

loved representatives of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and gives thanks to God for the progress of that church, and the tokens of the divine favour with which she has been visited:—The Synod invokes Divine protection for the honoured Deputies, already endeared to us by this brief acquaintance, and prays that the power of the Spirit may rest on the church which they represent, and qualify them more and more for the great work to which they have been called of God."

The Moderator closed this delightful interview with well-chosen remarks of grateful acknowledgment for the courtesy and kindness of the American General Assembly, and with suggestive allusions to the past, as furnishing many bonds of union between their church and country, our own and our Fatherland.

Home Missions.

The Home Mission Report was printed in our last issue. It was cordially approved by Synod. Addresses on the subject were made by Rev. Messrs. Pitblado and Goodfellow. At the recommendation of the Board it was agreed that the payment of Probationers shall be, in future, besides board, at least eight dollars per week; and of Catechists, six, besides board and expenses of travel.

Normal School.

A letter was read from J. B. Calkin, Esq., Principal of the Normal School, inviting a visit from the Synod or any of its members, on any day next week. Ordered that the letter be acknowledged with thanks.

We may add that many members availed themselves of the Principal's invitation and were delighted with what they saw and heard.

The Elders.

A Conference of the Elders was held on Saturday morning, John S. Maclean, Esq., presiding.

Board of Education.

The Report of the Board of Education was read, shewing that the funds under their care are safely invested, and the interest in general, punctually collected; that there is now in the Professorial Fund, \$26,428.14. and in the general ministerial Education Fund, \$33,085.24; and Crerar reserve Fund for missions, \$7,455.77—in all,

\$66,969.15, showing an increase in the Professorial Fund of \$1,946.67, arising from increased value of stock in the Union Bank, Newfoundland, and decrease in the Crerar reserve Fund for missions of \$1,029.10, withdrawn by the Board of Foreign Missions to meet extra expenditure.

The list of securities was laid on the table of the Synod. Rev. Geo. Walker was appointed a member of the Board in place of Rev. John Campbell, removed by death.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The following Report was submitted by Rev. Robert Laird, Convener of Committee:

REPORT ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The perpetual obligation of the Sabbath is a truth firmly believed among us. This belief implies the duty of earnest and persevering efforts to maintain its sanctity and promote its continued observance. Were the sacredness of the Lord's Day liable to no infringement, and were the authority requiring its sanctification subject to no disregard, the Church of Christ would have little to do in reference to it, but gratefully enjoy its sacred hours, and habitually practise the precepts enjoining its observance. But the circumstances surrounding it are very different. The depraved nature of man turns from its "holy keeping" with dislike; while in the pride of his heart, or yielding to the imaginary wisdom of this world, he questions the propriety and the profit of spending the whole day in the public and private exercises of God's worship. Hence the duty of the Lord's people to maintain and defend in this connection the cause and kingdom of their exalted Saviour.

Your Committee have the satisfaction of reporting that during the year the holy Sabbath has in general been observed within the usual marks of respect within the bounds of the Synod. They are not aware of any flagrant violations of a preventible kind, as the continued and frequent practice of any individuals either public or private connected with the Church. The Synod will be gratified to learn that proposals to run a ferry steamer at Pictou on the day of rest, were immediately abandoned through the commendable opposition of friends of the Sabbath in the town. The reported running of trains on the Intercolonial Railway on the Lord's Day, also led the Presbytery of St. John to appoint a committee of inquiry; and the result was that information was received that nothing