

THE PRESBYTERIAN.

JULY, 1862.

THE SYNOD.

This reverend Court met in St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, on Wednesday the 28th May. There was a fair attendance of ministers and a small attendance of elders.

The Rev. William Bain, M.A., of Perth, occupied the chair, and after Divine service delivered his closing address as Moderator.

On motion of the Rev. Alex. Mathieson, D. D., seconded by Archibald Barker, Esq., the Very Reverend William Leitch, D. D., Principal of Queen's College, Kingston, was unanimously elected Moderator for the ensuing year. The business of the first day was chiefly of a routine character, and, after a discussion on the propriety of amalgamating the offices of Trustees and Managers, the Synod adjourned. On the second day Dr. Mathieson presented the report of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, which was received and adopted. James Reekie, Esq., was added to the Board of Managers. The report of the Trustees of Queen's College was read and adopted. This report shows a most encouraging increase in the number of students, and that the University is in a very flourishing state. The report of the Committee on the Bursary Scheme was also received and adopted. A long discussion took place on the subject of a mission to Vancouver Island and British Columbia, and the matter was finally referred to the Committee on Jewish Missions. The Rev. Geo. Macdonnell, of Fergus, presented a highly satisfactory report on Sabbath Schools, which was read and unanimously adopted, after which the Synod adjourned till the following morning.

In our next number we shall give a brief review of the different matters that came before the Synod, among which the question of Instrumental Music was the most prominent. The decision arrived at on this important subject would lead us to think that, as the congregation in Toronto is allowed to use a musical instrument,

other congregations may do the same, and that in point of fact the conducting of the Psalmody will be kept in the hands of sessions and congregations without much interference from the higher Church Courts. Our desire in this matter has always been to make the musical portion of our Church service as perfect as possible, and as excellent in every way as the means at the disposal of congregations will permit; by which we mean that it should be so conducted as to solemnise the mind and encourage devotional feeling. We are opposed to all artistic display, but would insist on really good music in every church. The oldest of our psalm tunes are the best, and, when well sung—perfect in tune and time—nothing can surpass them, nor can anything more tend to raise the soul in heartfelt praise to God. If the decision of the Synod shall lead to this end, we certainly shall not object, and in the meantime, as in duty bound, we bow respectfully to the authority of our highest Church Court in this as in all other matters.

We call attention to the Closing Address of the Moderator, which will well repay perusal. We may state that the roll shows that we have 99 charges with ministers, that we have 8 missionaries and 7 retired ministers, so that 2, who are not at present on the roll, with 4 new licentiates would make a total of 113 ministers.

It gratifies us much to see from the Minutes that we are to have, what we have long wished to see, a French Protestant Church, connected with our body, worshipping in a building worthy of the cause, and to build which means are now about to be raised so as to commence operations forthwith.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

We have had beside us for some time a report of the proceedings of this Court for which we are indebted to the Rev. James Black, Clerk of Presbytery.

At the ordinary meeting held on 7th May the address of condolence to Her Majesty was reported by Dr. Mathieson. The Session rec-