.

On the last section of the report Principal MacVicar said there were many omissions in the report, but it contained enough to commend it to the Assembly. For example, no attention was called to the fact that the Act provided for further grants to be made on their being asked for, grants to be used for education, arts or colonization.

Another indication that Quebec was being moulded in favour of Ultramontanism. The University degrees had been degraded so that a graduate of Oxford or Toronto was not qualified to study law or medicine, but he must have some additional qualifications which could be acquired only by study in some Romish institution. The object was to discredit the decrees of these Protestant or non-sectarian colleges and compel the young men of the Province to attend the Romish colleges. He argued that Canada had reached a crisis and that it was vain to attempt to draw fine distinctions between the Church and Jesuitism.

Rev. Dr. McMullen strongly supported the resolution and declared that there was a wonderful force of public opinion back of this agitation. He had himself addressed meetings at which leading men of both parties had unequivocally declared themselves in favour of united action, regardless of former party ties. The press of Ontario was with them, the two great dailies of Toronto being in accord in opposing the recognition of the authority of the Pope in Canadian legislation. The resolution was carried.

In relation to clause 6, Dr. King explained that what the Committee meant was really the appointment of a Vigilance Committee. This clause was carried.

The report as a whole was then put and carried by a unanimous standing vote.

Dr. McMullen again took the chair and the Assembly proceeded to judgment in the Galt heresy case. A paper was presented by the appellants which rendered necessary the recalling of the parties to the bar, and a motion to recall was moved by Principal MacVicar.

Principal King suggested the appointment of a small committee to read the paper and see whether it was of sufficient importance to be admitted.

A number of gentlemen opposed the proposition either to recall parties or to hear the paper read. They wanted the case gone into and settled without the introduction of any new matter.

The vote first taken was voided on a complaint of Mr. Carmichael, of Norwood, that several members of the Synod of Toronto and Kingston had voted, and the matter again went to the vote, with the following result:

For Dr. King's amendment.....53
Against.....73

On the original motion to call parties to the bar the result was:

For.....80
Against.....56

The parties were recalled and Dr. Laing and Chief Justice Taylor registered their dissent to the introduction of new matter.

The paper submitted by the appellants was then read; it gave a pledge that should the appellants be allowed to retain membership they would still recognize in the future as in the past the authority of the Chair, and refrain from teaching if called to order by the chairman of any meeting. The paper also asked what would be the status of the appellants, and what would be their privileges should they be allowed to remain in the Church.

The question before the house was the motion proposed by Dr.

Laing, which reads as follows: Dismiss the appeal and sustain the decision of the Synod and the other courts by which the appellants are suspended from Church privileges in terms of the judgment of the Primary Court. The Assembly affectionately beseech the appellants prayerfully to consider their peculiar views and position in the light which has now been cast thereon, and express the hope that they will respect and yield obedience to the judgment of the Supreme Court, and submit to the authority of the Session, so that they may continue to live in peace and love as members of the Church, with which they have been hitherto associated, and the privilege of being connected with which they profess so highly to prize.

Rev. Dr. Cochrane moved an amendment, because, as he said, quite a large number of members of Assembly were not altogether satisfied with that motion. The first part of the amendment was the exact counterpart of Dr. Laing's motion, but there were some suggestions to the second that he would like to see adopted. He desired to move that the court dismiss the appeal and sustain the decision of the Synod and the other courts by which the appellants are suspended from Church privileges in terms of the judgment of the primary courts. But in view of the fact that the statements and answers given by the appellants on the floor of the Assembly differ in the judgment of many in several important parts from the categorical answers contained in the printed minutes, and which were given to the Session before suspension; and further, in view of the earnestly expressed desire on the part of the appellants to continue to enjoy the privilege of membership in the Presbyterian Church, and that their conciliatory attitude before the courts gives hopes that they may now consider their position and desist in future from propagating their peculiar views, the Assembly appoint the following assessors—to act with the Kirk Session of Knox Church, Galt, to meet with and deal further with the appellants, should they further desire, with a view to their restoration to the fellowship of the Church.

In support of his amendment Dr. Cochrane said he believed the Church should do all possible to retain in her membership the brethren at the bar. The church could afford, independently of public opinion, to deal charitably with the appellants, and at the same time maintain the discipline of the Church. He did not believe that it was right to ask these appellants to suppress their views and still remain members of the Church. He did not believe in such a course. If he held those views he could not refrain from telling them abroad. Far better would it be for those brethren to go out of the Church than remain members subject to such a mental reservation.

Rev. W. S. Ball seconded the resolution, and in a few sentences voiced his belief in a policy of conciliation. If the appellants had still been under the pastorate of Dr. Smith, this trouble might not have occurred.

Rev. George Bruce regretted his inability to support Dr. Cochrane's motion. It seemed to carry some sort of reflection on the Kirk Session of Galt. The appointment of assessors seemed to do so. He did not altogether endorse Dr. Laing's motion, but it was the only practical course. He hoped something might be done to get a reconsideration of the case, always, of course, dismissing the appeal and sustaining the lower courts.

Principal MacVicar said the views advanced by the appellants were not new. There was not one thought in all this that had not been discovered long ago, and if the people who imagined they had discovered some new thing would only read a little they would find those views to have been held long ago. Proceeding, Dr. MacVicar analysed the position of the appellants on the question of sin.

In regard to the paper put in, he did not think that improved the position of the appellant, and he certainly was not inclined to make any special terms.

The vote was taken on Dr. Cochrane's motion, and the result was:

Yea.....25
Nay.....118

On Dr. Laing's motion came the final vote, and there was an air of gravity as the yeas and nays were called.

Yea.....128
Nay.....7

The Synod was sustained, the appeal dismissed, the parties called to the bar, and the judgment read by the Moderator.

Mr. J. D. Cranston—We acquiesce in the decision, and wish to thank the Court in the words I am about to read to you. On behalf of the appellants, permit me to say now, that this case has been decided against us in the various Courts of our Church, and, no further appeal being possible, we have to say that it must be very apparent to those who have been watching this case, that the decision which has been arrived at has been based on the records, meaning by that the answers given before the Session and assessors of Knox Church, Galt, at the inquisitorial trial, which were practically confined to yes and no answers, as has since been admitted by members of that Court. And we cannot help but think that injustice has been done us by the majority of this assembly. Our views we have stated fully, and fondly hoped that, with Drs. Ure, Laidlaw, King and others, that a broad, generous, Christian view of the case would be taken, as we as Presbyterians are substantially in accord with the principles and doctrines of our Church. However, we bow to the decision of the highest Court of our Church, believing as we do, that God's hand is in everything. In the future, as in the past, we shall as far as our intentions can make it possible, be loyal adherents, as in the past we endeavoured to be loyal members of our Church. Thanking you on behalf of the applicants.

Rev. Mr. Jackson—Permit me to say that the Session and officers of Knox Church, Galt, are deeply grateful to the brethren of the Presbytery, the Synod and the Assembly, for the interest and care with which they have considered this matter. I am also instructed to express deep regret that the time of the Assembly should be taken up by this matter, and to give the assurance that everything will be done in the Session that can be wished by all the brethren who have spoken on the floor of the Assembly, and that the assessors will always be consulted in this place, that is the assessors of the Presbytery. We hope to show that Knox Church is grateful for the kindness of the Assembly.

Rev. Dr. McMullen—I am exceedingly thankful that this protracted case is now closed. I have endeavoured to discharge the duties of the Chair with the utmost impartiality. I am glad now—I assure you—to give place to the Moderator.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Rev. G. M. Milligan in a discursive yet forcible oration, listened to near its close with scant patience, moved the adoption of the following deliverance on the Foreign Mission report: The General Assembly adopts the Report on Foreign Missions and tenders its cordial thanks to the committee both in the Eastern and Western Divisions, and especially to the conveners, for the ability and diligence which they have shown in the discharge of the important and difficult duties entrusted to them, records its thankfulness to God for the continued tokens of His blessing attending the labours of the missionaries in the fields occupied by the Church, expresses its satisfaction with the growing liberality of the Church in supporting the work of evangelizing the heathen, and marks with peculiar pleasure the steady advance of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Societies, East and West, and bestowed gifts in order to send the Gospel to the women and children of heathen lands, remits to the Foreign Mission Committee to consider whether in existing circumstances it is in a position to undertake work among the Chinese in British Columbia, and to take such action as it may deem judicious, and records its continued interest in a mission to the Jews, and remits it to the committee to continue its inquiries with a view to its being able to recommend definite action to next Assembly. Further, in accordance with the recommendation of the report the General Assembly agrees to constitute

the ordained missionaries already sent to labour in Honan—together with those now under appointment for that field—a Presbytery in connection with this General Assembly, to be known as the Presbytery of Honan, and appoints Rev. Jonathan Goforth its first Moderator, and authorizes him to convene the ordained missionaries at such time and place as may be considered most convenient on or after the first day of October next, and when they are convened and duly constituted the Presbytery shall appoint its own Moderator and Clerk and report the fact to the General Assembly through the Foreign Mission Committee. Further, the General Assembly commends to the liberality of the Church the high school and college work committed to Mr. Wilkie and trusts that all necessary aid will be given to him in his endeavours to raise funds to enable him to procure buildings requisite for the efficient carrying on of his work.

Dr. McMullen presented the report of the Committee on Reception of Ministers. The following were received: Messrs Jas. H. Beatty, E. B. Chesnut, Joseph Watt, W. H. Geddes, Barker, Mark Scott, E. S. Turnbull, James Anderson Beattie, George McKay, John L. Robertson, James Murray.

Professor Scrimger submitted the report of the Committee on Applications and recommendations relating to the standing of several students in theology.

Rev. J. Fleck reported for the Committee on the Book of Forms. After its adoption, Dr. Reid spoke in the highest terms of Dr. Laing for the work he had done in the preparation of this work, and proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Laing, and that \$500 be voted to him in recognition of what he had done. This resolution was seconded by Rev. Principal Caven, and carried unanimously by the Assembly. The Moderator presented the vote of thanks in a few cordial words, expressing high appreciation of the work Dr. Laing had done. Dr. Laing briefly acknowledged the Assembly's vote, and expressed the hope that the work would be out before October.

Rev. P. McF. McLeod presented the report of the Committee on Religious Instruction in the Public Schools. There are several recommendations, among them the following:

To express sympathy with the object of the Anglican Synod above referred to. To adhere firmly to the belief that the Bible should be made in the Public Schools the subject of a regular systematic instruction, such a rule to be combined with a conscience clause, and one empowering trustees to dispense with such instruction at will. To appoint a committee to watch legislation on this subject, and to secure the co-operation of other branches of the Christian churches for this end. The recommendations were taken up seriatim and adopted after a brief discussion. Regarding the compendium proposed, several Commissioners spoke in the highest terms of the Scripture selections authorized by the Ontario Government for use in the schools. Dr. Caven said, that as Chairman of the Board which proposed that book, he was glad to know the favour with which it was received. He declared that it was not the intention to make a sort of short Bible, leaving out the points which might be thought offensive, but to bring out as briefly as possible the great truths of the Bible. He sympathized with the idea of a compendium, but thought it would be exceedingly difficult to make one. The recommendations having been adopted, the present committee was re-appointed.

The report of the Board of the Brantford Young Ladies' College was presented by Rev. Dr. Laing. Among other distinctions achieved by students in the College was that five students passed the examinations of Toronto University, three taking full matriculation, two partial. Regret is expressed that the College does not receive such support as its merits warrant, or commensurate with the constituency represented by the Church. Important additions have been made to the teaching staff. Rev. Dr. Cochrane has, at the earnest request of the Board, resumed his connection with the College as Governor and also to give such service in teaching and otherwise as his time will permit. The College is maintained in every department and in every respect in a high state of efficiency. Rev. Dr. Thompson moved a resolution to adopt the report, expressing the sense of the Assembly of the importance of the College and appreciation of its efficiency, and satisfaction that Dr. Cochrane had agreed to resume his connection with the College and naming the Board of Directors. This resolution was carried. The report of the committee on the Record was presented by Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Montreal. The report showed an increase in the circulation, mainly in the mission fields of the Church, home and foreign. The report was adopted and the Record again recommended to the support of the Church.

Chief Justice Taylor presented the report of the committee on the Church and Manse Building Fund in Manitoba and the North-West. The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. J. K. Macdonald.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

At the evening Session Rev. James Fleck presented the report of the committee on Sabbath Schools, and, in doing so, expressed his belief that all members felt a personal interest, in the Sabbath Schools.

The recommendations of the committee contain, among others, the following, which will be of general interest:—That the favour of God, so evident in the past history of Sabbath Schools, should be fully acknowledged by the Church, and His full blessing invoked on some Sabbath set apart for that purpose, and for such other special services as will give due prominence to the training of the children and youth of the Church, and that the second Sabbath of September be the day appointed. That the Assembly instruct its committee on Sabbath Schools to prepare a brief hand-book on Sabbath School organization, classification, government, work, registration and systematic giving, to be submitted for consideration at the next General Assembly. That all congregations be urged to assume, out of their ordinary revenue, the support of their schools and to have some simple method of weekly offerings to the schemes of the Church adopted in every school. That the General Assembly appoint a general secretary of Sabbath School Work, who shall devote all his time to the work under the direction of the committee on Sabbath Schools. During the past year the committee inquired into the working of a scheme for the welfare of youth of the Free Church of Scotland, and in the report recommends the adoption of a similar one in Canada. In connection with this section of the report the thanks of the committee are tendered to the various gentlemen of foreign Churches who have aided in the researches of the committee. Appended to the report are the examination syllabus of the Sabbath Schools for 1889, instructions to examiners and candidates, and a copy of the official list of questions.

After the reading of the report Mr. Fleck gave place to the Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, who explained the clauses having reference to the welfare of youth scheme. He explained the scheme in detail and stated that it was already in operation in New South Wales, Australia and England, as well as in Scotland, and Mr. Fleck resumed.

The clauses of the recommendations were adopted quickly, some little discussion taking part on the fixing of the second Sunday of September as Children's Day. Several members thought the day was inconvenient. Dr. Watson Huntingdon objected to the recommendation that congregations assume the support of the schools and moved an amendment to the effect that congregations see that their schools be adequately supported. When the clause came up recommending that the General Assembly appoint a general secretary of Sabbath School work, who shall devote all his time to the work under the direction of the committee on Sabbath Schools:

Rev. R. Murray moved that the matter be referred down to the Presbyteries for an opinion as to its advisability.

President Forrest seconded and the recommendation of Mr. Murray was accepted by the committee. The report was submitted as a whole, including the clauses in reference to the welfare of youth, which were adopted for one year as an experiment.

(Continued on page 416.)