

lege. A letter was then read from Rev. Mr. Herdman, Pictou, to the effect that the Rev. Mr McKay had been deputed to proceed to Scotland to confer with the Colonial Committee and licentiates of the Church anent, the spiritual destitution within the bounds of the Pictou Presbytery, more especially Cape Breton. On learning this fact, the Presbytery authorized the Clerk to write to Mr McKay, requesting him to urge upon the Committee the necessity of the Island being supplied with two missionaries next summer.

The Presbytery appointed Mr Duncan to supply Dog River and Bannockburn on some Sabbath in January; and instructed him to endeavour to effect an equitable and harmonious settlement with the Trustees of the Church now in course of erection at Dog River.

The Clerk introduced the question of Presbyterial Visitation; when after some conversation it was agreed to visit the various congregations on the earliest possible occasions. The first Thursday of February was appointed for the examination of St. Columba's, St. Peter's Road; and the first Thursday of March for St. James' Charlottetown.

Colonel Gray intimated that he would bring "the Widows' and Orphans' Scheme" before the notice of the Presbytery at a future meeting. Closed with prayer.

5th February, 1863.

Sederunt in St. Columba's Church; Rev. Thomas Duncan, Moderator: Rev. A. McLean, and G. M. Grant, Ministers: Isaac Thompson Esqr., Elder.

After divine service conducted by the Rev. A. McLean, and the constituting of the Presbytery by prayer from the Moderator, the Clerk intimated to the assembled congregation that the Presbytery had met to examine into the state of the St. Columba's Kirk, and accordingly summoned the Elders and Trustees to come forward. Three out of the four elders, and four out of the five trustees were present, and to these the Moderator addressed the usual formulas of questions bearing upon the spiritual and financial affairs of the congregation. From the answers given by the Kirk Session, it was ascertained that the various agencies of Sabbath School, Bible Class, and Prayer Meetings were in efficient operation. The Trustees reported a small debt on the Church, which they intended to clear off in a few weeks; and with regard to stipend, stated that they had bound themselves to give Mr Grant £75 cy. per annum, for half of his services, payable quarterly in advance, and that they had always implemented their engagement to his entire satisfaction. As to the Schemes of the Church, while all collections enjoined by the Synod were made, no Parochial Association had been instituted to take up the cause of Missions, and to collect systematically; but the minister announced his intention of establishing such an or-

ganization forthwith. After the examination, the Rev. Mr Duncan addressed the Elders, and Mr McLean the Trustees and people, congratulating them on the rapid progress they had made as a congregation, and urging them to increased zeal and steadfastness.—Closed with the benediction.

ST. JAMES SESSION-HOUSE, }  
5th March, 1863. }

Sederunt: Rev. Thomas Duncan, Moderator: Rev. A. McLean, and G. M. Grant, Ministers: Allan McDougal, and Isaac Thompson Esqrs., Elders.

The minutes of the previous meetings having been read, the Clerk explained that owing to several circumstances the Presbyterial examination of St. James' Congregation had not taken place at the time appointed. The Presbytery agreed to meet for the examination of St. John's, Belfast, on the last Thursday of April, at 11 o'clock, Rev. Mr Grant to conduct public worship; St. David's Georgetown, on the last Thursday of May; and St. James', Charlottetown, on the first Thursday of June.

Mr Duncan was appointed to supply Dog River and Bannockburn on the 17th of March, and on some Sabbath in April and in May.—A call to the Rev. G. M. Grant to St. Matthew's Church, Halifax, was laid on the table. The Rev. Mr Duncan appeared for the St. Matthew's Congregation; and on his motion the call was sustained as a bona fide and gospel call, and as in substantial accordance with the usages of the Church. On being interrogated, Mr Grant then stated his intention to accept the call, which was signed by all the elders, trustees, and members of St. Matthew's Church. It was moved by Mr. McLean, and unanimously agreed to, that leave be given to Mr Grant to transfer himself to the Presbytery of Halifax, as soon as in all the circumstances of the case it seems advisable; the Presbytery, however, expressing a strong hope that they would not be deprived of Mr Grant's services, before the next meeting of Synod. The Rev. Mr. Duncan was authorized to announce the above facts to the Halifax Presbytery. Closed with prayer.

GEORGE MONRO GRANT, *Pres. Clerk.*

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, }  
Pictou, March 4, 1863. }

The Presbytery of Pictou in connection with the Church of Scotland met and was constituted. Sederunt—Rev. Simon McGregor, Moderator; Andrew W. Herdman, Allan Pollok, William McMillan, Daniel McCurdy, John Sinclair, Ministers; Messrs. John McKay, D. A. Fraser and Grant, Elders; and Mr. Christie, Clerk.

The minutes of last ordinary meeting were read and sustained. There was received the