

Thanks to  
Committee.

On motion, the thanks of Synod were tendered to the committee of correspondence for their diligence.

Congrega-  
tional  
Union, Mr.  
Ormiston's  
excuse for  
not attend-  
ing.

Mr. Ormiston stated that it had been impossible for him to fulfil the appointment given him at last Synod, as a delegate to the Congregational Union of Canada, for the reason that the meeting of that body was held in the city of Montreal, at the same time with the present meeting of this Synod.

Religious  
instruction  
in schools,  
Dr. Ryer-  
son's  
circular—  
report on.

Called for the report of the committee to whom was referred the circular of Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Schools for Upper Canada, in relation to religious instruction in the public schools. The report was given in by Mr. Dick, the convener, in the following terms:—"Your committee having considered the letter of the Chief Superintendent of Education, Canada West, and the subject of religious exercises in the Common Schools specially referred to in it, respectfully report: That while they oppose and deprecate all State enactments enforcing religious exercises in the Common Schools, yet they think it right that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments should be read daily in them, as a religious exercise, and that parents, teachers and trustees, should use all their legitimate influence to effect this desirable and important object."

Laid on\*  
table.

It was resolved to lay the report on the table until next meeting of Synod.

\*General  
agent,  
overture on,  
delayed.

Read and received an overture from Dr. Thornton, transmitted by the Presbytery of Durham, on the employment of a general agent, for all the schemes of the church. It was agreed that, at so late a period of the meeting, and in view of the great importance of the object, it was inexpedient to enter upon this matter, and that it be delayed till next meeting.

Rev. James  
Gibson,  
death of.

The committee to whom it was referred to draw up a minute respecting the late Rev. Mr. Gibson, gave in a report to the following purport:—

"This Synod would devoutly acknowledge the strikingly solemn dispensation of Providence in the sudden removal by death of the