

three great departments, as comprising the Kingdom of Glory above, the Kingdom of Grace in the hearts of his people, and the Kingdom of external means or the visible Church—no placed the doctrine of the necessity of Christ's sole and exclusive supremacy in a peculiarly clear and interesting light. The central and attractive position which this great doctrine occupies, and the influence which it must ultimately exercise in drawing together around it and uniting the various bodies of Evangelical Christians, were also brought out in the most powerful and impressive manner. At the close of this address a motion, expressive of the satisfaction of the Synod in the visit of the deputation, and of thank to the Free Church for the kindness and promptitude of the steps which they had taken to manifest their sympathy with, and to extend their aid to the Synod and Church in Canada, was introduced in a very appropriate and animated speech by Mr. Roger of Peterboro', seconded by Mr. Boyd of Prescott, and adopted by acclamation. On the call of the Moderator, the Rev. Mr. Reid, of Grafton and Colborne, conducted the concluding devotional exercises.

On Saturday the whole of the morning meeting was occupied in the consideration of the arrangements for the education of theological students, and the preparatory training of pious young men aiming at the ministry. On this subject a considerable diversity of view seemed to exist among the members at the outset, but after a careful investigation and patient discussion of the various points involved, the utmost harmony prevailed. It was the unanimous sentiment of the brethren that in the existing circumstances of the Church nothing should be attempted beyond a temporary provision for theological education. That Toronto should for the present, be the seat of the temporary institution, and that the institution should include a provision for strictly theological teaching, for instruction in the preparatory branches of education, for extending the greatest possible facilities to students in both departments—especially by a low rate of board and lodging—it being understood that young men in the preliminary stages of their course should avail themselves of tuition from without the Institution in particular branches of study, in so far as might be found necessary and practicable. A small committee was then appointed to prepare a scheme in accordance with the conclusions arrived at, to be presented to the Synod on Monday. It may be here stated, that on the report of this committee, the Synod eventually appointed the Rev. Mr. King, one of the deputation, as interim professor of theology, to take charge of the Divinity students during the ensuing session, it having been previously arranged that the pastoral charge of the congregation of Knox's Church should be devolved on him also for the present, and he having kindly agreed to undertake these important and onerous duties. The care of the students in the literary and scientific departments was unanimously offered to the Rev. Henry Esson of Montreal, who, though he did not feel at liberty to accept the offer immediately, will yet, it is expected, comply with the call of the Synod and the urgent claims of the Church, and devote himself to a class of duties for which he will be generally admitted to possess very high qualifications. It was, of course, arranged that provision should be made for the supply of Mr. Esson's congregation in the meantime. £200 per annum was fixed upon as a suitable salary for the professor in the literary and scientific departments, and a committee was appointed to provide suitable accommodation for the professor and students—to afford counsel and aid to the former in regard to the course of study, and the other arrangements of the institution—to collect the necessary funds, and to prepare a draft of a permanent system of education, having special references to young men aiming at the sacred ministry. This committee was also instructed to draw up and publish an address to pious youths, setting before them the spiritual destination of this land, and the claims of the Church

on their services. It was resolved, moreover, that the theological institution should be opened on the 5th November, when we trust the students who have given in their adherence to the Synod will make a point of a regular attendance. No exertions will be wanting to have the necessary preparation completed for their reception. A communication from the Rev. Dr. Burns and a minute of the Colonial Committee having reference to his call to Toronto, had also been referred to the Committee on Education; and at their recommendation a minute was adopted expressive of the Synod's earnest desire that he may accept of the call to Knox's Church, Toronto; and that he will, with the pastoral charge, undertake the duties of interim professor of theology to the Synod, until a permanent Seminary shall be established, when the question of separating the pastoral and professional offices, and the site of the Institution, will be determined. Dr. Burns' kind offer to use his exertions and influence in the meantime for the collection of books and money for the use of a theological seminary was cordially and gratefully accepted. We trust that Canada, which already owes so much to Dr. Burns, will, in the ensuing summer, permanently secure his valuable services. The Synod came to an adjournment early on Saturday, to enable ministers to reach the various congregations in the neighbourhood, for which supplies had been arranged on the Sabbath.

On Monday, the Synod met at noon,—when most of the members were again in attendance. We have already anticipated the proceedings of this day, so far as the arrangements for education are concerned. In addition to these, however, we briefly note an act for determining the bounds of Presbyteries, which was passed, on the report of a Committee; as also a temporary act respecting the appointment of Elders to sit in Synod,—the object of which is to enable Sessions who, on account of distance or other circumstances, may be unable to send one of their own members to the meetings of Synod—to choose their representatives from other Sessions. The Cheap Publications scheme of the Free Church was also brought under the attention of the Synod: a Committee was appointed to endeavour to establish agencies for this scheme, in the principal towns, and it was agreed that it should be recommended to the several congregations. In a former number of the Record, the nature and advantages of this scheme will be found stated. Another very important measure engaged the attention of the Synod on Monday, viz.: the framing an act for regulating the admission of Ministers of other Churches, which had previously been referred to a Committee, whose draft was adopted, with some modifications, and will be afterwards given in full. On Tuesday the Synod met at nine, A. M., and was closely engaged throughout the day,—but principally with matters of routine. The Report of the Committee on the Sustentation scheme was given in and discussed at some length and was eventually adopted,—the Commission being authorized to arrange the various details of the scheme, and to carry it into effect. The Committee to which had been referred the revision of the formula and questions for ministers, elders, deacons and probationers, also reported, and this important matter was adjusted. In the evening of Tuesday the Synod again met in Mr. Roaf's Church, when the opening devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Snelke of Ferris. A series of resolutions, previously prepared, and referring chiefly to the spiritual condition of the Church and the means of its improvement, were introduced, and supported by several of the members,—of whom we may mention the Rev. Mr. Henry, of Lachute, Mr. King, Mr. Bayne, of Galt, and Mr. McNaughtan. We regret that our limits prevent us from giving a more minute account of this meeting, which derived a peculiarly deep and solemn interest from the nature of the resolutions and the tone of the addresses. These resolutions will be given afterwards among the other acts of the Synod.

Resolutions of thanks to Messrs. Jennings and Roaf, and the managers of their respective Churches, were afterward adopted, to the kind and reasonable accommodation which they had afforded the Synod during its session; to the deputation of the Free Church for the aid which the Synod had received from them in their deliberations; and to the various families in Toronto whose hospitalities had been largely extended to the members of the Synod. Mr. Gordon, of Gainsboro, on the call of the Moderator, conducted the devotional exercises at the close.

The Synod met also on Wednesday and remained some hours in Session,—but we cannot farther extend these details. We cannot close this statement without supplying an omission which has been made in it,—namely regard to the appointment of a Committee to confer with other Evangelical denominations, with the view of arranging terms of co-operation in matters of common interest to the Christian Church. An interesting report was given to by the Committee, which, from the pressure of business, it was found unpracticable to take up, and it was referred to the Commission. The Synod appointed its next ordinary meeting to be held at Cobourg on the first Wednesday of June, 1845. The Commission is to meet by adjournment in Toronto, on the 29th Inst.

N. B.—The principal acts of the Synod will be published in our next number.

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION.

We can only state very briefly the proceedings of the Commission of Synod, which met at Toronto according to appointment on the 29th inst. The attendance of members was small, owing in some measure, doubtless, to the storm which prevailed on the two preceding days. The Commission had under consideration, first, the details of the Sustentation Fund Scheme, as embodied in a report prepared by Mr. Bayne of Galt. This report was unanimously approved of, but in order that a matter of so much importance might be subjected to full discussion and investigation, it was agreed to postpone the final adoption of the measure for a short time, and to hold an adjourned meeting of the Commission for that purpose at Hamilton on the 13th proximo, at 7 o'clock, P. M. As the full details of the scheme will appear in our next No., we shall only give a brief outline of it here,—and that principally for the purpose of enabling all concerned to direct their thoughts to the subject in the meantime, so that the final deliberations of the Commission in regard to it may be entered on with as great advantage as possible. Let it be remembered then that the Synod resolved by an unanimous vote, that the previous congregational engagements on which ministers depend for their temporal support should be set aside, and a common fund established for their sustentation, into which the contributions of the whole Church for this object should be gathered and then distributed to the several ministers periodically. It was also understood that the Sustentation Fund Board, previously constituted, with such additional members as the Commission might deem it expedient to add to it, should have the superintendence of the Collecting Department, and that the Distributing Department should be devolved exclusively on the Lay members of the Board. In regard to the Collecting Department no material alteration is contemplated on the rules and recommendations formerly agreed upon by the Commission and published in our last No. According to the recommendations of the report, congregations will be at liberty to obtain their contributions by whatever mode or modes they may consider most suitable in their several circumstances, such as pew rents, Sabbath-day collections, or periodical (weekly, monthly or quarterly) contributions; but it is recommended that the last-mentioned source be made the principal one, and that pew rents, if still retained, be so reduced as that they may not prove a check, as they have hitherto done in no small