

The first half hour of the afternoon sederunt was spent in devotional exercises, Rev. Messrs. McKellar, Farquharson, and the Superintendent of Missions leading in prayer.

Rev. F. McLeod requested a certificate of his ministerial standing, which, through an oversight at the formation of the Synod, had been overlooked. He was referred to the Brandon Presbytery.

The Rock Lake Presbytery recommended that the Synod would request the General Assembly to relieve the Rev. Messrs. J. Brown, R. Brown, and D. Lantow, from attending said General Assembly in the matter of their applications for reception into the ministry of the church. This was urged upon the Synod as advisable owing to the expense these brethren would have to incur and the time they would have to be away from their charges. The Synod appointed Principal King, Professor Hart, Rev. Messrs. Ross, Farquharson, Livingstone and Smith and Messrs. Lockhart and Polson a committee to confer with their brethren and report. Said committee at a subsequent sederunt reported favourably on the request, and the Synod unanimously adopted the recommendations contained in the report.

An overture from the Brandon Presbytery anent the division of said Presbytery was read. Rev. Messrs. Robertson, We'llwood, Baird, H. McKay and McKellar, addressed the court in the matter. Thereafter, on motion of Mr. Livingstone, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the Synod agreed to receive and adopt the overture and transmit the same, and the Superintendent and Rev. A. Bell were appointed to support it before the General Assembly.

MISSION SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

At the evening meeting, the Superintendent of Missions submitted the report of the Synod's Home Mission Committee. The report is a lengthy document and gives a full, interesting and detailed statement of the various aspects of the work going on under the supervision of the Committee. Principal King, Professor Hart, Messrs. Farquharson, J. M. Douglas, and A. B. Baird, of Edmonton, addressed the Synod on the vastness of the work under its oversight and care. Principal King then moved, seconded by Mr. Farquharson, and the Synod unanimously agreed, that the Synod having heard the report of the Superintendent respecting the missionary operations in Manitoba and the North-West throughout the year, desires to record the satisfaction with which it has heard of the progress made during the year, and to express its grateful sense of the liberality with which Christian work throughout its bounds has been aided by the Church as a whole and by individual members. The Synod would also assure the Superintendent of Missions of its appreciation of his zealous labours, and of its readiness to co-operate with him in all his efforts to overtake the religious necessities of the vast field.

The Synod then held a conference on the State of Religion, in which Rev. Messrs. McKellar, Douglas, Todd, John Brown, Mowat, McPherson, H. McKay and others took part, and in their respective addresses gave some very valuable information on Christian work and life in their respective charges.

On Thursday morning the Synod resumed consideration of the overture of Brandon Presbytery anent Theological Education, which was discussed at some length at a former sederunt. Principal King moved, and Rev. W. R. Ross seconded, that the Synod, while sympathizing with the object of the overture of the Presbytery of Brandon on the admission to the ministry of catechist labourers, declines to adopt it on the ground, among others, that it is undesirable to have a mode of admission to the ministry in this part of the Church different from that which obtains in other parts. The Synod, however, holds itself ready to co-operate with the Presbytery of Brandon or any of the Presbyteries within the bounds in securing from the General Assembly, leave to receive from time to time into the ministry any labourers who have given evidence of ability to discharge the duties of the ministry efficiently and to the acceptance of the Christian people and on whose work the Spirit of God has set His seal.

Rev. A. Smith then moved, seconded by Rev. Mr. Livingstone, that the overture be transmitted to the General Assembly, and along with it the deliverance of this Synod. This was carried unanimously.

The Synod agreed to hold its next meeting in Knox Church, Winnipeg, on the third Tuesday in May next, at 7:30 p.m.

COMPLAINT AND APPEAL.

The Synod took up the complaint and appeal of Dr. Fleming against the decision of the Presbytery of Brandon on the matter of his appeal to them from the judgment rendered by session of the First Presbyterian Church, Brandon. Relations were read, and thereafter the matter was referred to a committee of five to examine papers and witnesses, and prepare a resolution, which they will recommend as the deliverance of the Synod thereanent. Said committee was as follows: Dr. Bryce, Convener, Principal King, Rev. Messrs. Ross, A. H. Cameron and Dr. Agnew.

Dr. Fleming asked that a certain document he submitted be received and handed to the committee on his case as one of the papers therewith. A debate arising as to the regularity of said document, the Synod instructed the Brandon Presbytery to retire and meet now, and referred the document to them. The Presbytery then retired as instructed. The Presbytery at a later stage re-entered, and its Clerk reported that it agreed to transmit said document.

No report was prepared by the committee on Finance and Statistics, which was greatly regretted. Several members urged the necessity of obtaining the fullest and most reliable information, statistical and financial, of the several congregations and mission fields within the bounds of Synod.

The Superintendent read the report of the Church and Manse Building Fund. As this is a report to the General Assembly it was read for the information of the Synod.

Dr. Bryce presented the report of the committee on Church Law and Property. The report was received and adopted.

Mr. Farquharson reported from the committee on maintenance of Theological Department in Manitoba College. The report, on motion of Rev. Mr. Baird, was received and adopted.

The financial report of the Synod's Home Mission committee was presented by the Convener. The report was received and adopted.

Those appointed to examine the records of several Presbyteries reported them respectively to be carefully and correctly kept, and they were ordered to be attested accordingly.

The Synod then held a Conference on Sabbath Observance and Sabbath Schools. Several members addressed the court.

INDIAN MISSIONS.

Prof. Hart submitted the report on Foreign Missions. The Synod has within its bounds several Indian missions and Indian day schools. The missionaries are Revs. H. Mackay, J. Mackay, G. Flett, Solomon Tunkansuicye. These missionaries are aided by an excellent staff of day school teachers. Sabbath schools are also established among them, and are greatly aiding in gathering in the young. One pleasing feature of the present condition of our Indian missions is seen in the fact that they were all ready and willing to take up arms in defence of our country against the insurgents on the Saskatchewan. They at once used their influence with the heathen Indians in dissuading them from taking part in the rebellion, and many of them offered their services to assist in restoring peace and order. The same thing may be said of all Protestant Indians; and, in fact, it is very doubtful if any of the Indians under the religious teaching of the Roman Catholics priests have had any part in committing any of the murders or depredations which have occurred this spring. Rev. Mr. Baird, of Edmonton, says that those Indians who took part in the murder of the priests lately were heathen Indians, and were not taught by, nor had they been under the religious influence of these Roman Catholic missionaries. It is pleasing to those interested in Christianizing the Indians to have this evidence of the humanizing, civilizing, and elevating power of the Gospel over these Indian races. Indian missionary work is slow work, but it is not hopeless work. It has encouraging elements in it. And this alone will save the poor Indian tribes from utter extermination.

Mr. C. M. Copeland made a powerful speech on Indian Missions, and moved the adoption of the report.

Rev. Mr. McKenzie seconded the motion, and asked Rev. Hugh Mackay, the missionary at the Broadview Reserve, to speak, who rose to respond and applause. He gave an interesting and hopeful account of mission work among the Indian tribes.

Prof. Hart moved and Dr. King seconded, that the time has come when the Church should prosecute with greatly increased earnestness its mission work among the Indians of Manitoba and the North West Territories, and that the Foreign Mission Committee of the General Assembly be requested to secure the services of young men suitable for acting in the capacity both of missionary and teacher to the Indians among whom the work of the Church may be carried on, and that the Foreign Mission Committee of Synod be urged to take the necessary steps to promote this object. This motion was carried. Then the Professor moved further that the hearty thanks of this Synod be hereby given to the Woman's Foreign Mission Society and other friends for their kindness in sending supplies of clothing to the Indians on our different reserves, and for contributions for our Indian work from the said Society. This was seconded by Rev. Mr. Livingstone, and carried unanimously.

FRIDAY.

The Synod met at an early hour on Friday morning. Dr. Bryce submitted the following finding in the complaint and appeal of Dr. Fleming:

1. The Synod dismisses the complaint and sustains the action of the Presbytery in the matter of the complaint of Dr. Fleming against the session of the First Presbyterian Congregation of Brandon. 2. The Synod sustains the appeal of Dr. Fleming against the decision of the Presbytery, on the ground that while that decision in appearance sustains the appeal of Dr. Fleming against the action of the session in suspending him from Church privileges, it leaves the appellant in the same relation to the fellowship of the Church in which he was placed by the action appealed against. 3. With the view of terminating the case, the Synod directs the session of the First Congregation of Brandon to remove the suspension from church privileges under which Dr. Fleming was placed; but, inasmuch as it has become evident, that through his persistent action of hostility to the session and other office-bearers of the congregation, his further connection with it is not fitted to promote its edification, but, on the contrary, cannot fail to injure seriously its peace and prosperity, it instructs the session to give the appellant a certificate of Church membership, and thereafter to remove his name from the communion roll of the congregation. 4. The Synod expresses its sympathy with the session of Brandon in the difficult and trying position in which it has been placed by the open and persistent disregard of its authority on the part of the appellant, and by the long and vexatious procedure it has been compelled to take in order to vindicate its rightful authority and to protect the interests of the congregation.

Dr. Bryce moved that the Synod amend the report by adding the following as clause 5:—That should Dr. Fleming be in any way legally responsible for debts of the congregation the session is hereby instructed to take immediate steps to free him from all such obligations. This was seconded by Principal King and agreed to.

The report as amended was then read and adopted. And the Synod ordered that the same become the judgment of the court anent the matter.

Dr. Fleming dissented therefrom, craved extracts, and appealed to the General Assembly. Rev. J. M. Douglas, on behalf of the session, and Rev. Messrs. Todd and Stalker, as representing the Brandon Presbytery, intimated their acquiescence; but Rev. Mr. McKellar, whilst acquiescing in the main, dissented from clause 3 on the ground that said clause interfered with individual liberty. The Synod then appointed Principal King and Dr. Bryce to answer reasons of dissent and to support the judgment of Synod before the Assembly.

The report on Temperance was submitted by Rev. D. Stalker, and on motion duly made and seconded was received and adopted, and ordered to be forwarded to the Convener of the Assembly's Committee on Temperance.

Rev. Mr. Stalker also reported from the committee on nominating standing committees. The report was adopted.

A reference from Brandon Presbytery that the application of Mr. Nicholl, with all relative documents be transmitted to the General Assembly with the request that the Assembly pronounce on the validity of his ordination, was on motion made and seconded, ordered to be transmitted to the Assembly.

Dr. Agnew was appointed to audit the treasurer's accounts.

THE NORTH-WEST REBELLION.

The Synod adopted the following resolution on the insurrection in the North West. That this Synod would embrace this opportunity of putting on record its profound sorrow at the outbreak of rebellion in the North West Territories, and its high appreciation of the loyalty and patriotism shown by citizen soldiers from all parts of the Dominion in hastening forward in large numbers to aid the Government in suppressing the uprising against established law and order, and to protect defenceless settlers, its admiration of the coolness and courage manifested by the troops in every engagement and under very trying circumstances; and its gratitude to God for the decided success that has crowned their efforts. The Synod would assure those who had relatives stricken down at the post of duty of its deep sympathy with them in their bereavement, and its prayer that God may be a very present help to them in their time of need. The Synod would also convey to the wounded its deep interest in their condition and its prayer for their complete and speedy restoration to health. The regret which the Synod feels at the absence of some of its valued members is more than compensated by the knowledge that Rev. Messrs. Gordon, Pitblair, Rowand and others in a partial degree are spending their time and their influence in giving spiritual help to those in active service, and comfort and sympathy to the bereaved and the wounded. Further, this the Synod, while condemning this rebellion, is compelled to record its condemnation of the culpable mismanagement that led to the outbreak and permitted it to assume the proportions it did.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Whimster, the following was adopted. The Synod desires to record its sense of gratitude to the many congregations and Sabbath schools in the East which have sent for distribution among the remote and needy mission fields within our bounds excellent Sabbath school libraries and papers. These have been distributed among many of our schools, and have been received with thankfulness and as an exceedingly valuable help in carrying on these mission schools. The Synod would moreover invite the liberality of the Presbyterian Sabbath schools in Ontario and elsewhere in this matter. Much assistance could be given by these schools by sending to us their libraries and other Sunday school appliances when they have no further use for them. Many such are lying idle on the shelves in Ontario, which might be rendering us valuable aid in our great work throughout the North-West. The Synod would authorize its Clerk to present this matter through the columns of our denominational papers to the schools in the East. The Synod recorded its regret that so many of its standing committees failed to prepare and present reports, and that in consequence of this neglect the business of the Synod was much interfered with and was hence less satisfactory than was to be wished; that thereby the Synod is made to appear at a disadvantage in the eyes of the whole church; that the Synod would impress on the standing committees now appointed the necessity of taking steps at an early date to have full written reports on all subjects entrusted to them, that such reports be ready in good time for the next meeting of the Synod.

On motion of Mr. Copeland, seconded by Rev. Mr. Mowat, the Synod passed the usual votes of thanks to the various bodies who had contributed to the success and enjoyment of the meeting.

The Moderator then announced that this Synod stands adjourned to meet in Knox Church, Winnipeg, on the third Tuesday in May, 1886, and closed the Synod with prayer and the benediction.

In a recent number of the *Musical World*, there is a biographical sketch of Mr. D. W. Karn, the organ manufacturer of Woodstock, concluding as follows: His long-cherished plan has been to add a department for the manufacture of pianos, but has never been able to find room in the present factory. Last fall, however, an opportunity occurred in the sale of a splendid brick building three stories high above the basement, and with a frontage of 152 feet. This building was erected at a cost of \$25,000, and for many years was occupied as the chief hotel in the town, but business having been drawn away to another part of the town it was no longer required for that purpose, and being sold at a bargain, Mr. Karn became the owner, having in view the fitting it up for a piano factory, for which its shape and situation is well adapted. His intention is to place therein the necessary power and machinery to give work to 100 skilled mechanics, in the sole manufacture of pianos of a high class. How soon he will put this proposed business into operation is not definitely settled; but it is simply a matter of time and convenience, but which Woodstock citizens would like to see carried out very soon. We may be permitted to add that Mr. Karn is liberal in matters of benevolence, giving largely to objects which interest him, particularly higher education.

PLANS for the Thomas Coats Memorial Church at Paisley have been received. Each of the six invited competitors is to receive a premium of \$500. The structure is to be in the Gothic style, seated for 800, without galleries, and to cost at least \$100,000. The church, it is expected, will be one of the finest ecclesiastical buildings in the West of Scotland.