

After remarks from different members, on motion by Mr. McGregor, it was seconded and unanimously agreed to,—That the Synod having heard the memorial from the Elders of Barney's River anent Union, express sympathy with the views of the Elders on the subject of their memorial, and express the hope that the Synod may, at some future time, see the difficulties removed which at present, in their opinion, stand in the way.

HOME MISSION BOARD.

The Synod then called for the report of the Home Mission Board, which was given in and read by Mr. Grant, the convener. (*See Appendix D.*)

Whereupon, on the motion of Mr. McCunn, it was unanimously agreed to,—That the report now read be adopted; that a vote of thanks be given to the Home Mission Board, and to the convener, for the satisfactory manner in which they have discharged the arduous duties entrusted to them; and the Synod express satisfaction that the measures of the Board have met with the cordial approbation of the Colonial Committee.

Before entering upon the subject of the report, it was agreed to consider an Overture anent the Constitution of the Home Mission Board, transmitted by the committee on Bills and Overtures, the tenor whereof is as follows:—

“Unto the venerable the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, indicted to meet at Chatham, on Wednesday the 30th June, 1869.

Whereas, The Home Mission Board, instituted at last session of Synod, is one of extreme importance to our Church, inasmuch as a great proportion of the business of the Church consists in the control and direction of Home Missions; And whereas, by the Constitution of that Board, Presbyteries have been wholly deprived of the right and power of regulating the missionary operations within their own bounds; And whereas, in consequence, the essential principle of Presbyterianism appears to be violated, and an element of discord and confusion introduced into the Church, it is humbly overtured that the Synod take the premises into consideration, and make such changes in the Constitution of the Home Mission Board as shall reconcile the free action of the Board with the rightful authority of Presbyteries, and thus secure the peace and prosperity of the Church.

(Signed) WM. M. PHILIP.”

It was then moved by Mr. Philip, and seconded by Mr. McGregor,—That the members of the Board, instead of being nominated by the Synod, be elected by Presbyteries; every Presbytery electing a certain proportion of its members as representatives at the Board.

It was moved in amendment by Dr. Brooke, and seconded by Mr. Herdman,—That it is inexpedient to make any change on the present mode of electing members of the Board.

After the subject had been fully discussed, the vote was taken, when, 21 voting for the amendment and 9 for the motion, the amendment was declared carried.

The consideration of the report was deferred to a future diet.

FOREIGN MISSION.

The report of the Foreign Mission committee having been called for, was given in and read by Mr. McLean, the convener. (*See Appendix E.*)

Mr. McLean then made some statements, on the authority of Dr. Geddie, as to the character of Mr. Robertson, referred to in the report, and his fitness for missionary work in the New Hebrides, but left it to the Synod to consider whether they shall accept the offer of Mr. Robertson, and if so, to decide in what capacity he shall go forth.