

to the Synod of Canada, and accordingly requested Mr. Henderson to use his influence with the Synod of New Brunswick, to appoint their next annual meeting so closely after the meeting of this Synod, that the correspondent whom, it is hoped, the Synod of Canada will commission next year may be able to attend both Synods, and also to use his influence with the Synod of New Brunswick, to send a correspondent to the Synod of Canada next year.

The Rev. Alexander Mackay, minister at Belfast, P. E. I., was appointed to correspond with the Synod of New Brunswick this year.

A vote of thanks was then unanimously passed to the friends of the Church in Pictou, for their kindness and hospitality to the members of Court during the present meeting of Synod.

The next annual meeting was appointed to be held at New Glasgow, on the second Wednesday of July 1857, of which public intimation was made, and this Sederunt was closed with prayer.

Public Meeting held in Pictou

During the sitting of the Synod, on Monday, 7th July.

A public meeting was held in St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, during the sitting of the Synod, which was respectably attended. Mr. Crerar in the Chair. After devotional exercises, the Chairman stated the object of the meeting, when the audience present were addressed by different gentlemen, members of the Synod.

The Rev. A. W. Herdman, Moderator of the Synod, said:—I have been asked to pave the way, and say a few words upon the Synod's proceedings. Church courts have their warrant in the word of God. We read of a Synod at Jerusalem, in which weighty matters were discussed and a decision come to. These meetings are not to be viewed as clerical assemblies, but meetings of laymen also, and for the good of the Church at large. I know not if I have anything of very great interest of a general nature, regarding our proceedings, to communicate, but matters of a local nature have been discussed. A Deputation from a sister church met with us. This is always agreeable: it is scriptural and proper, and we see no danger so long as our principles are not compromised. How good it is that brethren should dwell together in unity, and the Psalmist did not confine his remarks to one particular party. We have been sought unto in this rather than been the seekers. Probably, before we separate there will be a discussion on presbyterial visitations, shewing that clergymen are seeking the good of the Church at large. I believe the effect of such meetings would be beneficial, if our people would take greater interest in them, as is done by other Presbyterians. The people would help us to carry out our decisions. But I must remember that ours is but an infant Church, and we are but lately revived as a Synod. We were once large. God grant that such times may come again. It is our duty to do our utmost, look to our people to help us to

carry out our decisions, and to do all for the glory of God.

Rev. Mr. Henderson, Miramichi, corresponding member from the Synod of New Brunswick, said:—It is with great diffidence that I come before you at this time. The subject, viz. the state of our Church in New Brunswick, is not of great extent, and therefore need not take up much of your time. When I came first to New Brunswick, there were fourteen ministers settled there. We have since had our seasons of affliction and our seasons of prosperity. Of the fourteen, only three of that number now remain. Since that time we have had additions to our body, and new members have been received, so that now we number eleven; but what are these among such a body of people as constitutes our adherents in New Brunswick? There are very many there firmly attached to our Church, and earnestly desirous of enjoying the privileges they did in times past enjoy in their native land. We have many congregations, however, in New Brunswick, that are still privileged to enjoy these advantages. I need not particularize the different churches we possess. From Restigouche to St. Andrew's they are scattered through the land, some numerous, some small. Among these there are many scattered settlements where they are few in number, and not able to maintain a minister for themselves. These, many of them, feel deeply their privations. When we visit such stations, and they have opportunity, they crowd forth to hear the preaching of the gospel. They grudge not to leave their work on week days to engage in the public worship of God.

We are continually solicited to pay missionary visits to different destitute parts of the country. We endeavour, as far as our duty will permit, to visit these destitute localities. In remote localities where ministers cannot attend, we have encouraged individuals to give their services as Sabbath School teachers. In order to supply the want of ministers, we have even endeavoured to have church libraries connected with congregations. This we have found to be a very useful assistance in the communication of religious instruction. In my own congregation there is a large library, and a number avail themselves of the privilege. We have done our utmost to obtain ministers for the destitute congregations. By these exertions many of those in the field have been brought out, and we hope for more. In addition to this, we are endeavouring to obtain a native ministry. Young men who have been born in New Brunswick are studying in Scotland, and preparing themselves for the sacred ministry. We hope soon to receive them into our midst. This is what we have been doing in New Brunswick, and we trust that the blessing of God has not been wanting to our efforts. Though we must confess that there are many who, we fear, are careless and indifferent, still we have a good hope as to many others that they have felt the influence of

the truth; that their prayers ascend to God; that a blessing from on high descends upon them; and that many shall stand before God's throne at the last day whom he shall know as his people, and make partakers of His glory.

The Rev. William Snodgrass said:—Like all good things which we undertake, and are so apt to leave to the last, the subject which has been committed to me has not occupied so much of my attention, lately, as it deserved. I did not expect to be called upon so soon by your Chairman, and was just striving to call together my ill-digested thoughts. But when we contemplate the subject, it is of sufficient interest to constrain us to do it some manner of justice. The value of an educated ministry, I need not say to an audience composed of Scotchmen, is not to be overrated, and I would not for one venture to characterize a church as it ought to be, which is not composed of an educated ministry. It may be said, are not piety and moral worth the great requirements? They are, indeed, essential, and on no account to be displaced by others. But piety and moral worth are things which, like all other good things, must be upheld by some sound substantial foundation.

What would you think of the sculptor who had expended his utmost skill in carving out a statue of fair proportions, in which every feature was complete, and every limb was moving with artistic life, and who should erect this statue on the shifting sand? and what would you think of the Church which did not seek to associate with the piety of its ministry, the best education and the highest attainments? You have only to reflect that the present with us is an imperfect state of existence, and to consider our difficulties as a Church, that the oracles of the living God are composed in languages which have passed away, that many things in the Word of God require not only a sound philosophy in order that they may be rightly understood and presented, but much of science, much of taste, much of a regard for the beautiful in nature and art, are necessary to the full understanding of the Word of God. I do not deny that a man unacquainted with these things may do much in discerning those things that are spiritually discerned. But he only can rebut the objections of the infidel, and by arguments drawn from a well educated, a well trained, and well informed mind, confirm the doubter; he only is the man who can successfully occupy the high post which he is called on to occupy in the Christian Ministry, who has received a proper education. I make these statements merely to suggest to your minds one great truth, ere we advance to the scheme on which I have been asked to address you.

What do we seek by this Young Men's Scheme? What in a general point of view, and what so far as the Scheme is affected by local circumstances? We seek an educated ministry. Our Church has always been supplied with an educated ministry.—I know no Church more jealous on this