

tion of the memorialists, and at the same time enjoin sessions to employ all judicious means for the improvement of vocal psalmody."

A similar discussion has also taken place, and a similar decision been given on the same vexed question by the Presbyterian Synod connected with the Free Church in England. After a long and exciting discussion, this Synod decided at the annual meeting at Liverpool in the end of April, "That the introduction of instrumental music in public worship is disapproved by this Church, and enjoin all Presbyteries to take order that no such innovation be introduced in any of the congregations within their bounds, but to take steps as far as practicable to encourage and cultivate the harmonious exercises of vocal music." It remains to be seen whether the friends of the organ will submit to these decisions. We find the memorialists in Glasgow have strongly protested against the decision of the Synod as hasty and informal, and reasons for dissent had also been given in to the Synod in England. We hope we are not now to have a new sect of Organ Presbyterians formed, to disturb and divide the whole Presbyterian body in Britain and America.

The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland would not meet at Edinburgh until the 22d of May, and therefore we cannot expect to receive much intelligence from this court by the first steamer. We shall be enabled to furnish our readers with as full an abstract of the most important proceedings as our pages will admit, in our next number. We observe from the London papers that Lord Belhaven has been appointed her Majesty's representative to the General Assembly. Several clergymen's names have been mentioned as persons likely to fill the high and important office of Moderator.

### Special Meeting of Synod.

A special meeting of Synod was held at Pictou, by appointment of the last annual meeting of Synod, on Wednesday the 7th inst. In the absence of the Moderator, the Moderator, the Rev. A. McGillivray, took the chair, and constituted the meeting with prayer. There were present Rev. A. McGillivray, Rev. A. Pollok, Rev. A. McLean, Rev. A. W. Herdman, Rev. W. Snodgrass, and Messrs. Cullen and Gordon. The instructions of Synod appointing this meeting, and specifying the business to be transacted, were read. Reports of Presbyteries as to the measures recommended by them for the Synod to adopt, on the basis of the resolutions of last annual meeting, with reference to Queen's College, Canada, and the formation of a General Assembly, embracing all the Synods of the Church in British North America, were read for. A report from the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island was the only one read. This report, which will be found in our record of the proceedings of that

Presbytery, having been read and the recommendations contained therein having been unanimously approved of, the correspondent to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, was instructed to govern himself accordingly.

### Presbytery of Prince Edward Island.

This Court met, according to adjournment, at St. James's Church, Charlottetown, on Wednesday, the 30th ultimo, and was constituted. There was a full attendance of members. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and adopted, the Clerk reported that he had written to the Secretary of the Colonial Committee, agreeably to instructions, relative to the want in the Island of additional ministers, but that he had received no reply. The supply of St. David's, Georgetown, once a month, was continued.

The Presbytery took into consideration the two resolutions transmitted by the Synod, respecting the matters submitted to the last annual meeting, by the deputation from the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, and, after due deliberation, disposed of them in the following terms:

"With reference to the resolution respecting Queen's College, Canada, the Presbytery are unanimously of opinion that the present circumstances of the Church in this part of British North America are such that they cannot recommend the adoption by the Synod of any definite, active measures or efforts in support of Queen's College, and that the utmost the Synod can do is to confirm what has already been done by the resolution passed at the last annual meeting, in which the said College is brought under the notice of the Church in this country, and declared to be deserving of patronage and support, it being therein implied (the Presbytery conceive,) that the Synod will be happy, through the subordinate courts or individual members, to transmit any sums of money that may be placed at their disposal in behalf of Queen's College, and also to encourage, and, if necessary, to aid young men should any be disposed to study for the ministry in that institution."

"With reference to the resolution respecting the formation of a General Assembly embracing all the Synods of the Church in the British North American Colonies, the Presbytery recommend the Synod to instruct their correspondent, to communicate personally to the Synod of the Church in Canada the resolution passed at last annual meeting, and to convey, in the most favorable terms, the sentiments of the Synod as expressed therein, and, in the event of the question being discussed by the Synod of Canada, to give his most favorable attention to any scheme that may be propounded."

Mr. Snodgrass moved, in accordance with a notice given at last meeting, that the Presbytery overture the Synod to take the position of the Church in this country into their most serious consideration, with a view to the framing of a uniform constitution, on the plan adopted by the General Assembly of the Parent Church, relatively to chapels in Scotland. The motion was put and carried unanimously, and the draft of an overture agreed to accordingly.

The Session Clerk of St. James's Church, Charlottetown, being in attendance, produced

the Session minute book, the Communicant's roll book, the Registers of births and baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials, which were examined, found correctly and well kept, and ordered to be attested accordingly.

After disposing of other matters, the Presbytery appointed their next meeting to be held in the same place on Monday the 30th of June next.

### Presbytery of Pictou.

#### YOUNG MEN'S SCHEME.

WE become every day more and more delighted with the course which the Presbytery of Pictou is now pursuing to educate young men for the sacred ministry in our Church. It has already recommended itself to the favor and liberality of many warm friends, and if more fully developed by additional reinforcements of students, it will ultimately provide an able race of young ministers in this colony. The accounts which we receive from Scotland of the character, talents and success of all the young men sent home from Pictou are very encouraging. Whilst all have done and are doing well, Mr. G. M. Grant has surpassed the most sanguine expectations. It is impossible to read the following extracts (although not intended for publication,) from his letter of the 8th May last to a beloved parent, without astonishment and admiration. Nova Scotia has just reason to be proud of not a few of her distinguished sons, and should Mr. Grant's valuable life be preserved, he appears to be eminently qualified to make his native land renowned, as a student occupying the very first rank in all the branches of literature, science and philosophy to which his attention is directed.

"This has been my best year at the University, but having taken more than the usual classes for a third year's student, I found that I had overrated my strength, and did not therefore expect to be very successful. However, I have carried off the first prize in chemistry, and the first in moral philosophy. I am much pleased with the chemistry prize, for I knew nothing of the subject previous to last session, and the Professor has given me a certificate which I transcribe verbatim.

"Mr. G. M. Grant attended my course of lectures on chemistry from the 7th November to the 24th April, during the session 1855-56. I have much pleasure in adding that Mr. Grant was regular and assiduous in his attendance throughout the session. He uniformly acquitted himself in a highly creditable manner at the weekly examinations, and gained the first prize in the junior division of the class. I have no hesitation in ranking him as my most distinguished student during the period referred to. He has acquired an intimate and extensive knowledge of the principles and leading facts of chemistry, and he has displayed peculiar aptitude and power for prosecuting the study of physical science. Mr. Grant unquestionably possesses great and rare abilities. To quickness of perception and superior excellence of memory, he adds the power possessed by few of communicating in clear and concise terms his thoughts and knowledge to others.

"I found him mild and diffident in disposition, urbane and respectful in manners, exemplary in conduct and unweariedly diligent in his studies. In a word, from daily observation during six months, I have been led to form a very favorable opinion of his character, disposition, and abilities, and can therefore confidently recommend him to the consideration of those who have it in their power to promote his interest, or favor his views."

FREDERICK PERRY, M. S. F. R. S.,

Professor of Chemistry.

"I value this certificate more than the prize. The prize in the moral philosophy