

THE MISSIONARY REGISTER,

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

LORD, bless and pity us, shine on us with thy face,
That th' earth thy way, and nations all may know thy saving grace.—Ps. lxxvii. 1, 2.

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MEETING OF SYNOD.

This ecclesiastical body, which has for its usual places of assembling Pictou, New Glasgow, Halifax, Truro, met on the 23rd day of June at 11 o'clock. A. M., in the Presbyterian Church in Truro, a building of recent construction and of excellent proportions and finish. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev George Walker of New Glasgow from Hab. iii. 2, "O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years." On this text he considered the following subjects, first, the nature of a revival of religion, as distinguished first by an increase of vital piety among the members of Christ's Church, and secondly by an awaking of the careless; secondly, the means of a revival of religion; thirdly, the source of a revival of religion, God by the the influence of the Spirit; and fourthly, the necessity of a revival of religion, pointing to some features, such as the small attendance on prayer meetings, &c., in our congregations, which seem to indicate the need of earnest prayer that God would revive his work.

The number in attendance at the commencement of public worship was small, some being detained by sacramental engagements and others by Providential circumstances which could not be foreseen or prevented. We fear that want of punctuality and of high appreciation of the devotional services, which generally precede actual business, will account for the late arrival of not a few. These remarks will not apply to the members of

the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island, for they were detained in crossing from Charlottetown through the want of a steamer on the route this year. We have heard of ministers waiting till the first sederunt closed lest they should be called to fill the Moderator's chair. But such excessive humility cannot surely be general. Let the members show, by pressing forward to be present in time, that they value the sermon and the devotional services, and their example will be much more salutary on the congregation where the Synod assembles than it is at present.

When the members had come up there were present 28 ministers, being constituent members of Synod, 3 ministers who were corresponding members, and 20 ruling elders, making in all 51 members.

Business was slightly impeded at the first sederunt by the absence of the Clerk, who was detained by affliction in his congregation. The Synod simply appointed persons to conduct the devotional exercises and adjourned.

On re-assembling in the afternoon the Rev Messrs. Johnson of Harvey, and McCurdy of Chatham, N. B., with the Moderator, conducted in succession the devotional services. These being completed the Rev George Patterson was unanimously-chosen Moderator, and, having briefly acknowledged the honour, and solicited the support of the Synod in discharging his duties, took the chair. The usual committees on Presbytery Minutes and on Statistics were then ap-