

to present an address to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, congratulating them on the birth of a son, and heir apparent to the throne.

## DEATH OF MINISTERS.

It appearing from the reading of thereports of Presbyteries that during the past year five ministers had been removed by death, the Synod appointed a Committee to draw up an appropriate minute. At a subsequent diet, the following minute was presented and agreed to: "The Synod feels called upon, while observing the greater than usual number of Fathers and Brethren, who are reported as having been removed by death since last Synod, to recognise the sovereignty of the all-wise disposer in withdrawing from the field of their earthly labours, not only some of the more aged and infirm, but some also whose bow was yet in its strength. The Synod records its gratitude to God for the good services which He permitted their lamented Fathers and Brethren to render while spared to the Church, some of them having in no small degree distinguished themselves by their zeal in the public defence, as well as the promulgation of Evangelic truth; and all of them having in their congregational spheres diligently prosecuted the work of Evangelists, commending themselves to men's consciences by declaring both publicly and from house to house the testimony of God, exemplifying also, and some of them under circumstances of difficulty, and amid many tribulations, the patience as well as the faith of the saints. The Synod desires for itself to hear the voice of God admonishing each spiritual labourer to watch and work while it is day; and deeply feeling for the bereaved flocks and families, appoint an extract of this minute to be sent to the respective widows, or fatherless children, or nearest relations of the deceased, with assurance of our prayerful sympathy."

## REPORT ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

On the evening of Thursday 16th, the Synod called for the report of the Committee on the State of Religion. The report was given in by Mr. Torrance, Convener of the Committee. The report shall be given in full to our readers, but we may state here that it gave a statement of the means adopted by the Committee to ascertain the spiritual condition of the various congregations of the Church, and also a synopsis of the various answers received. From these it appeared that while there were many drawbacks and hindrances, and many discouragements to pastors, there were also some localities where there appeared to be indications of the gracious presence of God. Mr. McVicar gave an account of a revival of a very decided character, which had taken place in the congregation of Lancaster, the minister of which had not been able to attend the meeting of Synod in consequence of the work which was still going on among his people. The Synod unanimously agreed to receive and adopt the report, and record their thanks to the Committee for their diligence in the discharge of the duties with which they had been entrusted.

## KNOX COLLEGE, &amp;c.

The report of the College Board was presented by Mr. Dick, chairman, on the evening of Thursday the 16th. The Report, besides setting forth the facts bearing on the conducting of the classes &c, and the financial state of the College, referred to communications which had been received, viz. from Professor Young, intimating his acceptance of the situation of Inspector of Grammar Schools, and his resignation of his office of Theological Professor; from Dr. Burns, expressing his earnest wish to have some help in the discharge of the duties of his class, especially in the Evidence Department; and from Principal Willis with reference to his salary.

There was read also an Overture from the Presbytery of Montreal, setting forth the expediency of establishing a Theological Institution in Montreal. The Overture was supported by Rev. Dr. Taylor and Rev. D. H. McVicar.