

of Religion," "Temperance," and "Sabbath Observance" should be united. It was, after consideration, decided to unite them, with Rev. P. Wright of Portage La Prairie, as Convener.

Another remit had reference to licentiate and ministers received from other Churches, being required to spend a year in the Home Mission Field before they could be settled in a congregation. It was decided that they be not required to do so.

A third remit was whether ministers should, at ordination, be compelled to connect themselves with the Aged Minister's Fund. It was finally agreed that ministers hereafter ordained, who will not contribute to the Fund shall forfeit all claim to benefit from it.

Still another remit was with regard to the settlement of vacant charges. The solution of the Assembly virtually advises Presbyteries to make good use of their present powers, in the oversight and settlement of vacant charges.

Tuesday evening was devoted to three important reports, viz. that on the State of Religion, by Dr. Dickson; on Sabbath Schools, by Mr. Fotheringham; and on Temperance by Mr. D. Stiles Fraser. Each subject was presented hopefully and heartily, and, as is often the case in Assembly, the thought would come up, O that the whole Church were in this audience room listening to these statements by men whose heads and hearts are full of their respective subjects.

#### WEDNESDAY, 19 JUNE.

The subject that claimed a larger share of time and attention to-day, than any other, was the Manitoba School Question. Notices of motions had been given at different previous sessions and one or two of them spoken to, but to-day the subject was taken up in earnest. Through the afternoon the subject was ably debated by some of the ablest men in the Assembly.

At length the movers and seconders of the different resolutions were asked to retire and see if they could not reach a finding. They did so and brought in a resolution, which was moved by Principal Cavan and seconded by Principal Grant, and unanimously adopted by the Assembly, deploring any attempt to interfere with the freedom of Manitoba in regulating its own educational affairs.

#### THURSDAY, 20 JUNE.

The last day of the Assembly. The report of the Church and Manse Building Fund for the North West was presented by Rev. P. Wright. 36 Churches have been aided during the past year to the extent of \$8,835. The good accomplished by this Fund cannot be estimated.

An overture was presented from the Presbytery of St. John, N. B., praying that the number of Commissioners to the General Assembly be reduced from one-fourth to one eighth of the ministers of the Church. The principle of

reduced representation was adopted and sent down to Presbyteries, with the suggestion that it be one-sixth, instead of one-fourth.

Principal Cavan's report upon union with other Churches, showed that there is little present prospect of accomplishing much along this line, but a favoring resolution was adopted, and as in past years a committee appointed on union with other Churches.

Two overtures praying the Assembly to define more clearly the duties of Sessions, Deacons' Courts, and Boards of Managers, were referred to a committee to consider and report to next Assembly.

A petition to amalgamate the two Presbyteries of Halifax and Newfoundland, under the name of the Presbytery of Halifax, was granted.

Dr. Grant presented a report upon the immigration of the Chinese, recommending that the Government be approached, and urged that all legislation discriminating against the Chinese be repealed. A lively discussion followed, after which the recommendations of the Report were adopted.

The Report on Systematic Beneficence was presented by Dr. Morrison. The best commentary upon this Report is the fact that the Church, in such a hard year, has so well met her obligations.

Reports upon the Widow's and Orphan's Fund, and upon Finance, East and West, were presented and adopted.

In the evening the Report of the Judicial Committee was presented and adopted. A number of men had been away in a Committee room almost the whole Assembly, patiently working day after day, deprived of the stimulus of the Assembly sessions, trying to unravel some half dozen appeal cases, for there was a "case" from every one of the six Synods. These men through much self-denial saved the Assembly a great deal of precious time, and at the closing sederent their report was presented and adopted, and the cases thus settled.

The Report of the Montreal Woman's Missionary Society was presented and the Society commended.

The mission to Corea, undertaken by Rev. W. J. Mackenzie, one of our ministers in Nova Scotia, going forth to that field at his own charges, and which promises to be very successful, was brought before the Assembly. The statement by Mr. R. Murray was heartily received, and the Foreign Mission Committee, East, directed to consider the work and report to next Assembly.

Thus, with its opening sermon by our Formosa missionary, from the inspiring charge "Go forward": and almost its last act, as if in obedience to that charge, a reaching out to another heathen field to rescue the perishing, the twenty-first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada came to a close.