

Committee, namely, Mr. McCall, Convener, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Porteous, Mr. Fraser, and Mr. Black, Ministers; and Messrs. Robt. Lawrie, John Scott and Alexander, Elders.

On motion of Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. McCall, it was unanimously resolved as follows:—That in view of the facts, that the Presbyterian congregations of Waterdown and Nelson, of the Church of Scotland, and Waterdown and Wellington Square, of the Canada Presbyterian Church, are now without stated pastors, and that there is a near prospect of a union between the Churches represented by them, it is highly desirable that measures be adopted to effect a union of these congregations, in anticipation of the general union: resolved, therefore, that the Presbytery appoint a deputation to wait on the Presbytery of Hamilton, in connection with the Church of Scotland, to bring the proposal under their notice, and solicit their co-operation to give it effect. The deputation consists of Mr. McCall, Convener, Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Fraser, and these are instructed to report to the Presbytery at its next ordinary meeting.

Mr. Fenton, of Vittoria, was appointed assessor to the Kirk Session of Simcoe congregation.

The Presbytery of Montreal informed the Presbytery that Mr. Halley, of St. Eustache had declined the call of the Simcoe congregation. Mr. Cragie, Moderator of the Session, was re-empowered to moderate in a call, when the Congregation is prepared to proceed.

The Presbytery adjourned to meet in Central Church, on the 2nd Tuesday of October, at 11 a.m.

Kirkwall, August 13, 1873.

JOHN PORTEOUS, *Clerk.*

## Reports of Assembly.

### REPORT OF THE FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1872-3.

Your Committee have more than ordinary pleasure in presenting to the General Assembly the usual annual Report of the Foreign Mission work of the Church. They are confident that the statement they have to submit will prove satisfactory to the Church at large, and tend to awaken a deeper and more hopeful interest in the evangelization of the heathen. The work which they have to report as accomplished is not extensive, but it is of such a cheering character as gives promise of greater things soon to be realized.

The decisive step, long desired by this Committee, taken by last Assembly, of placing the work in British Columbia under the care of another Committee, and confining the attention and energies of this Committee exclusively to the evangelization of the heathen, has evidently been accepted by the Church as a fresh pledge of determination on the part of the General Assembly to prosecute the work of spreading the gospel among the heathen. It is, they believe, in no small degree owing to this, that, while influences have been at work which might have temporarily diverted the liberality of the Church into other channels, the ordinary revenue of the Committee has without any special effort continued to rise. It is also to be noted that the year which was inaugurated by the Assembly by the manifestation of a deeper interest in this great work, was, ere its close, marked by the Great Head of the Church with tokens of His favor, which may well make us take courage.

The transfer of British Columbia by last Assembly to the care of the Home Mission Committee, left your Committee little to do with that field beyond closing the accounts and bearing one-half of the expense for the past year. As a portion of the year had run its course before the transfer was made, rather more than one-half of the expense of the British Columbia work devolved upon the Foreign Mission Fund. In taking leave of this field, on which, during the past twelve years, not less than \$25,000 of Foreign Mission