

MAY 3rd.—The Synod met pursuant to adjournment. As agreed upon yesterday, the first hour was spent in devotional exercises. The Moderator and Messrs. Duncan McMillan, Jas. W. Mitchell, M.A., Thos. Goldsmith and Donald Waters, elders, taking part in the exercises.

The following is a synopsis of the principal items of business transacted:—

A committee was appointed to define the relation of the congregation of Kanakee, Ill., to the Presbytery of Chatham. They subsequently reported that the relation was that of a vacant congregation.

The Synod agreed to transmit a memorial from certain persons, members and adherents of St. Andrew's Church, anent the mode of electing Elders to the General Assembly.

A petition from the Rev. Robert Kennedy was also transmitted.

The remainder of the forenoon was occupied with the consideration of a protest and appeal of certain persons in the village of Lucknow against a decision of the Presbytery of Huron, refusing to recognize them as a separate congregation.

The Synod adjourned at 1 p.m., and met at 3, and after the opening exercises resumed consideration of the Lucknow case.

After hearing parties, it was moved by Rev. Mr. Fotheringham, and seconded by Mr. Hall, That we dismiss the appeal; sustain the decision of the Presbytery; instruct the appellants to seek those things which make for peace, and in regard to irregularities of which they may have reason to complain, to adopt the constitutional courses for their amendment.

It was moved in amendment by Dr. Waters, and seconded by the Rev. Thos. Macpherson, That the Synod, after taking a view of the whole case, agrees as follows: 1st—Sustain the action of the Presbytery in so far as immediate action in setting up a separate congregation was delayed. 2nd—That it is the opinion of the Synod that a church edifice should be built by the congregation of Lucknow within the period of eighteen months. 3rd—That should the congregation not build a church at the village of Lucknow within the period mentioned, the Presbytery be instructed to constitute the petitioners of the first part into a separate congregation.

The amendment was carried. The appellants signified their acquiescence in the finding of Synod. The Presbytery asked leave to retire to consider the finding. At a subsequent diet, the Presbytery protested and appealed. Reasons of protest and appeal were afterwards given in, and Mr. Thos. Macpherson and Dr. Waters were appointed to defend the action of the Synod at the General Assembly.

Took up and considered an overture from the Rev. Mr. Proudfoot recommending that the representation of Presbyteries be changed from one-third to one-half, and also that no elders be elected to the Assembly, save those who may be at the time of the election members of Presbytery. It was agreed to transmit, and Mr. Proudfoot and Dr. Waters were appointed to support the overture in the General Assembly.

Mr. Proudfoot was heard on behalf of an overture recommending considerable changes in the Record. On motion of Mr. Thompson, Sarnia, it was agreed to transmit the overture, and Messrs. Thompson and Proudfoot were appointed to support the same.

The Synod adjourned to meet at half-past seven, and after the opening exercises the records of several Presbyteries were ordered to be attested as carefully and correctly kept.

There was read an extract from the Session Records of the First Presbyterian Church, London, (Mr. Proudfoot's), transmitting a memorial to the General Assembly, praying that leave may be granted to the First Presbyterian congregation to use an instrument in public worship, and praying the Synod to transmit their memorial to the General Assembly. Mr. Proudfoot was heard on behalf of the memorialists, after which the Rev. Thomas Macpherson moved, seconded by Mr. Cuthbertson, that the memorial be transmitted. It was moved in amendment by Rev. Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Fotheringham, that the