

Mr. McLean's motion and Mr. Philip's amendment, when, 19 having voted for the motion, and 7 for the amendment, the motion was declared carried.

From this Mr. Philip dissented, for reasons to be afterwards given in, and craved that his dissent be entered on the minutes.

The Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow at the usual hour, of which public intimation was given, and this diet was closed with prayer.

#### FIFTH DIET.

*St. Andrew's Church,  
New Glasgow, 30th June, 1866.*

The Synod met, after devotional exercises conducted by Rev. Mr. McLean, and was constituted with prayer—Rev. W. Stewart, Moderator.

The roll having been called, and the minutes of yesterday's sederunt read and sustained, Mr. Philip gave in his reasons of dissent from the finding of Synod anent Theological Hall, which were also adhered to by Rev. A. McKay, Alex. McLean (elder), John A. McLean (elder), Rev. W. McMillan, Rev. Robert McCunn (for two of the reasons), H. McKenzie (elder), Peter Grant (elder), Duncan Matheson, (elder). Whereupon the question was raised whether the names of two adherents appended to said reasons should be allowed to remain, on the ground that these two were absent when the vote was taken. After some discussion, it was agreed that the dissent and signatures appended thereto should be recorded as they were handed in.

The Rev. W. McMillan, Convener of Committee on Presbytery Records, gave in the following Report, which was adopted, viz.:

"As Convener of Committee appointed to examine Presbytery Records, I beg to report that your committee have examined the Records of the Pictou and F. E. Island Presbyteries, being the only ones produced, and have found them all correct.

All which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) W. McMILLAN, Convener."

Dr. Avery and Mr. Anderson, appointed to take inventory of Synod documents handed over by former Clerk to Mr. McWilliam, gave in their Report, containing list of said documents. The Report was adopted.

Mr. McMillan, Convener of Committee on Overtures, transmitted—1st. Overture by Mr. Herdman anent upholding the Standards of the Church, along with a Report on said Overture; 2nd. Overture by Mr. Pollock anent Home Mission.

After some remarks in reference to the finding of Synod on Divinity Hall, it was moved by Mr. Jack, seconded, and agreed to, "that the members of the present Synod agree to establish no Divinity Hall in connection with the Church till the debt on Dalhousie College be liquidated."

The Report on the Foreign Mission Scheme

being called for, was given in by Mr. McLean, and is as follows:—

"Your committee, while they deeply regret that they are obliged to announce once more the failure of their expectations in securing the services of a fully equipped laborer for the Foreign Mission field, have to report that, during the last year, the progress made in this Scheme is of a nature well fitted to encourage the Church in the assurance that the movement in which she has thus engaged has the approval of our Divine Master, and that it will in the end abundantly prosper. Your committee, in pursuance of the instructions given by the Synod of last year, have been enabled to place at the disposal of Dr. Geddie the sum of £50 stg., to be devoted by him to the support of native agency; while there remains, invested in funds, the sum of about £180 currency. This amount has been collected without any effort on the part of our Church, and it shows most satisfactorily the deep interest felt by the people at large in the success of this good work.—thereby affording our Synod the most undoubted certainty that, in prosecuting this Scheme, its efforts will be well and efficiently sustained by the generous liberality and the earnest prayers of a very large multitude.

In reference to the native agency thus to be employed, while it is not the kind of agency at first contemplated, and while it is fervently hoped that ere long an additional and a more efficient agency will be secured, your committee would regard it as a cause of thankfulness to be enabled to say that even one solitary laborer, however humble, sent forth under the auspices of this Synod, and supported by its contributions, will soon be engaged in conveying to the perishing heathen the glad message that there is but one God, and that He loved sinners, and sent His only begotten and beloved Son to save and make them happy for ever;—this indeed would be a matter for sincere rejoicing; but your committee are enabled to state that the amount given to our friend Dr. Geddie is sufficient for the adequate support of ten native agents, and, believing as they do that the selection of these agents will be made with great care, there is reason to hope that much good will be effected. The whole history of the South Sea Missions testifies that the most successful pioneers are the native agents. By these means, several islands have been christianized, and every obstacle to the reception of a missionary entirely removed. Your committee are thus enabled to state that the work has been entered on. It is indeed yet but the day of small things, but that day is not to be despised. It is a great and a most glorious event, if the result will be the salvation of even one immortal soul. Glory will thus accrue to our Lord and Master, and the blessing of him that was ready to perish will descend on our Church.

Your committee would farther congratulate this Court on the practical benefits to ourselves as a Church, from even the feeble efforts made during the past year. The result of these efforts has effectually removed the great error under which for a long time we labored. The mistaken idea that our resources were inadequate to the support of a Missionary will haunt us no more. There can be no longer but one opinion, and that is, that this Church could safely undertake to double the amount required to sustain one Missionary in the South Sea Islands. Your committee feel that the discovery thus made would of itself richly reward all the attention and labor devoted to this Scheme. It is one other fact which serves to show that the Church need not fear to venture on paths, however difficult and perilous they may appear to the world, when