

Minutes of Presbytery of London.

London,
Nov. 13th, 1900.

At London, and within the First Presbyterian Church there, Tuesday, the 13th day of November, 1900, and at the hour of half-past 10 o'clock in the forenoon, which time and place the Presbytery of London met according to appointment.

**A. Wilson
Presides.**

with devotional exercises.
Sederunt.

**Presbytery Roll
And Formula.**

**McBride's added
to Election Roll**

Session Records.

In the absence of the Moderator, Mr. Alex. Wilson was, on motion made by the Clerk, appointed Moderator *ad interim*, took the chair, and constituted the Presbytery with devotional exercises. Sederunt:—Messrs. Alex. Wilson, interim Moderator; A. Henderson, Clerk; James Wilson, Jas. Little, W. H. Geddes, John Currie, I. McDonald, J. H. Courtenay, J. G. Stuart, T. A. Watson, R. W. Leitch, R. Stewart, R. McIntyre, G. Gilmore, W. J. Clark, A. J. McGillivray, D. R. Drummond, J. Hosie, S. Lawrence, W. Moffat and Dr. McCrae, ministers; also Messrs. A. McLarty, Fingal; D. McMillan, Dunwich; W. Campbell, Belmont; Wm. Laidlaw, Westminster; Thos. Bryan, city; H. Stewart, Denfield; John D. Campbell, Melbourne; Jas. Fleming, Kintyre; I. Rathburn, Glencoe; W. McMartin, Evelyn; Jas. Patterson, Thamesford, Elders. The Presbytery authorized the clerk to procure a Presbytery roll, with copy of formula of confession, for signatures of the ministerial members. It was agreed that the Presbytery's roll for election of commissioners to the General Assembly be altered as follows:—That No. 8 read Appin and North Ekfrid; No. 26 read Duff's Church, Dunwich, and S. Ekfrid, and that Chalmers Church, Dunwich, and McBride's Church, Southold, be No. 37 at the foot of the roll. The clerk was instructed to correspond with ex-moderators not now within the bounds to obtain authority from them to sign minutes in their name. The following sessions submitted records for examination, and committees were appointed as follows:— King Street, London, Messrs. I. Rathburn and Jas. Little; Newbury, Jas. Wilson and A. McLarty; Mosa, R. Stewart and J. D. Campbell; Melbourne, R. McIntyre and W. Campbell; Lobo, Thos. Wilson and D. McMillan; Crumlin, R.

W. Leitch and J. Fleming. Mr. Thos. Wilson submitted the report of the committee appointed to confer with St. George Church office-bearers regarding their financial standing. The report indicated considerable increase in contributions

St. George Church Report.

for the support of ordinances, and recommended the work to the continued liberality of St. Andrew's Church. The report was adopted, and Mr. Thos. Wilson appointed to lay the matter before the office bearers of St. Andrew's Church.

Action of Augmentation Com. in re Fingal, &c.

Mr. J. Currie reported that the executive of the Augmentation committee had expressed sympathy with the Presbytery in the recent action taken in rearranging certain congregations within the bounds with the view of consolidating the work of these charges and ultimately saving the funds of the church; but in view of the special application made in behalf of Fingal referred the application to the Synodical Committee. The application in behalf of Appin and N. Ekfrid was similarly referred. The report was received. The clerk intimated that it has Mr. John McNeil's desire to renew his application for leave to retire from the active duties of the Ministry on account of impaired health, and also to be placed as an annuitant on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. The Presbytery agreed to sustain the application and sympathized with Mr. McNeil, also appointed Mr. R. Stewart and Mr. I. Rathburn, elders, to be associated with the Clerk as a committee to confer with Mr. McNeil and prosecute the application in behalf of the Presbytery, with the view of obtaining immediate relief from the fund if possible, and securing that Mr. McNeil's standing, as an annuitant should date from the 25th March last, when his resignation took effect. A petition was presented from a number of present and former members and adherents of McBride's Church, Southold, asking that the arrangement of the services in the newly formed congregation be left to the minister and people. The petition had not passed through the Session. It was moved by Mr. Currie, seconded by Mr. J. G. Stewart and agreed that the petition be not received on account of irregularities, but inasmuch as these are confessedly due to ignorance of church law, a committee be appointed to confer with the petitioners concerning the difficulties complained of in their petition and report at afternoon sederunt. The following were appointed the Committee:— Messrs. Currie, Drummond and Steven, ministers, and Messrs. Rathburn, McLarty and J. D. Campbell, elders. Mr. J. H. Geddes asked for power to grant certificates of membership to remaining members of the East Williams Church, and also to call a meeting of the members to dispose of the property. The consideration of this was deferred till the afternoon, Messrs. Stuart and the clerk to meet with Mr. Geddes in the meantime and inquire into the particulars. The committees appointed to examine session records reported, and the moderator was author-

J. McNeil Applies For Leave to Retire.

Petition of Parties in Southold.

Committee Appointed.

Mr. Geddes in re E. Williams.

ized to attest them accordingly. Presbytery adjourned to meet in the same place, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and the sederunt was closed with the benediction.

A. WILSON, *Moderator.*

A. HENDERSON, *Clerk.*

Same day same place, and at the hour of 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the Presbytery met according to adjournment, the Moderator, Mr. J. F. Scott presiding, and was constituted with devotional exercises.

Sederunt the same as in the forenoon, with the addition of Mr. J. F. Scott, Moderator, Dr. Sutherland, Mr. J. H. Barnett and Mr. J. Steven, Ministers, and R. McMillan, elder. The Moderator thanked the Presbytery for the honor conferred upon him by appointing him to the Moderator's chair, and gave explanatory reasons for his absence from the forenoon Sederunt. Mr. Henderson also thanked the Presbytery for having kindly supplied his pulpits during the past two months. The ministers of the forenoon Sederunt were then read and approved. Mr. J. H. Courtenay, as convener of the Committee on Statistics gave explanation why the committee had not yet submitted a report. The Presbytery

**Report on
Statistics Waived.**

deemed it inexpedient to print any statistical report this year, and relieved the committee from preparing one. Mr. W. J. Clark drew attention to a circular letter from the century fund committee, addressed to sessions and presbyteries, giving prominence to the spiritual aspects of the movement.

**20th Century
Matters.**

recommending especially that the last month of the year be devoted to special prayer, and that the Lord's Supper be celebrated in all the churches on the first Sabbath of the new century. After deliberation, it was moved by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. J. H. Geddes, and agreed, that the Presbytery acknowledge receipt of the recommendations from the executive of the assembly's century fund committee, cordially agree with the spirit of these recommendations, and commend it to the consideration of the sessions within the bounds. A committee, consisting of Rev. Thos.

**Dorchester
Records.**

Wilson and Mr. J. Fleming, was appointed to examine the records of Dorchester session. The convener of the Sabbath school committee brought in a recommendation that the system of sympathetic visitation of the Sabbath schools within the bounds be carried out by the ministers. The convener (Mr. Barnett) moved, seconded

**Sabbath School
Visitation.**

by Mr. Courtney, that the principle, as outlined, be approved, and that the committee prepare a detailed schedule for next meeting of Presbytery. The motion was carried. He also moved, seconded by Mr. Courtenay, that the

and Publications.

Sabbath school publications of our own church be introduced as far as possible in the schools not at present

using them. The motion was carried.

Mr. J. Steven reported having moderated in a call at Duff's Church, Dunwich, and South Ekfrid, on Nov. 5, in favor of Mr. D. J. Ellison, licentiate. The call was very unanimous and signed by 89 members and 138 adherents of Duff's Church and by 50 members and 70 adherents of South Ekfrid. The stipend promised is \$875, with rented house and four weeks' holidays—Duff's Church contributing \$475 and Tait's Corners \$400. Compeared Messrs. J. G. Lethbridge for South Ekfrid, and Wm. McCrae for Duff's Church. These were heard in the above order, and afterwards interrogated by members of the court. Parties were then removed. On motion duly made and seconded, it was agreed to approve the Moderator's conduct, to sustain the call as a regular gospel call, and instruct the clerk to forward it to Mr. Ellison for his consideration. In case of his acceptance, the moderator and clerk were authorized to appoint subjects for ordination trials; the Presbytery appointed to meet at Duff's Church on Tuesday morning, Dec. 11th, at 10 o'clock, to hear the trials, and should they be sustained, proceed to ordination at same place at two o'clock p. m.—the moderator to preside, Dr. McCrae to preach, Mr. J. Steven to address the minister and Mr. J. H. Barnett the people. The records of Kintyre session were submitted for examination, and Mr. W. Moffat and Mr. R. McMillan, elder, appointed to examine them and report. The clerk was instructed to certify to the senate of Knox College Mr. J. A. Whillans as a student in first year of theology. Mr. J. G. Stuart submitted the following recommendations in regard to East Williams, which were, on his motion, adopted:—That the Presbytery appoint Mr. Geddes to give certificates to those desiring to join other churches; and that Mr. Geddes call a meeting of the former members of East Williams congregation, who shall arrange for the sale of the property and the disposal of the funds. The committee appointed to confer with the petitioners from Southwold reported that they had met with the petitioners, and found (1) that there were 90 signatures of members and adherents of whom at least five or six were members of McBride's Church, and about the same number—seven—adherents, the balance being still connected with the Fingal congregation. (2) That while the petition is irregular there are difficulties existing in the parish of McBride's Church calling for the immediate consideration of the Presbytery, and recommended (1) that the irregularities be waived and the petition received and considered. (2) That the services at Lawrence be continued as at present until the settlement of a minister; (3) that thereafter services at Lawrence be once a month, and all other services there or elsewhere within the bounds of the two congregations be left to the decision of the joint sessions of Chalmers Church, Dunwich, and McBride's Church, Southwold. On motion of Mr. Currie, seconded by Mr. Drummond the report with the recommendations was

Call to Mr. Ellison
Sustained.

Ordination
Appointments.

Kintyre Records.

J. A. Whillans
Certified.

East Williams
Matter.

Southwold
Petition
Disposed of

adopted and the Presbytery decerned accordingly. The committees appointed to examine the session records of Dorchester and Kintyre respectively, reported the same as carefully and correctly kept. The moderator was authorized to attest them accordingly. The Presbytery adjourned to meet in Knox Church, St. Thomas, on Tuesday the 8th of January 1901, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon the Moderator pronouncing the benediction.

J. F. SCOTT, *Moderator.*

ALEX. HENDERSON, *Clerk.*

At Dunwich and within Duff's Church there, at 10 a. m. on Tuesday the 11th December 1900, the Presbytery of London met for ordination trial of Mr. D. J. Ellison, and was duly constituted with Divine Worship.

Dunwich
Dec. 11, 1900.

Sederunt Messrs. J. F. Scott, Moderator, J. Steven, Dr. McRae, D. Kelso Ministers, and John Robb, Elder. Mr. Kelso was on motion appointed Clerk *pro tem.* Mr. Ellison presented Extract of License. The Presbytery then proceeded with his trial. He read the following discourses:

Sederunt.

Mr. Ellison's
trial Sustained

- (1) Hebrew Critical on VIII Psalm.
- (2) Popular Sermon John 6, 44.
- (3) Lecture Romans 5, 1-11.

He was also examined in Hebrew, Greek, Theology and Church History—On motion duly made and seconded, the trials were sustained—The Presbytery adjourned to meet at 2 p. m. for ordination—closed with the benediction.

J. F. Scott, *Moderator.*

D. Kelso, *Clerk, pro tem.*

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Same place and date at 2 p. m. the Presbytery met and was constituted with prayers.

2. p. m.

Sederunt the same as in the afternoon with the addition of Messrs. J. H. Barnett and J. Wilson, Ministers and R. McMillan, Elder. The Edict was returned duly certified. Proclamation was made to the Congregation that if any person had any objection to offer against the life and doctrine of Mr. D. J. Ellison he should appear before the Presbytery now in Session and lodge certification thereof with proof. No objection having been offered, Dr. McRae preached an appropriate sermon from 1st Corinthians 2nd chapter and 4 and 5th verses—Mr. Steven Moderator of Session narrated the steps that had been taken to fill the vacancy—The Moderator then put to Mr. Ellison the prescribed questions and received satisfactory answers—He was then by solemn prayer and the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery, set apart to the holy ministry

and commended for guidance and success therein to the grace of God. The

**Mr. Ellison
Ordained.**

Moderator then gave him the right hand of fellowship saying "in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ the only King and head of the Church, and by the authority of the Presbytery of London I invite you to take part in this ministry with us, induct you to the pastoral charge of this congregation and admit you to all the rights and privileges thereto pertaining—The other members of Presbytery also gave him the right hand of fellowship. Mr. J. Steven then addressed the minister and Mr. Barnett the people on their respective duties—After the benediction was pronounced Messrs Steven and Kelso accompanied Mr. Ellison to the door and introduced him to the congregation as they retired.—Mr. Ellison on signifying his willingness to sign the Formula had his name added to the roll of Presbytery. After introducing the newly inducted minister to the Session and Managers the Presbytery was closed with the benediction.

J. F. SCOTT, *Moderator.*

D. KELSO, *Clerk, pro tem.*

Business for January Meeting.

- 1 Treasurer's Statement with Audit.
 - 2 Report on Church Life and Work.
 - 3 Committees to visit Augmented Congregations to be appointed.
 - 4 Remits of Assembly considered.
 - 5 Arrangements to be made for Conference at May meeting.
 - 6 Mr. Thos. Wilson's report *in re* St George Church.
 - 7 Report *in re* application in behalf of Mr. McNeil.
 - 8 Report of S. S. Committee on Scheme of S. S. visitation.
- NOTE.—The Remits of Assembly relate to
- 1 Extension of Powers of Synod. (To be returned before the March meeting.)
 - 2 Aids to Social Worship.
 - 3 Synodical Sabbath School Field Secretaries.
 - 4 Deferred annuities Scheme.