The Presbyterian;

A MISSIONARY AND RELIGIOUS RECORD

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

CONTENTS.

Page THE CHURCH IN CANADA. Meeting of Commission of Synod	Church in Scotland. National Education. 165	The Missionary Enterprises of the Church of Scotland
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THE CHURCH IN CANADA.

MEETING OF COMMISSION OF SYNOD.

The Commission of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, met, according to appointment, at Kingston, an Wednesday, the 10th October,—the Rev. Professor Romanes, Moderator protemp. There was a pretty fair attendance, both of ministers and elders; and their deliberations were continued during two days.

The case which occupied the most time was that of the Rev. Alexander Luke, whose application to be admitted to this Church had been remitted to the Commission by the Synod. The result of the Moderator's correspondence, as enjoined by the Synod, was laid before the Commission, as well as several other new papers. There was evidently, on the part of the majority, a strong feeling of hesitation; and, after very lengthened discussion, and the trial of several successive motions, it was finally agreed, by a majority, to refer the matter back to the next meeting of Synod. Whereupon Mr. Luke requested the return of all the certificates he had lodged, and extract minutes of the proceedings in his case, all which was granted.

In the case of Mr. William A. Ross, student of Divinity of Queen's College, it was ascertained that the Presbytery of Glengarry had issued the usual circular letters, and the several Presbyteries having reported that they had received the same and that they knew of no objection, the Commission, in terms of the instructions of the Synod, granted leave to the Presbytery f Glengarry to take Mr. Ross on

trials for licence, proceeding in the case according to the laws of this Church.

A communication from the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly, received since last meeting of Synod, was laid before the Commission, and read,being an account of the deliberations of the Colonial Committee on the three following subject, viz: 1. As to doing what they could to send out ministers and probationers to this country. 2. As to Bursaries for students in Queen's College, expressing a willingness to endow Bursaries for the benefit of Divinity students whenever the example as to the endowment of such Bursaries should be set by individuals and Presbyteries in this country. And 3. As to the University Bill passed here last session of Parliament, showing a disapprobation of the same.

Mr. James Lowry, a licenciate of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, having laid before the Commission his presbyterial and other certificates, and petitioned to be received and employed as a missionary, was directed to make his application to some Presbytery, within the bounds of which he might be residing.

An application from the Trustees and Session of the Congregation of Fergus to the Colonial Committee, for aid in regard to their Church, accompanied by an Extract Minute of the Presbytery of Hamilton, recommending the same, received the necessary sanction of the Commission, and was ordered to be transmitted, along with the Extract Minutes, to the Colonial Committee.

An official communication from the Board of Trustees of Queen's College was laid before the Commission, intimating that they had invited the Rev. Dr.

Liddell to resume his office as Principal of the College.*

The Commission had read the paper transmitted by the Trustees of Queen's College and the best course to be followed in regard to it. After lengthened consideration of this matter, the Commission appointed Dr. Machar and Professor Romanes to draw up, for general circulation throughout the Church, a paper containing a full statement of the reasons which have induced the Board of Trustees of Queen's College to resolve that they shall use their utmost exertions to carry on that Institution in conformity with its own Charter, and to lay the same before next meeting of Commission; -and the Commission also recommended that this paper should contain a statement of finan. cial affairs of the college. The Commission, further, recommended that Principal Liddell, as soon as convenient after his arrival, should visit all the congregations within the bounds of the Synod, to explain the course of proceedings which the Board of Trustees have deemed it proper to pursue, and to set forth the duty of such parents as have the means, to give a collegiate education to their sons: -And, further, the Commission recommended that Presbyteries should co-operate with the Trustees of Queen's Col lege, in the exertions they may make to obtain collections and subscriptions in aid of the College Funds.

The next meeting of the Commission is, by appointment of Synod, to be held in St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, on the first Wednesday in February, at noon.

^{*}We understand that Dr. Liddell has accepted the invitation, and his immediate arrival, to enter upon the duties of his Chair, is now looked for.