

travelling thence by rail to the capital of Nova Scotia, where, as at every other place of landing, "we found brethren, and were desired to tarry with them" as many days as we could, and more than we had at our disposal.

The Synod's place of meeting on this occasion was Poplar-Grove Church, formerly connected with the "Secession" body, and of which Mr. McGregor, the able and efficient Agent of the Church, as well as Clerk of Synod and Mission Secretary, was for several years the minister. It was selected for the purpose, no doubt, in compliment to him, and in the view of his probable elevation to the Moderator's chair; which accordingly took place, by a very cordial vote, immediately after the Synod had been opened, "according to use and wont," by a public religious service. In absence of the retiring Moderator, who was unable to be present, the duty of conducting that service was devolved on the "Delegates," who willingly divided it between them. After these preliminaries, and the calling of the roll (almost as lengthy a business as at home), our commission was read, the Moderator gave us the right hand of welcome, and the evening *sederunt* of next day was set apart for our being heard,—a diet thus early being kindly agreed to, so as not to prevent our reaching New York in time for the sailing of the *Calabria*, in which our return passage had been secured.

Next day was a busy one. At nine a.m. we attended a union prayer-meeting in St. Matthew's ("Old Kirk"), where Mr. Smith of Fort Massey Free Church, Halifax, (formerly of Galz), presided, and which a great many ministers of both Churches attended,—for I should have mentioned that here also, as at Ottawa, the Supreme Courts of both branches of the Presbyterian Church "in the Maritime Provinces" were holding their annual meetings simultaneously. We both gave short addresses, as we had been asked to do, on the religious movement in Scotland, which were very cordially received.

During the forenoon *sederunt* we attended the Synod, and heard several Reports on the "Schemes" of the Church read and discussed,—having previously been invited to sit as members of the Court, along with Mr. M'Tavish of Woodstock (one of the delegates from the Ottawa Assembly), and Mr. Morton, Missionary to the Coolies in Trinidad.

At three p.m., by special invitation, we went to the other Synod, sitting in St. Andrew's "Kirk" (a handsome modern structure, as St. Matthew's also is), to give further details about the "work" in the Mother country, which, as in the morning, seemed to be listened to with much interest.

Besides the members of Court, there was a large number of ladies and gentlemen assembled; and seated among the members, it was not a little amusing as well as significant to recognize our friend Mr. M'Tavish (erewhile of Ballachulish), as though he had been one of them,—the fact being, that during the forenoon *sederunt*, on presenting his commission from the Joint-Union Committee of the Canadian Churches, he had been asked to take his seat among the ministers and elders there assembled, and had done so. The speeches of Messrs. Grant and Campbell of Halifax, and especially the address of the Moderator, Mr. Duncan of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, in acknowledgment of our visit, were cordial in the extreme; and it was specially refreshing to hear from every one of them the warm expression of sympathy in what was told them of "the doing of the Lord" in old Scotland, as well as of desire and expectation of a like gracious visitation among themselves, as the thing, above everything, which "Nova Scotia" needs.

The evening meeting in "Poplar-Grove" was a crowded one, hearty and enthusiastic as could be desired—wonderfully like, every way, the Tuesday or Wednesday set apart for "Deputies from Foreign Churches" in our own Assembly Hall. The whole evening being at our disposal, we divided the work of speechifying (by previous arrangement) with our young friends and companions in travel, Messrs. Frank Gordon and R. W. Barbour, both of whom, as on many former occasions, rendered valuable assistance in making known "the great things" which the Lord has been working, especially among the youth and the students of our land. Our four addresses were followed up by a succession of short, lively speeches, brimful of kindness, from Mr. Sedgwick, of Musquodoboit (the Nova Scotian delegate to our Assembly last year); Professor M'Knight, of Halifax; Mr. Stewart, of New Glasgow; and Mr. Smith. A motion of thanks, &c., was then put from the chair, and carried by acclamation, the "ayes" saying "aye" very audibly, and the whole Synod after that rising to their feet, to make their assent visibly as well as audibly unanimous. Last of all, the Moderator, addressing us in name of the Synod, took occasion to dwell very specially on the obligations under which the Nova Scotian Church lay to the Free Church Colonial Committee, and, in particular, as before to Dr. John Bonar, "of happy memory," so now to his like-minded successor, Mr. Peter Hope.

Nothing could have been more delightful than our intercourse altogether with these beloved brethren; and our only re-