

sions of the Free Church of Scotland, on the first Sabbath of September:—for the Home Mission Fund, on the first Sabbath of December:—for the College, on the first Sabbath of March, and for the Synod Fund, on the Sabbath before the meeting of Synod. Some slight emendations on the formula were then adopted. The thanks of the Synod to the members of the congregation of Cobourg, for their ample and willing hospitality to the Ministers and Elders attending the Synod, were uttered by acclamation, and certainly no measure adopted by the Synod was more truly merited, for the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, can never forget the warm and most considerate attentions which on all hands were paid to their comfort and accommodation. In this respect, the people of Cobourg set an example which scarcely has been equaled and cannot be excelled by any of our congregations.

The thanks of the Synod were also recorded to the Ministers Elders and Deacons for the use of the Church, as also to the Deputies from the Free Church of Scotland; and to the Free Church itself for commissioning so excellent a deputation.

The preparation of a pastoral letter was referred to the Commission.

The proceedings of the Synod were closed with an appropriate address by the Moderator from the Chair, and the Synod adjourned at half past 12, to meet at Hamilton on the first Wednesday of June, 1846.

We regret that the length to which the foregoing sketch has extended, prevents us from making the commentary on the whole proceedings of the Synod which we fully intended to offer. Scarcely a year has elapsed since our disruption in Canada, and in that short space we have indeed had cause to say that the Lord hath dealt bountifully with us. In the meetings of Synod also we have much cause for thankfulness. All things have under the guidance and blessing of God fallen out wisely and well. Our hopes have been exceeded, and our fears disappointed, and he who keeps Israel, and neither slumbers nor sleeps, has preserved our witnessing Church from all sore evils, and given us great expectations of good things to come. It is probable we may again return to this interesting subject.

THE PRINCIPAL ACTS OF THE SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, HELDEN AT COBOURG, 4th, 10th JUNE, 1845.

I. Respecting correspondence with the Presbytery of Niagara.

The Synod having called for the report of the committee appointed at the meeting in October, for meeting with the Presbytery of Niagara, the same was submitted by Mr. Stark, the Convener and read. The Synod approved of the report and with a view to removing the hindrances that are at present in the way of a union with that body; recommend that a brotherly intercourse should be kept up with the Ministers thereof, by the Ministers of this church, and that the Presbytery of Hamilton especially correspond with said Presbytery as occasion may offer.

II. Respecting an application to the Free Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of Ireland for Missionaries.

The Synod on the report of the committee of bills and overtures, took up an overture respecting an application to the Free Church of Scotland, for a supply of labourers in the peculiar crisis of this church, and the same having been fully discussed was adopted, and the Synod in terms thereof agreed that the Moderator should write to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, and urge them in the strongest manner to send forth to the aid of this church, Missionaries of devoted piety and suitable gifts, who may labour permanently or for a limited time amongst us.

The Synod also agreed that the Moderator

should write in similar terms to the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland.

III. Respecting the Theological College at Toronto.

The Synod called for the report of the committee on the Theological Institution, when the same was given in and read. The Synod unanimously sustained and approved of the Report, and resolved in terms of its recommendations respecting the Professors: That the appointment of Dr. Burns, as Professor of Divinity be declared to be final, and that the appointment of Mr. Henry Esosa, as Professor of Literature and Philosophy, be confirmed.

The Synod appointed the following committee to be known by the name of the College Committee, as recommended in the Report, with authority to carry into effect the various recommendations of the Report, specially those which respect additional Professors and the course of study, viz:—Mr. Rutoul, Convener, Mr. Alexander Gate, Mr. James Harris, Mr. Mark Y. Stark, Mr. John Bayne, Mr. George Cheyne, Mr. Thomas Alexander, Ministers, and Mr. James Paterson, Mr. J. P. Westland, Mr. Andrew Jeffrey and Mr. John Redpath, Elders. The Professors and Treasurer to be members *ex-officio*.

IV. Respecting Presbytery Rolls.

The Synod in conformity with the recommendations of an overture for uniformity in keeping the Rolls of Presbyteries, agreed that the names of ministers should stand on the Rolls of their several Presbyteries in the order of the dates of their ordination.

V. Respecting correspondence with the Missionary Synod of the United Secession Church.

The Synod called for the Report of the committee appointed to wait on the Missionary Synod of the United Secession Church in Canada. Mr. Gale reported that that Synod had not yet met but was to meet next week. The Synod continued the appointment of the committee with a change of some of the members, willing them, besides tendering to that Synod the christian greetings of this Synod, to express to them the deep conviction entertained by this Synod of the importance and practicableness of union on a scriptural basis, amongst all the sound Presbyterian Churches in Canada. And the Synod authorised the committee to confer on this subject with any corresponding committee of the Synod of the United Secession Church of Canada. The committee to be the Moderator, Mr. Gale, (Convener,) Mr. Bayne, Mr. Stark, Ministers, and Mr. McMillan and Mr. Kyle, Elders.

VI. Respecting apportionment of donation from the Free Church of Scotland for Home Mission purposes.

The Synod agreed that the Home Mission Committee be authorised to divide the donations from the Colonial Committee of £200, amongst the Presbyteries, for their several Mission funds, in such proportion as they may deem fit.

VII. Respecting the admission of Ministers and Preachers from other Churches.

The Synod having called for the Report of the committee to whom were referred reports of Presbyteries on the act of last Synod, respecting the admission of Ministers and Preachers from other Churches, and having maturely considered the same enacted: That Ministers and licentiates of Churches strictly and intimately in connection with this Church, and who shall have come in the way of orderly translation, or who shall have been expressly designated or commissioned as Ministers or Missionaries, by such churches to this church, shall on application to any Presbytery and on producing the proper documentary evidence, be at once received and admitted as Ministers or Probationers of this church. And that in respect of

all others making application to any Presbytery for admission into this church, and producing at the time of such application satisfactory testimonial of their godly and regular standing, in the churches with which they have previously been connected, they shall be dealt with as the Presbytery may see fit, in the way of private conference, examination and hearing them preach, with a view of fully ascertaining their personal piety, soundness in the faith, their ministerial gifts and efficiency, and their prudence and propriety of deportment; and when the Presbytery shall deem it to be necessary for greater satisfaction in regard to any or all of these points, they shall communicate with parties who may be able to communicate information required as to the applicants: And that when the Presbytery shall have been fully satisfied, and unanimously agreed to record their satisfaction, they shall cause duly certified copies of such deliverance with reference to the specific grounds on which it is to be transmitted to the Convener of the College Committee, as also to the various Presbyteries of the Synod: that the Presbyteries shall record a deliverance thereon, at their first ordinary meeting, if within three months of the date of the circular letters, and if not, at a special meeting to be called within that time, and transmit a copy of such deliverance without delay to the Convener of the College Committee, which committee in the event of the deliverance of the Presbyteries being unanimously favorable, shall examine the applicant personally, and if unanimously satisfied, be authorized to receive the applicant as a Minister or Probationer, according as the case may be, of this Church. But in the event of the members of the Presbytery to whom the application for admission is made, not being unanimous or any objection being offered by any of the other Presbyteries, that the application be referred to the Synod.

VIII. Respecting the Examination and employment of Catechists.

The Synod had transmitted through the committee of bills and overtures an overture respecting Catechists, and in conformity with its recommendations, the Synod after deliberation agreed that the Home Mission Committee be authorized to inquire after men of God, with suitable gifts and qualifications for the office of Catechists, with instructions to use all diligence and faithfulness in testing persons who may be placed in this office, either through the examination of candidates by the committee themselves, or examinations made by Presbyteries, and duly reported to the committee. And the Synod also agreed that the Home Mission Committee should be authorized to determine the stations in which Catechists should labour or correspond with Presbyteries in regard to their stations.

IX. Respecting American Slavery.

The committee on the Resolutions on American Slavery, reported a revised draft, and also a draft of a letter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and the same having been read and amended were adopted, and the Moderator and Clerk were authorized to have them engrossed and to sign and transmit them without delay. The tenour whereof is as follows.

1. That there are at the present time upwards of three millions of human beings, in the United States of America, who are held in bondage by their fellow creatures: are bought and sold as any article of property; and are in all essential respects as much the goods and chattels of their owners, as are their horses and lands.

2. That the proprietors of these slaves do claim the right of selling by public auction or otherwise, husbands apart from their wives, wives apart from their husbands, and children apart from their parents, and that such separations do in fact often take place, and "the rearing of slaves" for the market is well known to be a regular and lucrative trade.