

Proceedings of Presbyteries, &c.

PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.

An adjourned meeting of this Presbytery was held at Guelph on the 29th of April, Mr. Barrie, moderator. Thirteen ministers and five elders were present, and Messrs. R. Rodgers and James Thom were associates.

The Presbytery, after hearing a deputy from the Minto congregation, cancelled their previous appointment of a moderation, allowing the petition to lie on the table in the meantime.

Mr. Thomson of Erin was appointed to moderate in a call from the Acton congregation, on the 11th of May.

A call to Mr. James Thom from the congregation of Eden and Rockwood was laid on the table and sustained. Mr. Thom, having accepted of the call, his induction was appointed to take place on the 15th of May—Mr. M. Mackenzie to preach and preside, and Messrs. Macaulay and Andrew McLean to address the minister and the people.

Mr. James Baikie, head master of the Galt Central School, laid an application before the Presbytery to be examined with a view to his being admitted to Knox College as a student of divinity without passing through the usual preliminary course of study. Dr. Thomson and Messrs. Torrance and Ball were appointed a committee to examine Mr. Baikie, and report at the meeting at Eden on the 15th of May, the Presbytery unanimously determining that in the event of a satisfactory report, Mr. Baikie be allowed to begin next session the study of Theology in Knox College with a view to the ministry.

Mr. Stewart, student of divinity, appeared with a view to be taken on trials for license, and the Presbytery resolved to hear his private trials at Rothsay on the 21st of May.

The formula to be signed by office-bearers and probationers was agreed to unanimously in the terms submitted to Presbyteries by the Synod.

All the questions proposed to be put to ministers at ordination were agreed to unanimously with the exception of the fourth, which was agreed to by a majority.

All the questions proposed to be put to probationers, elders and deacons were agreed to unanimously.

In reference to the proposed act relative to the admission of ministers and probationers of other churches, it was unanimously agreed that ministers and probationers of the Free Church of Scotland, the United Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church of England, the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and of the sister churches of the Lower Provinces, should be admitted at once by any Presbytery of the church, if expressly designated thereto by the churches to which they belong, or if called by a congregation. In all other cases it was unanimously agreed that no minister or probationer of any church should be admitted or employed unless after the sanction of Synod obtained, after recommendation of the Presbytery to whom application may be made.

The Presbytery unanimously agreed to an overture to the Synod to the effect that the expenses of members of Synodical committees should be paid from the funds at their disposal.

Mr. Ball's notice of an overture to the Synod regarding the salaries of the officers of the Synod was withdrawn by consent of the Presbytery.

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Torrance, Ball, Emslie, and James Armstrong, was appointed to prepare a schedule with a view to the presenting of quarterly financial reports by the congregations within the bounds.

PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.

A meeting of this Presbytery was held at Eden on the 15th of May—ten ministers being present and four elders.

The edict of Mr. James Thom's induction having been returned duly attested, Mr. Mackenzie of Doon and Hespeler, who was appointed to preside, preached from 2 Cor. iv. 5., and put the usual questions to Mr. Thom. The minister and the congregation were addressed by Messrs. Macaulay and Andrew McLean.