

reifies the grasping acquisitiveness of our old friends. Probably they may tear from the people their property, but this is the wrong way to secure the people themselves. In the commercial transactions of ordinary life, a trading firm would hardly have ventured in a dissolution of partnership to avail itself of a legal quibble, and to take an unfair and dishonourable advantage. Men of business, if they value their character, find it more profitable not to stand obstinately on the ground of law, but to yield manfully and gracefully to the nobler claims of justice. With our old friends, however, no feelings of this kind seem to have any weight. *Law! Law! Law!!!* is their motto, and we make them most welcome to it. We are quite ready to submit to the loss of our property rather than abandon sound principles; and if our old friends are willing to jeopardize their character not to say to destroy it for the sake of a little property, of which they are unable to make any use they must just have their own way.

The committee for meeting with the Secession Synod, were re-appointed with enlarged powers, and were instructed to express to them the conviction which this Synod entertains of the importance and practicability of union on a scriptural basis amongst all the sound and evangelical Presbyterian churches in Canada.

It was then agreed that an abstract of the minutes of Synod should be printed, accompanied with a historical statement explaining the causes which led to the formation of the Synod. Arrangements were then made for preaching in various places on the Sabbath, the Rev. Dr. Bonar, being appointed to preach in the forenoon, the Rev. Mr. Leishman, in the afternoon, and the Rev. Mr. Gordon, in the evening, at Cobourg, and other ministers in the neighbouring churches. Thereafter the Synod adjourned till Monday.

The Synod again met on Monday, the 18th June, when it was agreed that the Colonial committee of the Free Church of Scotland, should be written to in order that their deputies when not specially designated to some particular place, should be placed at the disposal of the Home Mission Committee. On the recommendation of a committee of Synod, authority was then given to the Presbytery of Kingston, to meet for the purpose of taking Mr. Thomas Wardrop, on trial for license. We understand that the Presbytery were highly satisfied with the appearances which Mr. Wardrop, made, and licensed him to preach the Gospel accordingly. From all we know of Mr. Wardrop, we are well assured that he will prove a workman who needs not to be ashamed; and that his excellent scholarship, his popular gifts, and his devoted character will render him at no distant day, one of the most efficient of our Ministers.

The overture on calls was referred to the commission. A communication from the clerk of the Synod of New Brunswick was received, and it was agreed that an abstract of the minutes be sent in return to said Synod, and other ecclesiastical bodies with whom this Synod corresponds. The Synod next considered the application of the Rev. W. J. Johnston, to be received by the Presbytery of Hamilton, and authorized that Presbytery to receive Mr. Johnston if they were satisfied after hearing him preach and using other means to ascertain his suitability for being received as a Minister of this church. Thereafter the Synod engaged in a conference on the subject of the sustentation fund, when Mr. Bayne, read a series of resolutions and laid them on the table; which were postponed for further consideration until a future meeting.

The evening meeting of Monday, was devoted to addresses on the principles of the Free Church of Scotland and their application to the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Mr. Gale, gave an interesting historical detail of the circumstances which led to the disruption in this Province, and the address of Mr. Bonar, was characterised by all the free and holy elements which have rendered his intercourse with the Brethren in Canada so delight-

ful and so profitable. Other Brethren also addressed the Synod, and the true spirit of the church of our Fathers so felicitously brought out in all the proceedings of this evening left a pleasant and animating savour which we have every reason to believe will not soon be forgotten.

On the morning of Tuesday the 10th, the Synod again met where arrangements were made for supplying the congregation at Kingston by various ministers of the Synod, and by the co-operation of the Convener of the Home Mission Committee. The case of Mr. Hamilton, one of the Missionaries was referred to the Home Mission Committee, with instructions to them to communicate with the Presbytery of Kingston. The Home Mission Committee were authorized to inquire after pious men of suitable gifts for catechists.

The resolutions of Mr. Bayne, on the Sustentation Fund Scheme, as well as those submitted by Mr. Redpath being considered by the Synod to be substantially the same; they were referred to a committee for the purpose of preparing a draft from both. A collection in behalf of the sufferers by the Quebec fire, was appointed to be made throughout the bounds of the Synod on Sabbath the 29th June. On the report of Mr. Eszen, in reference to the conference which took place during the last meeting of Synod in Toronto, between Ministers of this Synod and Ministers of several other Christian denominations, with the view of opening up the way for more friendly and intimate intercourse and co-operation to promote evangelical objects; and also in reference to the proceedings which have since taken place, in consequence of that conference, in the course of lectures which were given last winter in Toronto, and other friendly intercourse; the Synod adopted a cordial recommendation that every suitable means should be used in order to promote and maintain the same happy results. The Home Mission Committee was appointed; and a report on the publication of the *Record*, unanimously adopted. A reference from the Presbytery of Montreal, in regard to St. Gabriel Street Church, was then taken up, and Mr. Eszen, was appointed commissioner from the Synod to visit Montreal, to consult with the congregation, to superintend the revision of the constitution of the church, and make such arrangements as might be found suitable; and if necessary to correspond with the Home Mission Committee for the supply of the pulpit.

On Tuesday evening, the proceedings of the Synod commenced by addresses from Mr. Bonar and others, on the state of religion, but as we have already referred to the nature of these solemn addresses and the gracious impression made by them, we hasten on to notice the concluding business of the Synod.

The Rev. Mr. Goggie, was received in terms of the recommendation of committee and referred to the Home Mission committee.

The case of the Rev. Mr. Lochhead, was referred to the Presbytery of Kingston, to be dealt with according to the amended act respecting the admission of Ministers.

A minute together with resolutions on the sustentation fund scheme was adopted on the report of the committee formerly appointed. The minutes and resolutions will be found among the acts of Synod.

Such are the arrangements of the Synod, on our much calumniated scheme, for the sustentation fund, which stands exactly as it did at the beginning. The principle of a central common fund, for the temporal support of ministers,—such fund to be made up of all that should be raised for that purpose, in the several congregations, and to be apportioned by a central board of laymen, to the several ministers according to a fixed scale, this was all that ever was regarded as essential to the scheme—all that was ever contended for; every proper means was employed to make this plain to congregations, and in the great majority of cases, through the steady good sense and right feeling of our people, these means have been

abundantly successful, notwithstanding the industry and ingenuity which have been so miserably misapplied, in fabricating and promulgating the greatest misrepresentations, and imputing the basest motives, with no better aim apparently than to destroy confidence, subvert order, and foment discord in our infant church, in order that restless and unprincipled agitators might rule it for their own selfish purposes, and according to their own crude and unconstitutional notions. In a former number of the *Record*, we stated that we did not think it necessary to take any special notice of the gross and disgusting perversions of the truth (both as to facts and the scriptural doctrine and order of Presbyterianism,) which had been circulated in regard to this matter in certain quarters. We cannot allow ourselves to follow a different course in regard to the many *venious* and impudent additions which have been made to those, still more recently from the same *trustworthy* and *respectable* source. From the very first when the scheme was approved of nothing more than a recommendation was given for its adoption by the congregation under the jurisdiction of the Synod and nothing more and nothing less is given now. Common sense would teach any *honest* and *truth-telling* man, that any thing more was as absurd as it was impossible. The Synod have not the power nor the legal compilers of a Board of Poles, either to issue mandates or to enforce them as some insatiable terrorists seem or pretend to imagine. Neither the Synod, nor Commission, nor Sustentation Board, ever imagined they possessed, nor ever thought of exercising the powers which have been represented as assumed by them, and for the destruction of which, the gratitude of the public is so vociferously and so senselessly claimed. From the first, although the Synod had unanimously sanctioned and adopted this principle as that which should thenceforward regulate the support of the ministers, of this church, (and which they have again without a dissenting voice confirmed,) there was an ample provision made for the case of congregations under special pecuniary engagements, or otherwise so situated as to be unable to place themselves at once on the fund; and from the first our congregations were at full liberty to adopt the *delirious* or to let them alone; and such we repeat, it is the state of matters still. It makes no difference in the truth to explain to a blind man that the sun shines at noon, for the sun shines although he does not see it. Such is precisely the state of this important matter. On this subject we can only add that the Synod which was perfectly unanimous in regard to the principles of the Sustentation Scheme, with a very few exceptions, derived the most valuable aid in their deliberations on this matter from Messrs. Bonar and Arnot. It was something more than a compensation for the obloquy to which our Sustentation Scheme and its framers, have been subjected to learn as we did, that a scheme of a precisely similar nature had been extensively circulated among the ministers and people of the Free Church, and had already obtained the decided approval of so many influential parties, in preference to the existing arrangements, that it was understood it would actually be adopted by the General Assembly; if it were not thought inexpedient to introduce any change for the present. In this respect also it was truly refreshing to discern the commanding and sweetening influence of that spirit of mutual forbearance, confidence and respect, which so strikingly characterizes the rulers and people of the Free Church, every individual apparently being ready to forego his strongest conviction in matters of mere expediency, rather than break the blessed concord and harmony, which are so indispensable to the prosperity and efficiency of a church.

The commission of Synod was appointed to meet at Toronto on the 2nd of July next, and first Wednesday of May 1846. At Kingston on the 1st October, and at Hamilton, on the second Wednesday of January. Four annual collections were recommended, viz:—For Foreign and Jewish Mis-