

MINUTES OF SYNOD, KINGSTON, JUNE 1ST, 1864. 15

Watson, John H. Mackerras, William Cleland, James Gordon, James Bain, John Campbell, James S. Douglas, William E. Mackay, David Camelon, James Carmichael, Kenneth McLennan, Walter R. Ross, William Johnson, James S. Mullan, Alexander McLennan, John Cook, Thomas G. Smith, Alexander Mathieson, James C. Muir, William Snodgrass, James Patterson, James Black, John Cameron, William Darrach, *Ministers*; and Alexander McLean, James Dingwall, Peter W. Conroy, Donald Dewar, Alexander Logie, Alexander Mitchell, Alexander D. Fordyce, David Allan, Robert Cranston, John McKinnon, John Cron, Archibald Petrie, George Malloch, James McIlquham, Donald McLaurin, George Neilson, George H. Boulter, Thomas Masson, Edward W. Thomson, Archibald Barker, Alexander Stirling, Robert Dennistoun, Alexander Skelton, John Thomson, Douglas Brymner, Alexander Morris, and Archibald Ferguson, *Elders*.

THE LATE VERY REV. PRINCIPAL LEITCH.

The death of the Very Reverend William Leitch, D.D., Principal of Queen's University and College, Kingston, having occurred since the last meeting of this Court, the Synod take the earliest opportunity of recording their sense of the loss thereby occasioned. By this dispensation, with which it hath pleased the All-wise Head of the Church so soon to afflict us, we are deprived of one to whose services we had reason to attach a very great value. His numerous accomplishments as a scholar and his eminent worth as a Christian imparted far more than ordinary weight to his personal character. In him both theological learning and natural science had a distinguished representative and an able expounder. Rare powers of observing and discriminating, exercised upon important practical questions, gave breadth to his views and force to his counsels, while the gift of lucid and effective expression seldom failed to secure consideration for his opinions. Whilst from his large and enlightened sympathies, the late Principal took a lively interest in the subjects of religion and education as bearing upon the welfare of mankind and the advancement of science, it is as a Minister of this Church, as a Member of this Court, and as Principal of Queen's University and Professor of Divinity during the last few years, that we, his brethren, are especially familiar with his name and acquainted with his career. In these several capacities he showed a zeal and an aptitude for work from which, it is believed, much benefit has already flowed, and the influence of which, it is hoped, may be felt among us for many days. This Synod, while lamenting his early departure, and sympathizing with his numerous friends here and with his bereaved relatives in Scotland, desire, with humble submission, to acknowledge the hand of God in this dispensation, and to pray that they may be enabled to reap therefrom the peaceable fruits of righteousness, and to learn the solemn lesson of the uncertainty of life and of the necessity of working while it is called to-day. The Synod hereby instruct their Clerk to transmit an Extract of this Minute to Miss Leitch.