

were tendered by the Moderator, to Mr. Robb, Convener of the Home Mission Committee.

The Synod took up a reference from the Presbytery of Perth, of date the 25th June, bearing that the Presbytery had cited Mr. Cameron; that he had appeared, and had refused to acquiesce in the deliverance of the Synod, enjoining him to submit to the authority of the Presbytery of Perth. The Synod, after reasoning, adopted the following deliverance:—

“The Synod sustain the reference—declare that Mr. Cameron shall no longer be employed as a missionary, nor entitled to any of the privileges of a probationer of this Church, and instruct the Clerk to report the whole case to the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland.”

The report of the Committee on the petition of Donald McIntyre, was received and sustained, on the ground that the petitioner had been injudiciously treated, the whole case was remitted to the London Presbytery, with instructions to meet at Moss, call parties, and proceed according to the Laws of the Church.

Mr. Bayne, in behalf of the Committee appointed at last Synod, for visiting congregations that had applied for money from the Clergy Reserve Fund, reported verbally that the Commission had not seen cause to visit any of the congregations, chiefly because they believed that the applications for money from the Clergy Reserve Fund, had not been persisted in.

It was then moved by Mr. Rintoul, seconded by Mr. Gale, and agreed to without a vote:—

“That the Synod receive and sustain the report, and record their satisfaction, that in so far as is known to the Synod, no congregation of this Church had applied for money from the Clergy Reserve Fund, since the last meeting of Synod.”

From this deliverance Dr. Burns and Mr. Gray dissented, for reasons to be given in due time; on which they took instruments in the Clerk's hands.

The Synod proceeded to take up a reference from the Presbytery of Hamilton, setting forth the dealing they had with Dr. Ferrier, in accordance with the deliverance of the Synod, last year, at session 20, and giving the following as the deliverance of the Presbytery: “That there appears to them to be much vagueness in the views of Dr. Ferrier, in regard to many points on which the Presbytery have conferred with him, and that in some things they appeared to them to be opposed to the standards of this Church.”

A pamphlet lately published by Dr. Ferrier, was laid upon the table.

Wednesday, June 27.—After full consideration of the case of Dr. Ferrier, Dr. Willis, who had left the chair, submitted the following motion, which was seconded by Dr. Burns:—

“The Synod having fully heard the Presbytery and Dr. Ferrier, approve the Presbytery's report; find, that the views set forth by Dr. Ferrier, both before the Presbytery, and in this court, are in various particulars inconsistent with the doctrines of Christ's supremacy over nations and civil governments, as held by this Church—and that any exception taken by him to the usual formula at his induction, and which, it appears, so far as conceded by the Presbytery, was understood by them to respect only the legal or compulsory maintenance of a gospel ministry, cannot be allowed to cover the latitude he claims, in impugning the great principle of national duty and responsibility, in its other momentous hearings. But, as Dr.

Ferrier disclaims any desire to disturb the harmony of the Church, the Synod with a view to all possible removal of misunderstanding, appoint a Committee further to deal with him, and to report the result to the Commission that shall meet in October, who are hereby empowered, if they deem it for the interests of truth, and for edification to bring the matter to a conclusion—having respect to the harmony of the Church, and the testimony to which the Synod adheres, for the principles of Divine Revelation, and of the Christian law, as of authority to men in their collective and national, as well as private relations and actions.”

It was then moved by Mr. Reid, and seconded by Mr. Gray.

“That the Synod sustain the report of the Presbytery of Hamilton, find, that in certain points, more especially in regard to the duty of nations to honour and obey Christ, Dr. Ferrier's views do not appear to be in accordance with the standards of this Church, to which the Synod anew declare their adherence; farther appoint a Committee to confer affectionately and tenderly with Dr. Ferrier; and report to the Synod at the next meeting thereof.”

After prolonged discussion on a division, there were for the first motion, 26; for the second, 9.

A Committee was appointed to deal with Dr. Ferrier.

James Walker, Esq., Secretary of the Sustentation Board, read their report, and laid the books of the Board upon the table.

“That the report of the Sustentation Board be received and sustained; and that the cordial thanks of the Synod be tendered to the Sustentation Board, and specially to their Secretary for the unwearied and disinterested attention bestowed by them on the great interests of the Church, involved in the sustentation of the ministry.”

The Moderator accordingly tendered the thanks of the Synod to Mr. Walker.

The Synod having further considered the report of the Sustentation Board, adopted the following resolution:—

“The Synod record their deep regret that the resolutions of last year have not been carried into effect by the several Presbyteries, and ministers, and congregations, except in a few instances—and that it hence appears that this Church is not prepared as a whole to sustain a general scheme for providing for the support of the ministry; that, therefore, the proceedings of the Synod, in this matter, be no farther prosecuted for the present,—and that Presbyteries be enjoined to exercise such care as they can, in regard to the provision made for the ministry within their bounds—advising in this matter, as they see cause, with any agent or agency committee that may be appointed by the Synod, to superintend the general financial affairs of the Church; such agent or committee to report on this subject to next Synod.”

Reasons of dissent from the judgment of Synod in the case of applications for money from the Clergy Reserve Fund, were given in by Dr. Burns and Mr. Gray.

Mr. Smellie reported on the widows' fund scheme. The Synod agreed

“To sustain the report of Mr. Smellie, and tender thanks to him for his diligent attention to the matter, and farther to re-appoint the Committee, and remit the scheme to them with instructions to proceed according to the directions of last Synod.”

The report of the Committee on union with the United Presbyterian Church was called for. Mr. Bayne reported verbally, that owing to special circumstances no action had been taken by the Committee since last meeting of Synod.

“The Synod sustained the report, and appreciating very highly the benefits that would arise from union among Presbyterians, continue the Committee, with instructions to proceed in such a way as may appear most suited to lead to a union on sound and scriptural principles.”

The Rev. Mr. King gave in a report of his mission in behalf of the coloured population.

“The Synod receive the report—approve of the diligence and zeal with which Mr. King has manifested in the prosecution of his mission—approve generally of the report—re-appoint Mr. King to carry out the views set forth in the report in regard to the establishment of a fixed mission for the coloured population—appoint the following committee to superintend the mission, and direct Mr. King's farther labours in regard to it, with instructions to correspond with the Colonial Committee of the Free Church, in order to ascertain the relation in which they consider Mr. King as standing to them, with respect to his support, viz: Dr. Willis, Convener, Dr. Burns, Messrs. Rintoul, Wightman, ministers; Messrs. Burns, and Gibb, elders.

Dr. Burns was requested to write and give necessary explanations to certain persons in Chatham and its vicinity, who had sent a memorial against the settlement of the colored population in Raleigh.

It was agreed that the law requiring ministers admitted into this Church, to labour as missionaries for one year, should be dispensed with in the case of Mr. Holmes, who had been reported as admitted by the Presbytery of Toronto, a minister of this Church.

The consideration of an overture from the Presbytery of Perth; and the petition of the congregation of Gatincau, on the support of the ministry, was referred to the Agency Committee.

The report on the *Ecclesiastical and Missionary Record*, was given in and read:—

“The Synod receive the report—approve of the diligence of the Committee—re-appoint the Committee; and earnestly call upon ministers, and all other friends of the Church, to make an immediate and combined effort to extend the circulation of the *Record*.”

Mr. Burns, agent for the various committees of the Church, read an abstract of the contributions of the various congregations and mission stations.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed “That the report be sustained, and printed under the direction of the Agency Committee; and that the thanks of the Synod be tendered to Mr. Burns, for his assiduity and faithfulness in attending to the accounts of the various Committees of the Church.”

Dr. Burns read the report of the committee on Sabbath desecration. The Synod adopted the report, and appointed a committee with instructions to use their best endeavours to carry out the recommendations of last Synod, and other suitable means, for awakening the community to a sense of the awful evils consequent on any relaxation of the claims of the Sabbath.

Mr. Davidson reported on behalf of the committee on the funds. The report was generally approved, and remitted to the agency committee, with instructions for them to fix the times for the general collections, and determine the best way of raising the necessary funds.

Communications were received from John McMurrich and John Laidlaw, Esquires, donating their offices as Treasurers to Knox's College, and the Synod Fund respectively.