

IV. That in view of the large deficit in the funds of the Home Mission Committee for the present year, as set forth in the overture before the Court the Synod instructs the ministers and elders within the bounds to bring the matter forthwith before their congregations with a view to a reduction of the large indebtedness; contributions to be sent at as early a date as possible to the agent of the church.

From this decision of the Synod Mr. Laing, with all who adhered to him, craved leave to enter his dissent, for the following reason:

"I dissent in my own name and that of any who may adhere to this dissent, because any appeal now made to the congregations and private members of the church, by authority of this Synod cannot be made general throughout the western section of the church, and may seriously interfere with any action that the General Assembly may see fit to adopt."

(Signed),

JOHN LAING,
GEORGE CHRYSTAL,
P. SCOTT,
J. G. MURRAY,
WM. P. WALKER,
WM. CRAIGIE,
WM. KING,
MUNGO FRASER,
G. GRAY McROBBIE,
P. C. GOLDIE,
F. BALLANTYNE,
GEORGE BURSON,
ALEX. FRAZER,
WM. HENDERSON,

REPORT ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Mr. R. N. Grant, Convener of the Committee on Sabbath Observance, gave in the report for the year.

On motion of Mr. Becket, seconded by Mr. Cuthbertson, the report was received and unanimously adopted, the thanks of the Synod tendered to the committee and especially to the convener, and the following committee appointed for the ensuing year, viz: Mr. R. N. Grant, convener; Messrs. P. McF. McLeod, Fletcher, J. A. Murray, Burson, Dr. Bell and Dr. Ure, Ministers; and Messrs. Thomas Gordon, Adam Spence, and J. Charlton, M. P., Elders.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The report on Temperance was read by Mr. J. Sievereight, the convener of the committee. On motion of Mr. Bruce, seconded by Mr. Inglis, the report was received, its recommendations adopted, and thanks given to the committee, and especially to the convener, for their diligence.

The recommendations are as follows:

Would recommend ministers to take an active part in the Temperance movement so as to secure that religious element which is so essential to success, and also aggressive, earnest, concerted action on the part of the church against this system of iniquity.