

MEETING OF SYNOD OF CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Synod met according to appointment in Knox's Church, Toronto, on the evening of Tuesday, 3rd June, and was opened with sermon by the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. W. Taylor of Montreal, from Mark xv. 16: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." The sermon, which was most appropriate and impressive, set forth both the duty, and the privilege and encouragements of the church in seeking to extend the knowledge of salvation throughout the whole world. The thanks of the Synod were cordially tendered to Dr. Taylor both for his suitable and excellent sermon, and for the manner in which he had discharged the duties of Moderator.

After public worship, the Synod was constituted for business.

The retiring Moderator, after referring to certain correspondence with other churches, &c., and laying on the table letters received since last meeting of Synod, briefly addressed the Synod, warmly thanking them for the honour which last year they had conferred upon him by placing him in the chair, and for the kindness which he had received during his term of office, and intimating that the time was now come for electing another to take the chair which he had occupied.

On proceeding to elect a Moderator, it was found that the following nominations had been made by Presbyteries, namely: Dr. Burns, Mr. Robert Ure, and Mr. Alexander Topp. Mr. Topp not being present, having gone to Europe, the list contained the names of Dr. Burns and Mr. Ure. On a vote being taken, Dr. Burns was elected by a large majority. The result of the vote being announced, Dr. Burns addressed the Synod, acknowledging the honour conferred upon him, but intimating that on account of the state of his health he did not feel able to discharge the duties of Moderator, and therefore respectfully declining the appointment. Mr. Ure was then unanimously and cordially elected Moderator, and on taking the chair addressed the Synod in appropriate terms.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on Business, and on Bills and Overtures, which was presented by Mr. Kemp, Chairman of the Committee. The Synod, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee, added to it an elder from each of the Presbyteries.

The Business Committee was appointed to examine and report on the returns of Presbyteries to overtures and remits from last Synod.

After some other routine business the first sederunt was closed.

On the second day of the Synod's meeting the principal part of the forenoon sederunt was spent in devotional exercises, which were conducted by the Moderator, Dr. Burns, Mr. Caw, and Principal Willis.

Committees were appointed to examine and report on the Records of Presbyteries and of the Synod.

The Rev. Messrs. G. Murray, A. McGlashan, A. McColl, R. Wallace, Dr. Cairns, and also the Rev. Mr. Ducloux of the French Canadian Mission, and Rev. Mr. Clark of the Congregational Church, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The afternoon sederunt of Wednesday, and part of the evening were occupied with the consideration of the report on the returns of Presbyteries on the standing orders as sent down by last Synod for consideration. These were agreed on with slight alterations from last year.

In the evening two overtures were considered. One was from the Presbytery of Hamilton, having reference to the constitution of Kirk Sessions in cases in which two or more congregations are under the charge of one minister. After discussion and a division, the Synod agreed to dismiss the overture, and to consider the whole subject to which it refers, when the report on the returns of Presbyteries to the remit of Synod, on the question of the representation of sessions in the superior church courts, is brought up by the Committee on Bills and Overtures.