

had been duly forwarded, and that a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, forwarded by His Excellency the Governor General, had been received, stating that the Address had been laid before Her Majesty, who was pleased to receive it very graciously.

Secondly—That he had received a communication under the hand of His Excellency the Governor-General, acknowledging receipt of the Assembly's Address; stating his satisfaction with the expression of continued good feeling to himself personally, and as the representative of the Sovereign,—expressing confident hope for the welfare of this Dominion and of its people, and tendering thanks for the good wishes conveyed by the Address for Lady Stanley and his family.

Thirdly—That as charged by last Assembly, he had issued a Pastoral Letter, calling the attention of the Church at large to the enterprises in which she was engaged, and the duty of office-bearers and members to prosecute with diligence and zeal the great interests committed to their care.

THANKS TO RETIRING MODERATOR.

On motion of Dr. Burns, seconded by Mr. D. J. Macdonnell, the General Assembly tendered cordial thanks to Dr. Grant for his efficient discharge of the duties of the Moderatorship during the past year, and for the excellent sermon with which he has opened the Sessions of this General Assembly. The expression of the Assembly's appreciation as above, was, in suitable terms, conveyed to Dr. Grant by the Moderator.

REPORT OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

The Assembly called for the Report of the Committee to prepare business for the first Sederunt. The report was handed in and read by Dr. Torrance, the Clerk of the Committee. The report, on motion duly seconded, was received and adopted, and is as follows :—

I. That the hours of business be from half-past nine in the forenoon till half-past twelve, afternoon ; from half-past two in the afternoon till half-past five ; and from half-past seven in the evening till ten o'clock. That to-morrow this order be departed from, and the General Assembly meet at eleven o'clock, and occupy the first hour in devotional exercises.

II. That the Committee on Bills and Overtures be composed as follows :—The official members provided for in the standing orders one hundred and thirty-one, sub-section one, that is to say,—the Clerks of Assembly, Clerks of Synods and of Presbyteries, who are Commissioners, together with the following members of Assembly :—Messrs. L. G. MacNeill, A. Falconer, Dr. Armstrong, Dr. Warden, J. B. Fraser, M.D., John McEwen, Dr. John Thompson, Gustavus Munro, M.A., Daniel Stalker and Thomas Scouler, Ministers ; with Messrs. T. C. James, L. W. Johnston, James Moodie, Walter Paul, Andrew Jeffrey, Hugh Cockburn, Thomas Strachan, John McMaster, Colin H. Campbell and Chief Justice Taylor, Ruling Elders.

(Attention is called to the omission by Presbyteries to nominate one member each for this Committee.)