

over those darker features to which reference has been made, they nevertheless, see much of a cheering character in them, especially in the department of Sabbath School instruction—in the fact that there are so many labourers, both male and female, engaged every Lord's day in this most promising work.

The only other suggestion which they would offer is that the Synod, before it closes, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of holding a conference on the state of religion in the Church, and that the Committee, consisting of the same or other members, with a new Convener, be appointed to prosecute this work.

All which is respectfully submitted.

DUNCAN MORRISON,
Convener.

APPENDIX O.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON "PRESBYTERIAN."

In compliance with instructions of last Synod, your Committee held a conference, on 1st August, with a Committee of the Lay Association of Montreal, and after due deliberation, received and accepted an offer of the "Presbyterian" to be handed over after the issue of the December number, and henceforward conducted as the recognized organ of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland. The thanks of the Synod are due to that Association for the readiness and courtesy manifested by them in surrendering this valuable property. At the same meeting, it was resolved to reduce the annual subscription of the "Presbyterian" from one dollar to twenty-five cents—the distribution and collection of the price of individual copies to be undertaken by the Kirk Sessions or other competent bodies in each parish or station; and the Ministers and Representative Elders of the City of Montreal were appointed, with full powers, to make all arrangements necessary for conducting it from January 1st until the meeting of Synod. This sub-committee, while fully sensible of the able and self-denying services, as Editor, of Mr. Douglas Brymner, deemed it better on the whole to leave the Synod perfectly free to make its own future arrangements as to the literary part of the publication, and, in the meantime, to commit the entire charge of the "Presbyterian" to a Provisional Editorial Committee, consisting of Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Rev. Gavin Lang, Rev. W. M. Black, James Croil, Esq., and John L. Morris, Esq.; Rev. Gavin Lang to be Convener. They also resolved that a letter should be addressed to all the Ministers and Representative Elders of the Church asking them to ascertain whether, and how far, their respective sessions would be willing to undertake the distribution of that periodical among the different families of their congregations, and the collection of the price of the copies so distributed. The response to this letter was so large and hearty that the new "Presbyterian" started with a circulation of upwards of 7000, which has since been increased to nearly 8600. The total cost of publishing and despatching the "Presbyterian," during the past six months, has been about \$1200, or at the rate of \$2400 per annum for 9000 copies monthly. The revenue from 8600 subscribers at 30 cents each, including postage and despatch, is estimated at \$2580. The receipts for advertisements may be safely estimated at \$500, including a moderate charge for acknowledgments of monies contributed to the Schemes. The net profit, with the present circulation and without bad debts, ought to be about \$600 for the year. Should this state of affairs continue in future years there would be no difficulty in meeting editorial and other expenses of

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