

Glasgow, to render an account of their proceedings in raising missionary funds made in all the Sabbath schools within the eastern part of the province, Mr. James McDonald, secretary to the association, addressed the Synod at considerable length, and detailed the arrangements that had been made for forming affiliated branches, and the encouraging success that had attended their operations. We are not yet in full possession of all the information which was laid on the table by the deputation, but we understand that thirteen branches of the association are already established, comprising about 2000 subscribers, who pay 2s. 6d. annually, and that about £250 per annum may be expected from the funds of the association, as the treasurer has already in his hands, as the proceeds of the first half year's collection, the sum of £126. The cordial thanks of the Synod were tendered to the deputation for their generous and disinterested exertions, with an assurance that it would willingly cooperate with them in their missionary labors. It was stated at the same time, by the representatives from the Presbytery of Halifax, that a Home Missionary Association had been lately formed in that city, having exactly the self-same objects in view, and that the committee had already entered with much zeal and energy on their duties, appointing collectors and soliciting funds from those who felt inclined to contribute. It was also intimated that similar associations would be formed in Charlottetown and other parts of Prince Edward Island, and it is expected that in a short time branch associations will be formed in every congregation and station within the bounds of the Church.

A very spirited and animated discussion took place the same evening on receiving a communication from the office-bearers of the Protestant Alliance in Halifax, when a number of the clergymen and elders expressed their opinions with much freedom and at great length. It was evident that every member of the Court, as a consistent office-bearer in a Protestant Church, entertained the highest regard for their valuable civil and religious privileges, and cherished an unswerving attachment to the principles of the Reformation, which had conferred such peculiar glory on the British dominions; but a large majority of the speakers felt unwilling to form any connection with the alliance in Halifax, and a resolution to that effect was moved by the Rev. Donald McRae and agreed to.

The third annual report of the Canada Juvenile Mission and Indian Orphanage Scheme, transmitted by the treasurer, John Paton, Esq., to the Moderator, having been read by the clerk, the Synod, sincerely sympathising with this most laudable effort for the religious instruction of the degraded orphans of India,

recommended that collections should be made in all the Sabbath schools within their bounds in aid of this mission, as the sum required, only £4 sterling, could be easily raised in almost every congregation.

In the course of proceedings, the state of the different funds supported by the collections made within the bounds of the Synod came under review. After considerable discussion, it was moved and agreed to that the Home Mission funds for the present year be sent home to Scotland. The Bursary Fund was found to be in a prosperous condition, and able to meet all the demands upon it. A number of collections for the Synod Fund were handed in by the members, and together with the monies in the hands of the treasurer, were appropriated for the purposes intended. It was reported that several collections had been made for the Widows' Fund. The Synod made several alterations in the days fixed for making the annual collections, and re-appointed the same clergymen to advocate their claims in the pages of the *Record* at the ensuing collections. There is still, we think, much room for improvement in the management and distribution of these funds, which no doubt time and experience will tend to ameliorate. The parent Church has a regular convener for each fund, and a standing committee living near each other, who meet monthly or oftener on the call of the secretary, receive applications and reports, make appointments and appropriations as they see fit, and submit all their proceedings annually to the General Assembly. We are afraid that our affairs will not be satisfactorily conducted, or call forth the sympathy and liberality of our people as much as could be desired, until similar arrangements are made by our Synod in this province.

In connection with our financial affairs we have to mention that the Synod also recommended an annual collection this year to be made for the Indian Mission of the Church of Scotland—a field which at the present moment engrosses so much of the attention of the religious public of Great Britain and her colonies.

During the different sessions of the Synod, a number of overtures were submitted by members on subjects deemed of importance, in the affairs of the Church, on psalmody, on colportage, on statistics, and other matters, all which received due attention, and the decisions agreed to will be found in the minutes.

A communication from the "Sons of Temperance" was read, and a resolution agreed to enjoining ministers to call the renewed attention of their people, as they have already done, to the practice of this important duty.

Our monthly publication, the *Record*, has always received the countenance and

support of the Synod. It has uniformly been admitted that some publication of this description is indispensably necessary to keep alive the institutions and promote the interests of the Church. The thanks of the Synod were unanimously passed to the managing committee, the editor and treasurer of that publication, and a pledge given to aid in support of its funds.

In compliance with the injunction of the Synod of last year, statistical returns according to the prescribed tables were made by almost all the brethren, which, when regularly filled up and completed, will be published under the superintendence of the committee appointed for that purpose.

In taking a deliberate review of the state of the Church, and the extensive destitution which still prevails, more especially in the Gaelic congregations and stations, it was felt by the members of the Court that efforts should be made both in their individual and united capacities to procure an additional supply of Gaelic missionaries as speedily as possible. We hope that this most urgent concern will not be lost sight of, in the correspondence carried on by our ministers during the current year with the parent Church in Scotland. The accession to our Church in Prince Edward Island is a loud call for the appointment of additional Gaelic missionaries to these colonies.

Various changes were reported to the Synod, and several appointments made during its sittings. Two additional missionaries, Messrs. Talloch and McLaren, had arrived since last meeting. The Rev. Thomas Jardine had been inducted as Collegiate Minister of Saint Matthew's church, Halifax. The Rev. Alex. McLean had been inducted pastor of the congregation at Pugwash. The Rev. Jas. Duff had demitted the pastoral charge of the congregation at Wallace, and returned to Scotland. The Rev. John Martin was re-appointed a member of the Presbytery of Halifax, and enjoined to submit his official correspondence as Superintendent of Missions to the Presbyteries within the bounds. The Rev. Donald McRae was appointed to supply the vacant congregation of St. Andrew's church, St. John's, N. F., for some months, on Mr. Nicol's resignation of that charge, which he has occupied for a number of years with much credit to himself and advantage to the Church. Rev. Thomas Jardine was appointed representative of this Synod to the next meeting of the Synod of Canada to be held at Ottawa in May, 1859, and the Rev. James Mac as representative to the next meeting of the Synod of New Brunswick, to be held at Newcastle in the month of July. Much regret was felt and expressed that neither Mr. McGillivray nor Mr. Pollock had been able to discharge their duties as representatives to the Synod of Canada.