

when it was moved by Jas. J. Brömner, Esq., and seconded by Jas. S. McDonald, Esq., that the Presbytery having, through its members at four successive Synods, affirmed both the principle of Union and the Basis now submitted, desires formally to express its approval of the proposed Union, and instructs the Clerk to send it down to Sessions that they may ascertain the mind of the people on the subject.

It was moved in amendment by Rev. Mr. McMillan, and seconded by Rev. John Campbell, that the question be submitted *simpliciter* to sessions and congregations for their decision. Four having voted for the motion, and three for the amendment, the motion was declared carried.

It was then agreed that the Moderator and Clerk procure a suitable printed slip for voting to be sent down to sessions, and that they be requested to reply by next meeting, giving the number of communicants and adherents voting for and against Union—each session to decide for itself who are to vote as adherents.

The usual orders for supplements were granted, and the Presbytery then adjourned to meet in St. Matthew's Session Room, Halifax, on the 25th March, at 3 o'clock, p. m.

JOHN McMILLAN, Clerk.

Presbytery of Pictou.

St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, 25th Feb., 1874, which time and place the Pictou Presbytery met according to adjournment, and was constituted by reading of the Scriptures and prayer. Sederunt: Revds. C. Dunn, Moderator, A. W. Herdman, W. Stewart, D. McRae, J. W. Fraser, N. Brodie, G. Coull, R. McCunn, James McColl, J. M. Sutherland, and W. McMillan; and Alex. McKay, Esq., M. P., D. A. Fraser, Esq., John McKenzie, Esq., Colin Ferguson, Angus Campbell, Alexander McDonald, and K. J. McKenzie, Elders.

The minutes of last quarterly meeting and of 11th December were read and sustained.

Extracts of election in favor of D. A. Fraser, Esq., from Pictou Kirk Session, of Alexander McDonald from Gairloch Kirk Session, and of Hon. John Holmes from West and East Branches E. R. Kirk Session, were handed in, and sustained.

There was read a letter from Rev. R. J. Cameron, with reference to supplements.

Also, a letter from D. T. Hislop, kindly complying with the request of the Presbytery to act as local Treasurer for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

There was also tabled a Report of St. Andrew's congregation, New Glasgow, in the matter of union.

Moved by the Rev. Mr. McRae, seconded by Rev. Mr. McCunn, and agreed to, that each congregation be requested to deliver a report of the decision come to by its members, on the subject of union, at the next meeting of Presbytery.

Resolved,—That the Presbytery record their pleasure on seeing the Rev. Mr. Stewart, after some months illness, in restored health among them, and the Rev. Mr. McRae, after a few months absence, safely returned.

Missionary appointments given at last meeting were reported fulfilled, or about to be fulfilled.

Rev. G. Coull reported that he gave services at Vale Colliery as instructed, and recommended, that owing to the proportion of the people there belonging to the Church of Scotland, the Presbytery endeavor to give supplies at least twice every month; whereupon the Presbytery agreed to instruct Messrs. Coull and Stewart to give, each, a service there once a month for the current quarter.

Anent the Widow and Orphans' Scheme, it was moved by Mr. McRae, seconded by Mr. Herdman, and agreed, that a report be requested from each congregation as to what they have contributed, or are prepared to give towards establishing a Widow and Orphans' Fund, and that the members of this Court be enjoined to attend to this matter in their several congregations before the next meeting of Presbytery.

On application by the Rev. James McColl, the Presbytery agreed to meet at Earltown for Presbyterial visitation, on Wednesday, 11th March, at 11 a. m., in consequence of the weather preventing the meeting last year. Rev. Mr. Fraser to preach, and Rev. Mr. McCunn to address the people on the Widow and Orphans' Scheme.

In the matter of the Lay Association, it was moved by Rev. Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. McCunn, and agreed to, that each congregation be enjoined to make a collection for the Lay Association, and report at next meeting.

The facts connected with the sudden and melancholy death of the late Rev. Peter Keay, of St. Andrew's, New Brunswick, which occurred since the last meeting of Presbytery, were brought before the Court. Several members referred in touching terms to their high appreciation of Mr. Keay's character and worth, and to their very deep sense of the loss suffered by our Church through his sad decease. The strongest sympathy was expressed on behalf of the widow and orphans left by Mr. Keay. Much sorrow was manifested on account of the impoverished circumstances into which,