

There was read the Report of the Committee appointed to define the limits of the Presbytery of Simcoe on the side abutting on the Presbytery of Owen Sound, which was received and adopted as follows :—That the limits of the Presbytery of Simcoe extend northward so as to include the Townships of Chaffey, Stisted, Cardwell, Humphrey, and Conger.

The Committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Cobourg having reported that they were carefully and correctly kept, they were ordered to be attested accordingly.

The Synod then proceeded to constitute itself into a Conference on the State of Religion. The minute of 2nd April of last Synod, appointing the Conference, was read. After singing, and prayer by Mr. J. Dick, the Moderator declared the Conference opened, and by special request of the Court, continued to occupy the chair.

Reports on the State of Religion, compiled from those of the several Kirk Sessions within their respective bounds, were read from the Presbyteries of Cobourg, Ontario, Toronto and Simcoe.

Mr. W. Meikle delivered an appropriate opening address, and was followed in prayer by Dr. R. H. Thornton, after the singing of a portion of the 143rd Psalm. Short addresses, bearing on the revival of the work of the Lord throughout our Church, were successively made by Messrs. J. Paterson, R. Rodgers, W. Donald, R. Wallace, J. Douglas, J. M. King, M.A., R. H. Thornton, D.D., and W. D. Ballantyne.

During the conference, the hour of adjournment having come, it was agreed to sit until the business of the Synod was concluded. The Conference, after having heard a closing paper on "Worldliness," from Mr. R. Moodie, rose and reported progress.

This meeting was one of the most refreshing and edifying ever held by the Synod. The opening address was able, and adapted to the important subject under consideration. The other addresses were brief, pointed and practical, and evinced an unusually intense desire for the reviving of the Lord's work throughout our Zion, and also brought out some of the most successful plans for awakening a deeper spiritual interest among our people. The only regret felt was that the attendance was not larger.

The Standing Committee on the State of Religion submitted the following Report, which was received and adopted :—

1. That at next meeting of Synod, the evening of Wednesday, the 5th day of May, 1875 years, be devoted to a Conference on the State of Religion.

2. That Mr. J. M. Cameron, East Church, Toronto, and Mr. J. L. Blaikie, Elder, be appointed to open, and Mr. J. Cameron, of Chatsworth, to close said Conference, with brief addresses, not to exceed 15 minutes.

3. That a full attendance at the Conference be recommended and strongly urged, and that Ministers and Elders come prepared to take an active part therein.

4. That the Synod enjoin on Presbyteries to forward their Reports for next year, on the State of Religion, to the Clerk of Synod, on or before the 1st day of April, so that the Reports in question can be put into the hands of the Standing Committee on the State of Religion, that they may prepare a Report to be laid before the Conference of Synod, at its meeting of next year.

5. That the Presbytery of Owen Sound transmit to the Clerk of Synod, as early in May next as possible, a Report on the State of Religion, in order that a Report from all the Presbyteries comprising the Synod may be forwarded to the Convener of the Committee of the General Assembly on this subject.

On the Report of the Committees appointed to examine the Records of the Presbyteries of Toronto and Ontario, said Records were ordered to be attested as carefully and correctly kept.

The business being ended, the Moderator gave out a portion of the 122nd Psalm, announced that the next meeting of the Synod would be held in the city of Toronto, and within Knox Church there, on the first Tuesday of May, 1875 years, at half past 7 o'clock, p.m., and closed the Session at a quarter before one o'clock in the afternoon, by pronouncing the benediction.

JOHN GRAY, *Clerk of Synod.*