

tions to the Indians, yet, taking into account the state of the Foreign Mission Fund and the existing demands upon it, would not deem it advisable for the present to incur any new liabilities for this purpose; but they would present this object before the people, as having peculiar claims on their sympathies and benevolence.

6. The Synod would renew their expression of sympathy with the church in the Lower Provinces, on account of the fresh trials with which their South Sea mission has been visited, and their earnest hope that their missionary staff may be speedily filled up. They would further convey to Mr. J. D. Gordon, of the church of Nova Scotia, and one of their missionaries elect to the New Hebrides, their thanks for his presence and address, and their earnest prayer that he may be carried in safety to his distant destination, and be blessed in his missionary labours.

7. The Synod agree to grant, for the erection of the new church at British Columbia, the sum of \$300, in addition to the \$300 already granted by the committee, and the sum of \$200 for the churches at Assiniboine and Little Britain. They would approve of an effort being made privately, by Mr. Nisbet, to raise funds for the erection of a new school-house at Kildonan. They would also fully sanction the action of Mr. Jantieson in appropriating the proceeds accruing from the school at New Westminster, taught by him during a portion of the year, as follows, viz. for the Church Building Fund, \$100; and for the erection of a school-house at New Westminster, \$150.

8. They would recommend the publication of the report for circulation throughout the congregations of the church.

9. The Synod approve of the formation of missionary associations in congregations, wherever they are deemed practicable, as tending to develop a missionary spirit, and a more enlarged liberality among the congregations.

10. Finally, the Synod would affectionately urge on Presbyteries and Sessions to give increased prominence in their deliberations to the Foreign Missions of the church, they would bespeak for them the assistance of the children of the church, already in some measure liberally tendered, and they would commend it to the united prayers and systematic benevolence of all our congregations.

ASHBURN CASE—REPORT OF COMMISSION.—The Ashburn case, which occupied the attention of the Synod in 1862, was again before the Synod. It was brought before the attention of the Synod by the report of the commission appointed last year, and by several appeals and a memorial on the part of the Rev. T. Sharp. The papers having been read, were referred to the committee on causes, already appointed. It may be stated that at a subsequent diet this committee presented a full and elaborate report, presenting all the facts in the case, and expressing the opinion which they had been enabled to form thereon. They expressed disapproval of the action of the Session at Ashburn, in cutting off the dissentient elders and members. They disapproved also, in several particulars, of the action of the commission in the case, although sensible of the great difficulties with which they had to contend. They recommended that the complaint of Mr. Sharp against the commission be sustained, but that Mr. Sharp's appeal against the legality of a *pro re rata* meeting be dismissed, and that two other appeals be sustained only in so far as they were to be regarded as the following out by Mr. Sharp of his complaint against the commission. The report concluded by stating that all difficulty in this case was, in their opinion, now removed, by Mr. Sharp having tendered the resignation of his charge in a spirit which the committee were constrained to commend. The committee finally recommended, that the resignation of Mr. Sharp be accepted; and, that in view of the resignation of Mr. Sharp, and believing that the peace and welfare of the congregations at Ashburn and Utica require it, the elders now constituting the Session at Ashburn and Utica, including the dissentient elders, be removed from office in those congregations, it being at the same time declared that they are still elders of the church, and eligible for re-election; also, that the Presbytery of Ontario be instructed to provide for these congregations, as in the case of a congregation without a Session; and further, to employ all such legitimate and kindly measures as they may deem necessary, in accordance with the laws of the church, to restore unity and harmony in the congregations. The Synod received and adopted the report, and declared in terms of the deliverance recommended in the report.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO CONFER WITH PRINCIPAL WILLIS LAST YEAR, WITH REFERENCE TO HIS RESIGNATION.—The Synod having, on Friday, 5th, called for the report of the committee appointed to confer with Principal Willis on the subject of his resignation, the report was given in and read, with a letter from Principal Willis.