

Proceedings of Presbyteries, &c.

PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.—A meeting this of Presbytery was held on Tuesday last in Rev. Mr. Torrance's church, at which there was a large attendance of members. A certificate was read from the Clerk of the Presbytery of Ottawa, in favor of Rev. David Wardrope, who, it was agreed, should be recognized as a minister in the bounds without charge, and have such appointments given him as he may feel able to overtake. Upon invitation, he took his seat as corresponding member. An extract minute was read from the Presbytery of Durham, containing reasons for not regarding certain recommendations that had been forwarded to them as sufficient to meet or remove difficulties that presented themselves in connection with the supply of sermons at Clifford. After long and careful deliberation, it was decided to express regret that the Presbytery of Durham did not see their way clear to accept the recommendation made by this Presbytery for the maintenance of joint services in Clifford, and feel themselves shut up to the conclusion that they cannot consent to the withdrawal of Mr. McLennan for the following reasons: 1st. Because Clifford lies within the limits of this pastoral charge. 2nd. Because the Presbytery are led to understand that not only the Session of Minto, but the people belonging to Mr. McLennan's charge in Clifford and neighbourhood, are unanimously opposed to such withdrawal. 3rd. That the Presbytery cannot, in existing circumstances, hold themselves responsible for the evil alleged to have arisen, and for the injury said to have been occasioned to the cause of religion by the unfinished state of the church. A scheme of Missionary Sermons and Deputations was submitted and approved, and the Committee that prepared it was instructed to avail themselves in carrying it out as far as practicable of the labours of Mr. David Waters of St. Marys, who is under appointment to spend ten days in furtherance of the interest of missions among congregations in the bounds. A letter was read from Elmira, explaining difficulties of a pecuniary character in which the congregation there was involved, asking sympathy and advice. The following motion was adopted in the case: That this Presbytery appoint a Deputation, consisting of Mr. Smith, Mr. Traver, Ministers, and Mr. McKae, Elder, to confer with the members and adherents of the congregation in Winterbourne, Hawkesville and Elmira, as to the most efficient plan for overtaking the distribution in places referred to, and authorize said deputation to assure the people in Hawkesville and Elmira, should it be deemed desirable to form them into a separate congregation, of their readiness to supply them with Gospel ordinances to the most of their power; also, in consideration of the peculiar circumstances specified in the letter from Elmira, to express to the people their willingness to relieve them from the responsibility of contributing to the Mission Fund for this winter, in order that they may direct their undivided efforts towards the liquidation of their debts.

A letter of complaint against Mr. Andrew McLean, for refusing a certificate of church membership to Mr. Gillis McBain, was read. Mr. McBain was heard in explanation and support of his complaint. Agreed that the letter lie upon the table in the meantime, and that the Clerk notify Mr. McLean of its contents, and summon him to be present at the next meeting of the Presbytery, to make any statements he may think necessary in reply. Rev. Dr. Willis, Principal of Knox College, Toronto, was nominated for the Moderatorship of the first General Assembly. After the transaction of a large amount of business not generally interesting, the Presbytery appointed their next meeting to be held in the same place on the second Tuesday of March next.

ROBERT TORRANCE, *Presb. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF SIMCOE.—A special meeting of this Presbytery was held within the Barrie Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, the first of December.