

Some member, who during sermon has been travailing with the self-imposed labor of love is soon on his feet to propose as Moderator one whom he esteems worthy, with reasons. Others may be nominated and a vote taken.

Not so this time. Rev. K. McLennan, of Levis, Que., whom I had noticed restless and troubled in the pew before me, rose and in words neat and fitting proposed Principal Pollok. Others who had thought of other names, after mentioning them, gracefully endorsed the first nomination, and the choice was unanimous and hearty.

The Moderator elect, with mover and seconder, retired. He dons a gown, is duly escorted back to the platform, and the retiring Moderator welcomes him to the chair. Dr. Pollok makes a brief address, thanking them for the election and especially for the manner of it, reviews some points in our church history, asks for patience and help in the work of the coming days, hopes they will make their speeches short and to the point, and for the benefit of the public notes that the evening meetings on the various departments of the Church work will be of a more popular character.

And now after arranging the hours of meeting, morning, afternoon, and evening, and the appointment of several committees, the Assembly adjourns, to sleep the sleep of the weary, and— — — the just.

Thursday, June 14, 1900.

Year Record,—

Of to-day and some of its sayings and doings let me tell. Realizing that except the Lord do build the house they labor in vain that build it, the first hour this morning was spent in prayer for guidance and help in Assembly, for our Church, our Country, our Empire, the world.

The remainder of the forenoon was devoted to business. Among the first items was the application of ministers from other churches to be received into our Church. The number applying was less than in former years, only seven in all. The names were read and referred to a committee to examine carefully into each case and report to Assembly. Applications from students, asking, for varied reasons, that their course of preparation be shortened, or that prepara-

tion along one line be accepted in lieu of another, were dealt with in like manner.

A pleasant incident of the morning was the presentation to the Assembly, by Rev. Dr. Black, of St. Andrew's Church, Halifax, of the pen used by the Moderators of the several synods in signing the terms of union in Montreal twenty-five years ago. Dr. Black was at that time minister of Erskine Church, Montreal, in which the Union was consummated, and took care to preserve the pen. Inclosed in a silver case, at this silver wedding of the Church, he presented it to the Assembly to be kept permanently in the Church offices at Toronto.

Next came that multum in multo, the Report of Dr. Torrance on Statistics. You can speak its name in a second, count its closely packed 170 pages in a few minutes, read them in as many days, and find in it subject of study for years. It tells that our Church has now on its roll 2,942 congregations and stations, with 210,326 communicants, of which 166 of the former and over 50,000 of the latter, were added during the year. It has forty-eight columns, each under a different heading, where the minutest details of the statistics and finances of each of these congregations, so far as obtainable, are given, and this immense table is but a part of the whole. There is no fact that can be put into figures, about any congregation or mission station of the Church that has not here a place. Growth or its opposite is seen. Every page teaches lessons of gratitude or humiliation for the past, of guidance and cheer for the future.

College Reports filled much of the afternoon. Halifax, Morrin, Montreal, Quebec, Knox and Manitoba, all are prospering and hopeful, except Morrin, which is closing, the Protestant and Presbyterian population not being large enough to sustain a college in Quebec city. But McGill and Montreal are not far away; and while the Maritime Provinces have their Dalhousie University and their Presbyterian College in Halifax, and great Protestant Ontario has its Queen's and Knox, with universities in or near, and Manitoba its full educational outfit, the Province of Quebec has also its McGill and its Presbyterian College, Montreal.

In these different theological colleges, during the past term, there were two hundred theological students, lacking one, thirty-