

meeting to which she was cited. The Presbytery, however, resolved only again to cite Mr. McLellan as formerly, and still to continue to him the opportunity of vindicating his character. Of this he took no notice either by writing or appearing as cited.

He thus repudiated his ordination vows by contumaciously refusing to submit to the Presbytery in the Lord; he did this while an appeal taken by him to Synod against a decision of Presbytery was still pending; and he did this while a *fama clamosa* of the gravest description was in circulation against him, a course calculated to awaken the suspicion that said *fama* had foundation in fact. It was accordingly proposed to depose, and the roll being called, the unanimous vote of Presbytery was to proceed to the solemn act of deposition from the communion of the Church and from the office of the holy ministry. The Moderator, having engaged in prayer, in the name of the Great Head of the Church deposed the said Jacob McLellan from the communion of the Church and from his status as a minister of the Gospel.

The Clerk was directed to intimate this decision to clerks of Presbyteries; and the Moderator was appointed to preach within the bounds of the first congregation of Maitland and Noel, intimate the action of Presbytery, declare the congregation vacant, and give such directions as he may see required. The Presbytery adjourned to meet at Brookfield on Tuesday, June 13th, at 11 o'clock forenoon.

Presbytery of Pictou.

The Presbytery of Pictou met in James church, New Glasgow, on the 2nd May, and was constituted by the Rev. Dr. Bayne, Moderator, *pro. tem.*

The Edict for the induction of the Rev. Edward A. McCurdy, into the pastoral charge of this congregation was returned, certified by the Rev. Professor McKnight as duly served. The Rev. Mr. McLeod was appointed to read it again to the congregation then assembled. The Presbytery having waited a reasonable time to receive objections and none being preferred, agreed to proceed with the induction. Rev. Mr. Mowitt preached an excellent and appropriate sermon from 1 Cor. iii. 12, 15; the Rev. Dr. Bayne narrated the steps taken to procure the call, put the questions of the Formula to Mr. McCurdy, offered the induction prayer, and impressively addressed him on love to Christ, and the duty of feeding His sheep and lambs; and the Rev. Mr. McLeod, in the absence of Mr. Blair, addressed the people in appropriate terms on their duty to their minister. Rev.

Dr. Bayne, in the usual manner, introduced the newly-inducted pastor to the people as they retired, and also to the Session. Mr. McCurdy's name was then added to the roll of Presbytery. The managers reported that they had paid him the first quarter's stipend in advance. Mr. McCurdy enters upon his new pastorate with a fair prospect of encouraging success—the congregation have good reason to be thankful to the Great Head of the Church for sending them a pastor so talented, popular and successful as Mr. McCurdy has proved himself to be; and the Presbytery, while sympathizing with the congregation who have lost his faithful services, and with the Presbytery who have been deprived of his judicious counsels, hail him as a valuable acquisition to their number, and extend to him a cordial welcome as a co-Presbyter.

Messrs. John Meikle and David Smith appeared as commissioners from the congregation of Merigomish, requesting a moderation in a call. Their request was granted, and the Rev. Mr. Maxwell was appointed to preach in their church on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., and moderate in a call to one to be their pastor.

The Session of Salem and Sharon churches reported that they would not offer any opposition to the organization of a congregation at Westville. Their report was received and the Presbytery authorized the committee in charge of that station to organize it into a congregation and ordain elders. Mr. Kenneth McKay having completed his theological course at Princeton, and being present, gave in all his trials for license, which were highly approved, and he was accordingly licensed to preach the everlasting Gospel. He was suitably addressed by the Rev. Mr. Patterson on the greatness and importance of the work to which he was set apart, and upon which he was about to enter.

The Presbytery agreed to hold their next meeting in Prince street church, Pictou, on Tuesday, the 30th inst., at 11 a. m., for ordinary business and for any Synod matter that may come before them.

JOHN MACKINNON, Clerk.

The Committee on Systematic Benevolence would respectfully request the Moderators of Sessions who have not already done so to forward as soon as possible their reply to the Circular issued a few weeks ago and sent to all the ministers of the Church. The Committee are all the more anxious to receive answers immediately, as the fullness and accuracy of their report to Synod depends almost wholly upon the information which it was anticipated the circulars would elicit.

E. A. MCCURDY,
Sec'y Com. Sys. Ben.