

day. Rev. Daniel Cock was chosen first moderator, and Rev. David Smith first clerk. Mr. Gilmore, however, sat only as a corresponding member. He remained in connection with the Church of Scotland. Mr. McGregor met with the Presbytery only once or twice, as he did not agree with the other members on the burgess oath and other matters. He remained in connection with the Antiburgher Synod of Scotland. Thus unhappily from the beginning, the divisions which existed in the mother country were transferred to this new land. Surely it is for a perpetual lamentation that when there were only seven, or at most eight Presbyterian ministers in this country, they belonged to three different bodies. But it is not for me to say upon whose shoulders the heaviest burden of blame should be laid.

The second Presbytery in Nova Scotia was formed at Pictou, on 7th July, 1795. It was in connection with the General Associate or Antiburgher Synod of Scotland, and was called "The Associate Presbytery of Pictou." Only three ministers belonged to it, viz.:

- 1, Rev. James McGregor, of East River, Pictou.
- 2, " Duncan Ross, of West River (settled in 1796).
- 3, " John Brown, of Londonderry (settled in 1796).

During the next few years the Presbytery received several additions, and a great deal of arduous missionary work was undertaken. Visits were made to the neighboring provinces, and everything possible was done to supply vacant congregations and destitute localities with gospel ordinances. But alas! then as now the cry from all quarters was "more men!"

The two Presbyteries of Truro and Pictou, after negotiations extending over several years, were united under the name of "The Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia" on 3rd July 1817, at Truro, and a Synod was formed, consisting of three Presbyteries, Halifax, Truro and Pictou. The names of nineteen ministers appear on the roll of this

THE FIRST SYNOD IN CANADA.

Unfortunately the connection of two or three ministers of the Church of Scotland with the Synod, was merely formal and temporary, and the Presbyterians in the Maritime Provinces, were as yet far from becoming one body. The formation of this Synod, however, greatly strengthened the cause of Presbyterianism.