

The Synod recommend collection for French Canadian Missionary Society on 1st Sabbath of February, or any other convenient Sabbath.

The contributions for Knox College to be made during or before last week of February. Congregations that can do so are urged to attend to this matter sooner.

Cordial thanks were voted to the committee of accommodation, to the trustees of Central Church, and to Christian friends in Hamilton, for the courtesy and kindness manifested during this meeting of Synod.

After a long but not unpleasant meeting the Synod closed its proceedings in the usual way, at 1 o'clock p.m., of Friday, 12th June, and the next or ordinary meeting of Synod was appointed to be held in Cooke's Church, Toronto, on the 2nd Tuesday of June, 1864, at 7½ p.m.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

The General Assembly of the Free Church met in Edinburgh as usual on the third Thursday of May. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Guthrie, from the text Mark xvi. 15: "He said unto them, go ye forth into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." The sermon was characterized by all the eloquence and power of the eminent preacher. The Rev. Roderick McLeod, of Snizort, was unanimously elected Moderator.

The total amount collected during the year ending March, 1863, had been as follows.

1. Building Fund, General, viz., Church, Manse and Debt Extinction.	£4,097	16	8
Local	48,892	15	8
2. Sustentation (Associations £110,271 17s. 11d.), including Supplementary, and Aged and Infirm Ministers.....	118,206	11	7
3. Congregational Funds.....	111,727	6	4
4. Education	16,275	6	5
5. College	7,189	1	1
6. Missions, Home, Highlands, Colonies, Continent, Foreign, Jews..	30,481	19	6
7. General Trustees, and Miscellaneous.....	5,167	12	6
Total	£342,038	9	7

This amount exceeded that of last year by £4,834; but the increase had been chiefly in local congregational funds. There was a falling off in the amounts raised for Colleges and for Foreign Missions.

The following statistical abstract was presented by the Committee on General Statistics:

Members in full communion	245,210
Sittings in all the churches.....	450,000
Contributors to the Sustentation Fund.....	180,537
Elders	4,517
Deacons	5,627
Churches.....	838
Mansees, including ten or twelve not finished.....	663

There was a large amount of business before the Assembly. There was a lively discussion on the subject of innovations in public worship. After lengthened debate, in which Dr. Begg and Dr. Guthrie bore an important part (Dr. Guthrie's congregation have adopted the practice of standing while singing and kneeling in prayer), a motion by Mr. Dunlop, M.P., with an addition suggested by Principal Fairbairn, was adopted, in substance, that the Assembly deprecate the importance attached by some to outward forms and practices, urge on the ministers of the church the duty of seeking to preserve the peace and unity of their congregations, and appoint a committee to consider and report on the legislation of the church on this subject.

Perhaps the most interesting discussion was on the subject of union with the United Presbyterian Church. The leading men in the Assembly took part in the discussion, including Dr. Candlish, Dr. Guthrie, the Earl of Kintore, and others. The Assembly unanimously agreed to appoint a Committee to consider the subject, and to confer with the Committee appointed by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, and with the representatives of any other Churches indicated in the overtures. A rider was proposed by Prof. Gibson, to the effect that the principles and