

Much time was spent in discussing the policy of the Church with regard to Ministerial Education. No new Professor was elected. The arrangements of last year were continued. A notice from Dr. King of his intention to resign at the close of next Session, called forth many warm tributes to his worth, and shewed very plainly the high value set by the Church upon his services. The question whether Professors should be at the same time Pastors of congregations, was debated very fully, and decided in the negative.

Much anxious thought was given to the subject of the Supplementary Fund, and arrangements made for bringing its claims fully before the congregations. The Synod agreed unanimously to petition in favour of the establishment of an Asylum for Inebriates; and with regard to the Temperance question, the usual earnestness was manifested. A Fund for aged and infirm Ministers was instituted—not a day too soon.

But we need not refer in detail to all the business transacted. The Synod met on Tuesday evening and continued its sittings until the afternoon of the following Wednesday week, nineteen sittings in all. We are confident that the Great Head of the Church was present to guide and bless; and we trust that every member of the Church will pray that a great and effectual blessing may follow the decisions and operations of the Synod. We hope the Minutes and Reports will be read with due care, and that the affairs of the Church shall be fully understood by all interested in her prosperity.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS, 1869.

"Our fathers came from the other side of the flood, in old time," and engaged in a mission of love in these provinces, for which we should be profoundly grateful, to them as agents, and to their Great Master by whom they were commissioned and sustained. This gratitude, if indeed it exists in any good degree, will find its most fitting expression in carrying on the work which they began, and this Board, believing that a share both of the honour and responsibility of prosecuting Christ's

work in this land, rests on every member of the church, and a double measure on the members of Synod; embrace gladly the present opportunity of our annual gathering together, to submit a short statement of evangelizing work, and to present a few thoughts which may stir up pure minds by way of remembrance.

IMPORTANCE OF HOME MISSIONS.

We submit our statements fully persuaded that this department of the church's work must grow in her estimation and call forth sympathy and prayer increasing with every revolving season. Associated to promote the glory of the Redeemer by saving the perishing from their sins and miseries, our first field beyond all controversy is that which lies nearest our own door. If our first work is within our own heart and the second within our own family, the third is within our own country; and all that we may help to bring the whole world in subjection to its rightful Proprietor and Lord.

Home mission work then in its widest significance, will embrace all Christian effort to bring the people of these Provinces to serve loyally the Lord Christ, and may therefore fairly include the labours of our 120 pastors, of our 800 elders, of our 1300 Sabbath school teachers, of our city missionaries, our colporteurs and our zealous, energetic, Young Men's Christian Associations; as well as of our 16,000 communicants—every one of whom has given a sacramental pledge to act in the spirit and to follow the example of the Galilean fisherman, who, having gained a satisfying intimacy with the Messiah, straightway sought out and brought his own brother to Him. Home Mission work in this wide significance will also include Miemac and Acadian Missions, the last being added to our schemes during the past year, and we welcome the addition. That the labourers are increasing in all these departments, that the light is being diffused, that the true salt is pervading and penetrating, and that the heaven is extending to all parts of the mass gradually and with some increase of power and progress, must give joy to all Christian hearts. Could we outline the whole work and lay it before this Synod we are persuaded that the narration would be hailed as a message of good news. Wisely refraining, however, from stretching beyond our line we turn to notice the proper work of this Board in efforts to supply vacant charges, to reach our people who may have gone beyond the limits of our established congregations, and to send the Gospel to secluded communities and to inquiring age and careless men wherever they can be found.