

in their several positions to do what in them lies to strengthen her and extend her influence.

Alex. Morris, Esq., after taking a faithful though rapid retrospect of the labours of the Association, and warmly recommending it to the support and prayers of the friends of the Church of Scotland in this Province, moved, seconded by John Smith, Esq.

"That in the present peculiar circumstances of our Church, when for the future she will in all probability rely mainly for sustentation upon the voluntary exertions of her people, it is important that this Association should be generously supported, as one of those efforts which, if evoked and sustained in the spirit of self-reliance and Christian trustfulness, may prove of some service to our Church by aiding, however slightly, in the maintenance of her efficiency."

T. A. Gibson, Esq., moved, seconded by Jas. Mitchell, Esq.

"That the *Bursary Scheme* of this Association has already proved of much service, and is likely, if supported and extended, to prove still more beneficial to our Church, and is therefore eminently deserving of our countenance and support as well as of that of the members of our Church throughout the Province."

Wm. Edmonstone, Esq. moved, seconded by John Armour, Esq.

"That this meeting commend to the generous exertions of all those of their brethren who believe that a medium of communication between the several congregations of our Church is desirable and useful, *The Presbyterian*, a monthly published under the auspices of this Association.

It was then moved by Hugh Allan, Esq., seconded by E. McLennan, Esq., and carried unanimously.

"That the Annual Meeting be henceforth held in the first week of January."

The Rev. Dr. McGill thereafter addressed the Meeting at some length in very appropriate terms.

It was moved by Alex. Morris, Esq., seconded by Hugh Allan, Esq.

"That the Rev. Dr. Mathieson be requested to deliver a discourse on the occasion of next Annual Meeting."

The Rev. Dr. at once expressed his willingness to comply with the request.

The election of Office-bearers for the ensuing year resulted as follows.

*President.*

HON. P. MCGILL.

*Vice-Presidents.*

JOHN SMITH,	HUGH ALLAN,
HEW RAMSAY,	JOHN GREENSHIELDS.

*Treasurer.*

ALEXANDER MORRIS.

*Recording Secretary.*

T. A. GIBSON.

*Corresponding Secretary.*

J. S. HUNTER.

*Managers.*

Wm. Edmonstone, Thomas Allan, J. M. Ross, George Templeton, D. D. MacKenzie, Wm. McNider, George MacDonald, J. Burns, Robert Adams, James Mitchell, David Shaw, E. MacLennan, and James Goudie.

*Chaplains.*

REV. ALEX. MATHIESON, D. D.

REV. ROBERT MCGILL, D. D.

A vote of thanks to the chairman for his worthy occupation of the chair, moved by W. Muir, Esq., seconded by John Armour, Esq., was unanimously carried.

The Rev. Dr. Mathieson having pronounced the benediction, the proceedings closed.

T. A. GIBSON,  
*Recording Secretary.*

Montreal, January 8th, 1854.

SYNODICAL COLLECTIONS.

For the information of our readers, and as affording a means of ready reference to the ministers, we subjoin a portion of the Statute of our Church relative to these collections, as modified in 1854. The Synod enact that all ministers of this Church shall annually have collections made in their several congregations on behalf of each of the following objects at the time specified, viz: 1. for *The Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund* on the first Sabbath in January; 2. for *The Synod Fund* on the first Sabbath of March; 3. for *The French Mission Fund* on the first Sabbath in June; 4. for *The Bursary Fund* on the first Sabbath in September; 5. for *The Home Mission Fund of the Presbytery of the Bounds* on the first Sabbath of November.

If the collection fall on a sacramental occasion or an unsuitable day, it is to be made in 4 weeks after, and provided that the congregation may raise the contribution in any other way, if they think fit. The Synod also enjoined ministers to explain and advocate the object for which the collection is to be made upon a previous Sabbath, and the Synod also empowered Presbyteries at their meetings next after the times specified to enquire and take account of how ministers have attended to the injunction of Synod in giving their congregations an opportunity to contribute.

We trust that the collections for the *Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund* have been general and liberal. It has strong claims upon our sympathies. Already a very considerable number of annuitants are cast upon it, and, when we reflect that the position of pastors rarely enables them to provide for the wants of their widows and children when Providence calls them to leave them without an earthly husband's or father's care, we of the Laity are imperatively called upon to aid this Fund of our Church. It is most judiciously managed with a wise economy, and with a zeal for its interests dictated by principle and the behests of what its managers doubtless feel to be the discharge of a Christian duty. Let it then continue to meet with a generous support.

THE CONGREGATION OF THREE RIVERS.

At a meeting of the Presbyterian inhabitants of Three Rivers, held at the residence of Mr. John Houliston on the 26th inst. for the purpose of taking into consideration the necessary steps for the building of a Presbyterian place of worship,

Mr. John Houliston was called to the Chair, and Mr. G. B. Houliston requested to act as Secretary.

Moved by Thos. Gordon, Esq., seconded by Andrew Craik, and resolved,

"That the Kirk Session of the Presbyterian Congregation, in connection with the Church of Scotland, of this town be requested to enter into communication with the Presbytery of Montreal with the view of obtaining for the congregation during the present vacancy the occasional services and instructions of some Minister of the Church."

Moved by John Murray, Esq., seconded by Geo. Baptist, Esq., and resolved,

"That it is of urgent necessity that steps should be immediately taken to raise subscriptions for the purpose of building a church; and for the building of such church that a Committee—to be called the "Building Committee"—be named to carry out the views of this meeting on this subject, to be composed of the following gentlemen."

MRS. JOHN KERR,	MRS. GEO. BAPTIST,
" G. B. HOULISTON,	" W. McDUGALL,
" ALEX. MCPHERSON,	" A. MCKELOIR,
" ANDREW CRAIG,	" THOS. GORDON.
" JAMES DENOON,	

Five of whom shall form a quorum; meetings to be convened by the order of the President.

Moved by John McDougall, Esq., seconded by Mr. John Murray, and resolved.

"That the Building Committee be authorized to collect subscriptions, procure plans, purchase material, enter into contracts and agreements, and adopt all other steps necessary to build and complete the church."

Moved by Mr. John Kerr, seconded by Mr. Alex. McPherson, and resolved,

"That the Kirk Session be requested to enter into communication with the Presbytery of Montreal, and to inform it of the intention of this congregation to build a church, and pray its assistance in carrying out their intention, and also in supplying this congregation with a permanent minister when the church shall be built.

The meeting then adjourned.

(Signed.) JNO. HOULISTON,  
*Chairman.*

G. B. HOULISTON,  
*Secretary.*

The business of the meeting being terminated, the Building Committee met and appointed Thomas Gordon, Esq., as their President, and Mr. G. B. Houliston their Secretary-Treasurer.

CONGREGATION OF TORONTO.

We learn from the *Toronto Colonist* that the Rev. Mr. Barclay, of St. Andrew's Church there, was, on his recovery from a severe indisposition, recently presented by the ladies of his congregation with a handsome pulpit-gown and Bible and Psalm Book, as a token of their esteem and regard. The gift was accompanied by an address concluded in the following terms:

They earnestly pray God that health and long life may be given you in order that you may be thus enabled to break to your people the bread