

every child in the land. As regards the latter, he maintained the duty of the office-bearers of the Church to be active in delivering the daughter of Zion from the sin and reproach of encouraging or fostering in any way this grand hindrance. Having shewn the high authority under which we are called to act, and the encouragements to progress in the work of elevating humanity which we enjoy, he concluded by pointing out the spirit in which the office-bearers of the Church should prosecute the work, dwelling on *prayer, union, peace* and *disinterestedness*.

Rev George Walker was unanimously chosen Moderator, and having briefly addressed the Synod, took the chair accordingly.

During the session of Synod 33 ministers and 18 elders were in attendance, the whole number of ministers on the Roll being 40. The records of Presbyteries showed that, during the past year, the Rev James McLean had been transferred from the congregation of Mabou to that of Gay's River, and that Messrs. J. W. Matheson and Alexander Cameron had been licensed as preachers. The concluding part of the first sederunt was occupied in the appointment of committees and other routine business.

3 o'clock.—A part of this sederunt was spent in devotional exercises, the Moderator being followed by Rev Messrs. Miller and Smith. Presbytery of Truro announced that Mr Samuel Johnston had been ordained by them to the pastoral charge of the congregation of Harvey. From the Report of the committee on Colportage it appeared that during the past year 12,060 volumes had been circulated, and during the past four years 35,579 volumes, for which £2,956 had been paid, and that the work is going on with undiminished efficiency. The Synod expressed gratitude to the Board of Publication at Philadelphia for their generous assistance in furnishing books, and agreed to recommend that our congregations make some pecuniary acknowledgement for the benefit received.

7 o'clock.—The Committee of Correspondence stated that no communication had been received during the year, nor had any meeting of the committee been held. They were re-appointed, with instructions to use greater diligence. The remainder of the sederunt was occupied in the discussion of rules of procedure.

Wednesday, 10 o'clock, A.M.—Rules

of procedure were again taken up, and a number of alterations made, one of which specifies that Presbyteries shall visit, every two years, or as often as possible, every congregation within their bounds, to enquire into their spiritual and secular state, shall see that the different schemes of the Church are supported, and that otherwise the congregation is discharging its obligations, and shall report to Synod at the end of every two years.

3 o'clock.—Rev W. McCulloch read a long and able Report of the Board of Superintendence of the Seminary at West River, placing in a very striking light the benefits which the Church had derived from that institution, both by its supplying it with ministers and by its testing and evincing its liberality and pecuniary resources. The Board consider that the Professors have too much work to do, which is partly owing to a deficiency in the preparatory training of the students; and believe that there should be a preparatory School of some description. In their opinion it is absolutely necessary that the Seminary should be placed on a permanent footing by determining its future site, and by prosecuting the special effort. No alternative yet presented to the Synod can, as they think warrant the least hesitation in steadily and energetically promoting the progress of our institution. Independent of investments £300 should be raised for its support, and this would be easy if all our congregations felt an interest in its welfare. Out of 40 congregations 22 raise on an average £12 7s. 4d. each, while several contribute nothing. This latter result the Board consider to be owing to the indifference of the ministers of these congregations. The Professors report 16 students in attendance, of whom 7 are of the first year and 9 of the second; and speak highly of their proficiency and moral deportment. During the year 432 volumes had been added to the Library, 179 of which had been purchased. Of the whole 77 were theological, and 102 classical and philosophical.—The number of Divinity students is 12.

As this report had a bearing on matters more fully treated in the Report of the committee of Co-operation with other Churches, this report was next read. Its substance was last winter given to our readers. The evening of this day was occupied in hearing an able lecture by the