

for the opinion of Presbyteries, when 3 Reports were given in disapproving the same. The same having been read, the Synod agreed to drop the further consideration of the proposed constitution of the Commission, and agreed to abide by the present constitution of the Commission of Synod.

The Synod had transmitted to them Memorials from the Congregations of Buxbrook and Watertown to the Colonial Committee for aid in building and finishing their churches, with certified copies of the Title-deeds of both properties, together with Extract Minutes of the Presbytery of Hamilton, recommending both cases. The same having been read and maturely considered, it was moved and seconded "That the Petition be transmitted in accordance with the recommendation of the Presbytery." "It was also moved in amendment and seconded, That the papers be remitted to the Presbytery of Hamilton to enquire into the whole facts of the case, and state them clearly and truly, certifying the same before the memorials to the Colonial Committee be transmitted, authorizing them to transmit these without coming again before the Synod." The Roll was then called and votes marked, when the motion was carried by a majority of votes.—The Synod accordingly agreed to sanction the said applications, and instructed the Clerk to transmit the Memorials with the accompanying documents to the Colonial Committee.

The Synod then adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, and was closed with prayer.

Diet III. Friday, July 15, 1853.

The Synod met according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer.

The Rev. Duncan Morrison conducted the Devotional exercises in praise, reading the Scriptures, and prayer.

The Minutes of yesterday being read and approved, the Synod made the following appointments for the public services of Sabbath, viz: Mr. McDonnell, to preach in St. Andrew's Church in the forenoon, Mr. Milligan, in the afternoon, and Mr. Dobie, in the evening; Mr. Duncan Morrison, to preach at Glenburnie; Mr. Mowat, at Pittsburgh; Mr. McPherson, at Long Island; and Mr. Shanks, at Camden.

The Synod had transmitted to them an overture from the Presbytery of Hamilton to the effect that the Synod would recommend all ministers and Congregations within the bounds to make collections in aid of the Jewish and Foreign Missions of the Church of Scotland. After some consideration it was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to; That the Synod enjoin Presbyteries to call the attention of the Congregations within their bounds to the decisions of the Church in 1840-1 in reference to Foreign Missions.

The Examining Committee reported certificates in favour of Mr. Peter Lindsay, A. B., Mr. David Watson, A. B., and Mr. J. H. McKerras, A. M. The Synod, having fully considered these cases, agreed to grant leave to the Presbytery of Kingston to take Mr. Lindsay on trials for license, and to the Presbytery of Toronto to take Mr. Watson on trials for license, and to the Presbytery of Bathurst to take Mr. McKerras on trials for license.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to conduct the French Mission in L. C., which was given in by Mr. McGill, showing the operations of the past year and the present state of the Funds, and stating that Mons. Batillon, for some time the only remaining Agent employed by the Committee, had resigned, so that the operations of the Mission would be in the mean time suspended, and making divers suggestions for the consideration of the Synod. The Synod agreed to receive and approve of this Report, and to offer their thanks to the Committee; and further, the Synod, feeling that a duty is laid upon them in the Providence of God to prosecute this work and persevere in the same, appointed the Presbytery of Montreal, as a Committee of the Synod, to attend thereto, and instructed them to use their best endeavours to put the French Mission in a more favourable condition. The Synod adjourned and closed with prayer. [To be concluded in next No.]

ADDRESS OF THE REV. ALEXANDER SPENCE, MODERATOR, AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING OF SYNOD, JULY 19TH, 1853.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—The business of the Synod being now brought to a close, allow me again to express my sense of the obligation under which I feel myself to you for the honour done to me in placing me in this Chair. Nothing could have been more unexpected on my part than that I should be singled out as an individual to preside over you. I have been but a short time, compared with many others, a member of this Court; and I have done nothing which could lead me to entertain the idea that you would think me worthy of being elevated to such an office. Having been so however, I have endeavoured to discharge the duties laid upon me to the best of my humble abilities; and, if I have in any way failed in performing these duties, or if I have given offence to any member of this Court, let me express a hope that those failures will be passed over, and that this offence will be forgiven.

I am glad to be able to say that the discussions, which have taken place on the different subjects which have been brought before the Court, have been carried on in such a way and in such a spirit as to render the duties of the office, which I have held, comparatively easy.

I cannot allow you to separate without remarking that there are some dark spots in our horizon. For example: in common with other bodies recent events have told us that our liberty of speech has been assailed, that our freedom, that freedom which is so dear to every Protestant heart, has been placed in danger. On this subject you have put forth no uncertain sound; and I rejoice that you have done so.

We, as a religious body, are threatened likewise with being deprived of what righteously, and in perfect accordance with constitutional law, has hitherto belonged to us. But, although we may be stripped of our endowments, let us cling to our principles; although we may be left wholly and entirely to the voluntary support of the people, let us never regard the connection between Church and State as a matter of indifference; but let us hold fast to the Establishment principle as recognised in our Standards and in the Word of God.

It is satisfactory to have to observe that no cases of discipline have been brought under the notice of the Synod at the present meeting, and, if we would desire that such a state of things should continue, let us be strict in the exercise of discipline when necessity requires. I mean not only in this our Supreme Ecclesiastical Court, but also in our Presbyteries and in our Kirk-Sessions. There is a most incumbent duty resting upon us in regard to this matter; and let us ever practically bear in mind that, whilst on the Continent of Europe, and by the Protestant Church there, the pure

preaching of the Word and administration of the Sacraments were specified as marks of the true Church, in addition to these our reformers of Scotland described "discipline, exercised according to the Word of God, as a certain and infallible sign" of being a true Church of Christ.

It is deeply to be regretted that a greater amount of success did not attend the efforts of your deputation to Scotland "to induce Preachers to place their services at the disposal of this Church, to fill up the waste places in our Spiritual Zion." It is obvious that our Church must henceforward look mainly to our own resources in these Provinces for the supply of labourers for our Vineyard. Let us not, however, give ourselves up to despair in regard to this matter, of which it is almost impossible to over-estimate the importance. We have had before us some pleasing specimens of what Queen's College can produce; and let us nourish and foster it to the utmost extent of our ability. Let us regard it in the light of an Institution, on the success of which the very existence of our Church in a great measure depends. Let us look upon it as the fountain, the only fountain from which we can expect streams to flow to irrigate and fertilize the spiritual wilderness around us.

I would regard it as a favourable sign and ominous symptom of our future prosperity, that the Synod has directed its attention to the Missionary enterprise, and has renewed the recommendation that the attention of our people should be directed to this important subject. And allow me to express a hope that all of us will see it to be our duty to act on this recommendation; for assuredly by so doing we will recommend ourselves to the countenance and favour of God as a Church of Christ, we will be doing what we can to the gathering-in of the elect from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south—we will be helping on, still more than we may have hitherto been doing, the erection of that great spiritual temple, to which one age after another must add its complement till it shall be complete—that temple which is being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone. And I cannot help observing that it is elevating and cheering to think that amidst the divisions, by which the visible Churches are now separated from one another, and the strife of contending parties, this temple must and will grow till it comprehend all who shall come to recognise Christ as the Head. Nay more: Is it not elevating and cheering to reflect that, whatever may be their minor differences, real Christians are united together by bonds which cannot be broken, that they all rest on the same foundation—that they are all connected by the same spirit—and that after all they constitute one temple, whose light is Truth, whose cement is Love, and whose one inscription