

Prince William.

After full consideration, the following commission of Synod was appointed to secure an amicable settlement of long-standing difficulties: Rev. P. G. McGregor, and Professors McKnight and Currie.

Insurance of Churches.

Rev. G. Patterson read the Report of the Committee on the Insurance of Churches. The Report was received, and the diligence of the Committee approved. From the loss of Primitive Church, New Glasgow, the Report indicated that the Scheme was somewhat crippled, but that they had the prospect of making arrangements by which the Scheme might be continued on a satisfactory basis. It was agreed on the motion of Dr. McCulloch that the whole matter be remitted to the Committee with full powers to carry on the Scheme, under such arrangements as they may deem advisable and that the brethren be requested to give it a hearty support.

The Committee was enlarged, to consist of Rev. G. Patterson, James W. Carmichael, G. W. Underwood, John Miller, James Yorston, R. P. Grant, Esquires.

It was agreed that the subject of the insurance of manses, and the dwellings of ministers, be remitted to the committee to obtain necessary information by circular or otherwise, and take such action as they may deem most expedient.

The thanks of the Synod were tendered to the Committee; and especially to the Convener, for the time and labour devoted to this subject.

Home Missions.

The Home Mission Report was printed in our last issue. It was adopted by Synod after suitable addresses by Rev. Messrs. Morrison and Gray. The following motion by Rev. A. McL. Sinclair, was adopted:—

“That the Synod call the attention of the Presbyteries in Cape Breton to the sums annually paid to Catechists, in congregations having settled pastors, with the view of taking measures to relieve, in all cases in which it shall be possible, the Home Mission Fund, of this expenditure.”

The state of the Colony of New Kincardine, having being discussed, it was agreed to refer the matter entirely to the Presby-

tery of St. John, to be dealt with in as generous a manner as possible, and that the Home Mission Board be instructed to deal liberally with this promising field.

New Hebrides Mission.

Rev. W. Duff's motion, held over from last year, was after a brief discussion withdrawn.

Widows and Orphans Fund.

The Report of this Fund was submitted by Rev. G. Patterson. It appears that at the end of the current financial year the actual value of \$20,000. The whole expenditure for the year was \$1345. Eight widows and eleven children received aid.

Rules and Forms of Procedure.

Mr. Patterson read the report of the Committee on the Rules and Forms of Procedure. The report was received, and the special thanks of the Synod tendered to the Committee, and particularly to Mr. Patterson, for the great labour devoted to this work now completed.

It was agreed, that the thanks of the Synod be given to Robert Sedgwick, Esq., Barrister, Halifax, for preparing the Form of Congregational Trust Deed.

TEMPERANCE.

Rev. J. M. Macleod read the Report on Temperance, as follows:—

Your Committee are happy to be able to report progress in the Temperance Reform during the year. In many parts of our jurisdiction, and especially in Nova Scotia, there has been very marked progress in public temperance sentiment and in legislation for the suppression of the traffic in intoxicating liquors. By the zealous efforts of the church in preaching faithful sermons against the use of intoxicating drinks, in accordance with the recommendation of Synod, in conjunction the laborious efforts of the several temperance organizations, the habitual use of intoxicating beverages has become to a very great degree disreputable, and a strong public sentiment has been evoked in favor of Total Abstinence.

THE LAW IMPROVED.

Your Committee are pleased to find that, with the exception of Halifax and Richmond Counties, there are no licenses granted for the sale of ardent spirits in Nova Scotia; and that, in compliance with the request of over 16,000 petitions, the Legislature of Nova Scotia, by an unanimous vote, laid upon the City of Halifax, a most stringent License Law, so that all licensed houses, proved to have sold liquor on Sunday, forfeit their licenses without the privilege of renewal; and