

and agreed to recommend to the various congregations in the church to make provision for meeting the expenses both of ministers and elders in attending the meetings of Ecclesiastical Courts.

The Synod afterwards took up an overture from the elders on the subject of Psalmody. The Synod cordially approved of the overture, and recommended in terms of it, to all their people to conjoin praise with prayer, and the reading of the Scriptures in the exercises of family worship; and farther agreed to urge on Presbyteries and Kirk-sessions the importance of adopting measure to promote the improvement of Psalmody within their several bounds.

On motion made and seconded, the Synod agreed to transmit a loyal address to Her Majesty, with reference to the present position of the British Empire. The address was drawn up by a committee appointed by the Synod, and was in the following terms:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY—

We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the ministers and elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in Synod assembled, beg leave to approach the throne, to express our firm attachment to your Majesty and to the British Government.

It is our pride to cherish, in these trans-atlantic parts of your Majesty's dominions, the name of Britons, and we appreciate it as a signal Providential blessing, of which every day is only illustrating the value to dwell in a territory protected by your Majesty's sceptre, sacred to freedom, and participating in the benefits of British law and order.

At a time when our beloved country is involved in the calamities of war, in protection of European rights, and in asserting great principles of the law of nations, we feel it peculiarly incumbent upon us to proffer to your Majesty the assurance of our unflinching fidelity to the constitution we live under, and to assure your Majesty of our constant prayers to the great Ruler over all, that the present struggle may be brought to a prosperous issue, as well as conducted in that spirit of regard to the laws of humanity and honour, which has reflected a lustre, heretofore, on the British arms, and may give a fresh proof to the world, that the power of Britain is founded on a love of righteousness, and used for the furtherance of the world's peace.

That it may please the Great God of Heaven and Earth, to bless your Majesty, and your Majesty's Royal Consort, and all the members of the Royal Family, with every temporal and spiritual blessing, and to protect and favour your Majesty's fleets and armies, is the prayer—may it please your Majesty—of your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects.

Signed in the name of the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Moderator.

The Synod having appointed the Commission to meet at Toronto on the last Tuesday of October, and having recorded thanks to the office-bearers of Knox's Church for the comfortable accommodation provided for them, and also thanks to the christian friends in Toronto for their kind and generous hospitality, was brought to a close about 6 o'clock, p. m. on Wednesday, 21st, by an address from the Moderator, and solemn praise and prayer.

The next meeting is appointed to take place at Montreal, on the second Thursday of June, 1855.

SYNOD OF UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, met in Hamilton, on the evening of the 6th inst. There was a pretty full attendance of members. The business before the Court, with one exception, was not of public interest, having reference chiefly to the oversight of existing schemes.

The Moderator, Rev. Wm. Barrie, preached from Ephesians i. 22, 23, and Colossians i. 18, first clause of the verse.

For the new Moderator, the Rev. Mr. Skinner, seconded by Dr. Ferrier, proposed the Rev. Professor Taylor; and Rev. John Fraser, seconded by Rev. R. Thornton, proposed the Rev. James Dick. Professor Taylor was chosen by a majority of four, but declined to act. The Rev. Mr. Dick was again proposed; and the Rev. John Morrison, by Rev. Mr. Aitken, seconded by Dr. Wm. Taylor, when Mr. Dick was chosen and took the chair.

A Committee of the whole house was held on the state of religion in our congregations, but came to no definite result.

The Rev. Martin W. Livingstone, formerly of Musselburgh, Scotland, forwarded his testimonials, that he might be received.

An overture from the Presbytery of Flamboro' was read, respecting the better support of the ministry. A Committee was appointed to prepare an address to be read to congregations on the subject.

Overtures on Union, or for taken steps to promote Union with any evangelical denomination, and especially with the Free Church, were read from the congregations of Hamilton, Bethel, English Settlement, Warrensville, Bayfield; from the Session of Paris, and the Presbytery of Brant. After hearing several members express their sentiments, it was agreed to appoint a Committee to draft resolutions on the subject. That Committee afterwards presented a draft, which, after some amendments, was adopted. It is the following:—

With reference to the Overtures and Petitions presented to the Synod in favor of union with the Presbyterian Church of Canada—

Resolved—I. That the Synod agrees to express its cordial approbation of the spirit and object of these papers; and to declare its full conviction that the visible and manifested union of all real Christians, in their religious institutions and observances, is a matter of such vast importance, that almost every effort and sacrifice, not inconsistent with principle, ought to be made for the attainment of it.

II. That there are, in the judgment of the Synod, no sufficient reasons for this Church and the Presbyterian Church of Canada, continuing in a state of separation; and that many great and obvious advantages might be expected, under the Divine blessing, to result from their heartily uniting on sound and scriptural principles.

III. That the Synod recollects with satisfaction, that it formerly took some steps towards the realization of the Union in question, and that though the issue was then unsuccessful, the Synod is still ready to concur in any reasonable and prudent measures that may, at any time, be proposed for the accomplishment of so desirable and important an object.

IV. That considering how much unhappy and mischievous divisions among Evangelical Presbyterians has been occasioned by the question respecting the power of the Civil Magistrate in matters of religion, or in plainer terms, by the question of Ecclesiastical Establishments, the Synod takes the present opportunity of stating that the principle of this Church in regard to that question, has always been that it shall be matter of forbearance: and the Synod has great pleasure in reflecting that while the principle seems just and sound in itself, it has this special excellence that it presents a basis on which per-

sons, differing widely in their views respecting establishments, may, nevertheless, conscientiously and honourably unite, provided none of them regard these views as of such vital and momentous importance, as to demand that they be made a term of christian or ministerial communion.

V. That the Synod holds out every encouragement to the Congregations, Sessions and Presbyteries under its inspection, to give expression to their sentiments on this most interesting and important matter, and exhorts them earnestly and perseveringly to pray God that, under his blessing, the whole may terminate in what shall conduce most to the advancement of his glory and the peace and prosperity of his Church; the Synod at the same time declaring that it will eagerly embrace the earliest opportunity that may seem to present itself for giving practical effect to the reasonable, scriptural, and pious wishes of the people under its charge.

Ordered—That an authenticated copy of the Resolutions be sent to the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, about to meet in Toronto next week.

It was further

Resolved—That a Committee be appointed as a Standing Committee of Union, consisting of Ministers and Elders, to confer with any Committee from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, or from any other Evangelical Denomination, on this subject.

The following were then appointed a Standing Committee of Union in terms of the foregoing Resolutions, viz. :—

The Rev. Thomas Christie, Professor Taylor, Dr. William Taylor, and Rev. Messrs. Thomas Armstrong, Robert Christie, Alexander Smith, James Young and Alexander Burnet, Elders. Professor Taylor, Convener.

All communications connected with the Record and the several Schemes of the Church, to be addressed to "REV. W. REID, OFFICE OF THE MISSIONARY AND ECCLESIASTICAL RECORD," Toronto.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications intended for the Record should be in the Editor's hands by the 15th of the month.

THE RECORD.—All possible care is taken in addressing and mailing the Record. Should any irregularity occur in any quarter, in the receipt of the Record, intimation should be sent at once to this office, in order that the irregularity may be remedied.

In consequence of the amount of space occupied by the Proceedings of Synod, and those of the General Assembly of the Free Church, several articles have been deferred, also the Statement of the Presbytery of London's Home Mission Fund. These, with various Synodical Reports, &c., will appear in next number.

The Record.

TORONTO, JULY, 1854.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

The General Assembly met in Canonmills Hall, Edinburgh, on Thursday, 18th May. The Rev. Dr. Smyth, of Glasgow, the retiring Moderator preached a most able sermon from Isaiah xxii, 24, "And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house." Dr. Grierson of Errol, was then unanimously appointed Moderator, and on taking the chair, delivered an in-