

on Sabbath 30th inst., and had at both services a large attendance, though the day was cold and raw, yet it is most remarkable, how much the people desire to attend divine service. To-day, at 10 o'clock, a. m., I held the first meeting of my adult class, when thirty more pupils were enrolled. I find a number are too young, and therefore I shall make two classes, one for intending communicants, and the other for the explanation of the Shorter Catechism, devoting to each, an half hour's instruction.

In presenting this report of my labors in Musquodoboit and Truro, though it is hastily thrown together, yet I hope it will show that I have fulfilled all the Presbytery's appointments, with what success time will show.

GEORGE W. STEWART.

PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.

Halifax, N. S., 2nd Novr., 1859.

Which day the Presbytery of Halifax met, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt—Rev. John Martin, Moderator; Rev. Messrs. Scott, Boyd and Jardine, Ministers; Dr. Avery and Mr. R. McDonald, elders. The minutes of last ordinary meeting were read, sustained and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Jardine, the Convener of the Committee appointed to correspond with the members of our Church in the vacant stations within the bounds, urging upon them the necessity of contributing liberally to support missionary services, reported that he had written to the congregations in Musquodoboit and Truro, and produced a highly satisfactory letter from Mr. Jamieson, Clerk of St. Andrew's congregation, Musquodoboit, in reply to their communication. He further stated that he had received no information from Truro. The report of the Committee was considered satisfactory, and they were re-appointed and instructed to correspond with the other missionary stations, and to report to next meeting of Presbytery.

In compliance with the injunction of Presbytery, Mr. Stewart produced and read a most interesting and valuable report of his missionary services since last meeting of Presbytery, which was highly appreciated by all the members, and ordered to be published in the *Halifax Record*.

Mr. Stewart was appointed to preach in Truro on N. v. 6th and 13th; in Musquodoboit on Nov. 20th and 27th; in Truro on December 4th and 11th; in Musquodoboit on 18th and 25th; in Truro on Jan'y 1st and 8th; and in Musquodoboit on Jan'y 15th, 22nd and 29th.

It was moved by Mr. Jardine, and seconded by Mr. Boyd, that Mr. Stewart be authorized to ordain an ordained missionary to take suitable steps for the appointment of a Deacon's Court in Musquodoboit; for the formation of a Session, and any other arrangement for organizing the congregation there, that may seem desirable.

Mr. Martin stated that he had been fully employed in preaching every Sabbath since last meeting of Presbytery.

The Moderator submitted to the Presbytery a circular which he had received from the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, sympathizing with the Synods, Presbyteries and ministers of the Church of Scotland in the Colonies, tendering them friendly advice, and assuring them of the continued countenance and support of the parent Church in carrying out their public ministrations. The Presbytery, on hearing this important and friendly document read, felt greatly delighted at this renewed expression of the good wishes and affection of the parent Church toward her numerous Colonial brethren, and could not fail to be much encouraged in the prosecution of their arduous and important ministrations among our provincial population.

The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held on the first Thursday in February, 1860, at 11 o'clock A. M.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

THOS. JARDINE, *Pres. Clerk*.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

THE FREE CHURCH AND THE CARDROSS CASE.—DR. BUCHANAN'S SPEECH.

We thought we had some right to call our Church free. At least we paid a great price to secure her freedom. We thought, indeed, and still firmly believe in the historical fact, that the prerogative in question—the prerogative of an exclusive jurisdiction in matters spiritual—had been part and parcel of that constitution which the law of the land recognised and ratified as belonging to her, even as an Established Church. For 15 years we have gone on in the full belief that on this footing our great Disruption conflict had been finally settled and concluded. Nor did the earlier stages of this Cardross case in the least disturb this pleasing conviction. The Lord Ordinary, who was applied to for an interdict to hinder the execution of our spiritual sentence, dismissed the application as incompetent. Another Lord Ordinary, before whom the actions in this case which are now in Court were brought, sustained our preliminary pleas in the bar of the Court's jurisdiction, and gave judgment out and out in our favor. But things have now taken, or are threatening to take, a somewhat different turn. Mr. M'Millan, late minister at Cardross, was found guilty by the Supreme Court of the Free Church of certain grave immoralities, and was in consequence suspended, *sine die*, from the ministry. His case, therefore was obviously, and on the very face of it, a simple case of Church discipline. And what is it that he asks the Court of Session to do in regard to it? It is this, to have the spiritual sentence of the Church suspending him from the ministry, and