

a eulogy on our departed friend, that had been done already by an able pen, and all our hearts sympathized with what he had written. Drs. Cook and George were then appointed to draw up an appropriate minute. The following was afterwards adopted.

The Synod cannot permit the present occasion to pass, without giving expression to the sentiments of grief felt by every member of this Court at the bereavement which has been sustained by the Church, in the death of the late Rev. Dr. McGill, of Montreal,—and at the same time expressing sincere condolence with the widow and children of their late brother. Dr. McGill was not only one of the fathers of this Church, but was from the first one of its most able and efficient ministers. Possessed of great activity of mind, and much zeal for the interest of the Church, he was not only constant in his attendance on its Courts, but ever took a lively interest in all the measures that came before them.—and, as he was also a prudent, faithful and diligent Pastor, his loss to his own congregation, as well as to the Church at large, cannot but be deeply felt.—But, while the Synod would put on record their sentiments of esteem and sorrow for their late brother, they feel that it behooves them, with solemn consideration, to regard this and similar dispensations of the Lord, as loud calls to all who are yet in the vineyard “to work while it is day, for the night cometh.”

OVERTURES AS TO INACCURACIES IN THE CENSUS.

An overture from the Presbytery of Montreal on this subject was read and supported by Mr. Alexander Morris, who said he would require to say but little to secure the adoption of the overture, the necessity for it would be so apparent. The Religious Census, as published by the Province as it regarded the Presbyterian community, was very defective. There are in Canada three large bodies, our own Church, the Free Church, and the United Presbyterian, but the last was ignored altogether, while the greatest injustice is done our body as he would show. According to the census of 1851 the total population of Western Canada was 952,004. The leading denominations are, the Anglican Church 223,190; the Church of Rome 167,695; the Wesleyan Methodists 96,610; the Church of Scotland is set down at only 57,512 but injustice is done her, the Free Church is allotted 65,807, and other Presbyterians the large number of 80,894. Thus collectively, the Presbyterian body numbers, even on the showing of the Census, 201,148. As regards our body, we number many more, and the Census is quite unreliable. For instance in Hamilton, where our people have just erected a large church, we are assigned no people, in London the return is the same, in Bytown, but 198, in the County of York, none, though there are said to be 9159 other Presbyterians. He particularized various other instances, and then referred to Lower Canada, where the Census was ridiculously faulty. There the total population is set down at 790,621, and the distribution thus Church of Rome, 746,866; Church of England, 48,402; Church of Scotland with 16 settled ministers, but 4017; the Free Church only 267 in all Lower Canada, and other Presbyterians 29,221. It was useless to criticise this return; it was sufficient to say that in Montreal we are assigned no adherents though in that city we have two large congregations, and in Quebec and Montreal we have more people than are assigned to us in all Lower Canada. In Gaspe we are assigned but 10.

In Huntingdon none, and so elsewhere. In fact the whole Census is erroneous, as regards the Presbyterian bodies. It ought to be remedied, and he would propose that a remonstrance should be prepared and presented to the executive and that it should also be suggested that distinct headings should be assigned to each of the three bodies he had named, and instructions given to the enumerators to assign Presbyterians to the proper heading. He believed that the frequent answer would be I am a Presbyterian and thence a portion of the inaccuracies may have arisen. Still an effort should be made to remedy the evil, and he would therefore move that

An Address of the Synod be forthwith prepared and transmitted to the Governor in Council, representing the said injustice, particularizing instances of the same, and suggesting that, in the future Census and Schedules, three columns should be assigned to the three leading Presbyterian Churches in this Province by name, and special instructions given to the Enumerator with regard to the proper distribution therein of persons describing themselves as Presbyterians.

The motion was adopted and a committee appointed to prepare a remonstrance to the Executive.

LAY ASSOCIATION.

An address was presented from this body and suggesting the formation of a Provincial Church Society for the purpose of Church extension and Home Missions, &c., and bringing under the notice of the Synod the publication of the *Juvenile Presbyterian*.

Dr. GEORGE thought the Lay Association deserved credit, it had done much good. The *Presbyterian* had been of much service to the Church. No religious body can now-a-days keep its position without the aid of the press. The *Presbyterian* had done good service, and he could not but express the thanks of the College for its steady aid. We need the assistance of efficient laymen. If we had a body of wise, earnest, pious laymen, in each of our cities, the whole aspect of our Church might be changed.

On motion of Mr. McKid, seconded by Mr. Robb, the thanks of the Synod were given to the Association for its past exertions and present suggestions for the good of the Church, and the publication of the *Juvenile Presbyterian* was cordially approved.

DELEGATE FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

Mr. SNODGRASS, of Charlottetown Prince Edward Island, appeared and took his seat. On being introduced to the Moderator, he said, Fathers and brethren, I am truly grateful for the opportunity of meeting so many of my brethren in the ministry. I shall take part in the deliberations to the best of my ability.

APPOINTMENTS FOR SABBATH.

Dr Brooke, Morning Service
Mr. Snodgrass, Afternoon,
Mr. James Bain, Evening,

Were severally appointed to preach in St. Andrew's Church, Kingston.

Friday, 30th May, 1856.

The Synod was opened with reading of the Scriptures, praise and prayer by the Rev. Mr. Thompson.

The Report of the Clergy Reserve Commissioners was read.

72 congregations, it appeared from it, had availed themselves of the Manse and Glebe Fund 14 had not yet done so, though 4 of these

had arranged to do so. A balance of £1100 remained in their hands, with regard to which they sought advice.

The Report of the Commutation Commissioners was also given in and read, detailing their exertions, and exhibiting the state of the Fund. But, unless it was supplemented, they would be unable to pay the present salaries. They recommended that an appeal should be made to the people, and that the balance in the hands of the Clergy Reserve Commissioners should be added to the Fund.

A long and interesting debate ensued with regard to the matter, which we regret that owing to the indisposition of the reporter at the time, we are unable to report. But the result was a recommendation from the Synod that the balance in the hands of the Clergy Reserve Commissioners should be added to the Commutation Fund, henceforth to be known as “the Temporalities Fund,”—and that an appeal should be made to the Laity for its support and the extension of the Fund, to enable it to afford a salary to new ministers, which to the extent of £100 per annum it was resolved should be done.

It was also moved by Dr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Neilson, and agreed to, that the Rev. High Urquhart, Cornwall, John Young, Esq., Hamilton, John Cameron Esq., Toronto, Francis W. Harper, Esq., Kingston, and Thomas Paton, Esq., Montreal be added to the present Board of Commutation Commissioners and that the Board shall be designated “the Board for the management of the Temporalities Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.”

[Concluded in our next.]

Report of Colonial Committee to the General Assembly.

“Canada.—The accounts from Queen's College, Kingston, continue to be very satisfactory. In consequence of a purchase made by the trustees, of buildings and adjoining ground, extending to about six acres, on an elevated and healthy situation, they incurred a debt of £6000 currency, to be paid by annual instalments. During the summer of 1854, the Professors in Queen's College visited most of the congregations connected with the Church throughout the province, to explain to them the nature and working of the Institution, and to solicit subscriptions to meet the instalments as they fall due. Since this appeal was made, the sum of £1740 has been transmitted in aid of the Building Fund. More than £20000 was still required in order to liquidate the debt, but the trustees entertained the confident hope that the necessary sum would, ere long, be contributed. From the annual statement received by the committee from the trustees, it appears that there has been an increase in the number of matriculated students in the faculties of art and theology. The whole number in these departments is 40, of whom 10 are in the Divinity Hall, and in all 23 are studying for the ministry. Last year a medical faculty had been established in connection with the college, and there were attending it 23 students, a greater number than had attended any other medical school in the province, during its first session, and during the past session, the number of medical students had increased to 47. In the preparatory or College School, there were 66 pupils, making the whole number receiving instruction in connection with Queen's College 153, and showing a very considerable increase over any previous year.

“In regard to the vexed question of clergy