

THE
MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Canada,

AT ITS SESSIONS AT MONTREAL,

JUNE 14-20, 1855.

~~~~~  
PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD  
~~~~~

TORONTO:

PRINTED BY J. CLELAND, YONGE STREET,
1855.

OFFICERS OF SYNOD, 1855-6.

REV. THOMAS LOWRY, Bradford, Moderator.
REV. WILLIAM REID, M. A., Toronto, Clerk of Synod, and
General Agent for the Schemes of the Church.
SAMUEL SPREULL, Esq., Treasurer of Bursary Fund.
JOHN REDPATH, Esq., Montreal, Treasurer of Foreign Missions.

CONVENERS OF COMMITTEES.

Home Mission Committee—Rev. W. Reid, Toronto.
Committee on State of Religion—Rev. D. Fraser, Montreal, and Rev. D. McLeod, Cobourg, Joint Conveners.
College Committee—Dr. Willis and Professor Young, Joint Conveners.
College Building Committee—J. McMurrich, Esq., Toronto.
Widows' Fund—J. Fisher, Esq., Hamilton.
Agency Committee—Dr. Burns.
On Board of Publication, &c—Rev. D. Inglis, Hamilton.
On Registration of Marriages, &c—Rev. T. Lowry.
On Foreign Missions—Rev. D. Fraser, Montreal.
On Sabbath Observance—Rev. R. F. Burns, St. Catherines.
On Sabbath Schools—Rev. W. Gregg, Belleville.

MEETINGS

At Montreal, at
June, 1856,
Church of
Gordon, M.
and 1st ve

The Synod Roll
in attendance were

[The names of Ministers]

MINISTERS.

*W. Smart
*R. Boyd, A. M.
*J. McMurray
W. J. Macdowell

*W. Lohead
James Geggie
*S. C. Fraser, M. A.
*Thomas Wardrope...
*Andrew Melville...
*John Corbett.....
Peter Gray.....
*James B. Duncan....
*John L. Gourlay.....
*James Smith, A. M..
*David Wardrope.....

These two Presbyteries
the Presbytery of Brock

MEETING OF SYNOD.

FIRST SESSION.

At Montreal, and within Coté Street Church there, the 14th day of June, 1855, the which day the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada met, and, after sermon by the Rev. Henry Gordon, Moderator for the past year, from Joshua, chap. xiii., and 1st verse, was constituted for business.

The Synod Roll was made up and called, and the names of members in attendance were marked.

[The names of Members in attendance are marked with an asterisk.]

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*W. Smart		
*R. Boyd, A. M.....	W. Thompson.....	Prescott.
*J. McMurray.....	Dr. Edmonson.....	Brockville.
W. J. Macdowell		South Gower.

REV. J. McMURRAY, Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.

*W. Lohead.....	Donald Kennedy	Osgoode and Gloucester.
James Geggie	Robert Cumming.....	Dalhousie.
*S. C. Fraser, M. A.....	John Forrest.....	Macnab and Horton.
*Thomas Wardrope.....	*George Hay.....	Ottawa.
*Andrew Melville	David Bell.....	Pembroke.
*John Corbett.....	James Pritchard.....	Wakefield.
Peter Gray.....	Neil Stewart.....	Beckwith.
*James B. Duncan.....	*Francis Hall.....	Perth.
*John L. Gourlay.....	John Clarke	Aylmer and Nepean.
*James Smith, A. M.....	*James Youll.....	Ramsay.
*David Wardrope.....	*William King.....	Bristol.
	Gilbert Thompson.....	North Gower.

REV. S. C. FRASER. Pres. Clerk, White Lake P. O.

These two Presbyteries are now united into one, under the designation of the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*W. McAlister.....		Metis.
*W. B. Clark.....	*James Hossack.....	Quebec.
*David Black.....	Alpheus Kimpton.....	St. Therese de Blainville.
*Thomas Henry.....	John Maquet.....	Lachute.
*David Gordon.....	*John Fisher.....	Indian Lands.
*R. C. Swinton, (Miss'y).....		Richmond.
*J. C. Quin.....		Osnabruck.
*Donald Fraser, A. M.	*John Redpath.....	Montreal, Coté Street.
*William Scott.....	*Edward Marshall.....	St. Eustache, &c.
Ewan McLean, (Miss'y).....		Winslow, &c.
*Duncan Cameron.....		Lochiell.
*James McConechy.....	*John Thompson.....	Leeds.
*Hugh Campbell.....	*James Court.....	Cornwall.
*John Anderson.....	*Thomas Scott.....	Lancaster, &c.
*Robert McArthur.....	*John Mack.....	Durham and St. Louis de Gonzague.
*John Milne.....	*Moses Douglas.....	English River.
	*John McCallum.....	Montreal, St. Gabriel St.

REV. D. FRASER, *Pres. Clerk, Montreal.*

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

Donald McKenzie.....	William McKenzie.....	Zorra.
Daniel Allan.....	Samuel Ruthford.....	North-easthope.
Thomas McPherson..	Benjamin Rigg.....	Stratford.
William Graham.....	Robert Turnbull.....	Egmondville.
Robert Wallace.....		Ingersoll.
Wm. R. Sutherland.....	Duncan Campbell.....	Ekfrid and Mosa.
Angus McColl.....		Chatham.
Lachlan McPherson.....		Williams.
*William S. Ball.....	Andrew Smith.....	Woodstock.
Duncan McMillan.....		Aldborough.
*John Scott.....	*William Begg.....	London.
*William King.....		Buxton.
*John Ross.....	*William Hutchinson.....	Brucefield.
*Duncan McDiarmid.....	Donald McPherson.....	Woodstock.
*William McLaren.....	William Duff.....	Amherstburgh.
*Andrew Tolmie.....	George Hart.....	Blandford.
*William Porterfield.....	William Hastie.....	Plympton.
*David Walker.....	*Archibald Young.....	Sarnia.
*William Doak.....		Port Stanley.
*James H. McNaughton.....		Saugen.
	James Oswald.....	Tilbury.

REV. J. SCOTT, *Pres. Clerk, London.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

*George Cheyne.....	*Adam Stevenson.....	Saltfleet and Binbrook.
M. Y. Stark.....	Thomas Mair.....	Dundas.
John Bayne, D. D.....	James Cowan.....	Galt.
*Robert Irvine.....	*John Fisher.....	Hamilton (Knox's Church.)
*David Inglis.....	*William Rowan.....	Hamilton (McNab Street.)
*George Smellie.....		Fergus.

MINISTERS.

Alexander McLean
*Samuel Young ...
John McKinnon...
*Duncan McRuar...
*James Black.....

*John Alexander...
Andrew J. McAuley
*James Pirie.....
Andrew Stevens...
John McKay.....

*Robert Burns, D. D.
M. Willis, D. D., S. T.
James Harris.
James Findlay.....
*Thomas Lowry.....
*William Reid, A. M.
*William Meldrum...
A. T. Holmes.....
Thomas Wightman...
John McTavish.....
John McLachlan...
*C. P. Young.
*James Nisbet.....
Robert Ure.....
John Gray.....
Joseph Alexander, A.
James Adams.....
Robert McKenzie...
*John Laing.....
John Black.....

*Donald McLeod.....
James Douglass.....
*John M. Roger.....
John W. Smith.....
*John Smith.....
W. J. McKenzie.....
Francis Andrews...
Robert Boag.....
*William Blain...
Jas. Bowie.....

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD AT MONTREAL, 1855.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—(Continued.)

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Alexander McLean.....	William Wilson	Cumminsville & Nairn Ch.
*Samuel Young .....	.....	Guelph.
John McKinnon.....	.....	Owen's Sound.
*Duncan McRuar.....	Murdoch McRae.....	Ayr.
*James Black.....	*Alex. Mitchell.....	Caledonia and Allan's Set- tlement.
*John Alexander.....	.....	Brantford.
Andrew J. McAuley.....	.....	Nassagaweya.
*James Pirie.....	Peter Christie	Niagara.
Andrew Stevens.....	.....	Paris.
John McKay.....	.....	Wellesley.
	Salmon Minor.....	Dunnville.
	Alexander McKenzie.....	East Puslinch.

REV. M. Y. STARK, *Presby. Clerk, Dundas.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

*Robert Burns, D. D.....	*James Shaw.....	Toronto, Knox's Church.
M. Willis, D. D., S. T. P.	.....	.....
James Harris.	.....	.....
James Findlay.....	*William Heron.....	Whitby.
*Thomas Lowry.....	.....	West Gwillimbury.
*William Reid, A. M.	.....	.....
*William Meldrum.....	David Campbell.....	Vaughan.
A. T. Holmes.....	.....	Chinguacousy.
Thomas Wightman.....	*David Davidson.....	York Mills.
John McTavish.....	*Donald Cattanach.....	Thorah and Eldon.
John McLachlan.....	.....	Acton.
*C. P. Young.	.....	.....
*James Nisbet.....	.....	Oakville.
Robert Ure .....	.....	Streetsville.
John Gray.....	*Thomas Dallas.....	Oro and Orillia.
Joseph Alexander, A. M.....	.....	Union and Norvel.
James Adams.....	.....	King.
Robert McKenzie.....	.....	Barrie and Innisfil.
*John Laing.....	*Alexander Wallace.....	Scarboro'.
John Black.....	D. McLellan.....	Red River.

REV. T. WIGHTMAN *Presby. Clerk, York Mills.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

*Donald McLeod	Andrew Jeffiey.....	Cobourg.
James Douglass.....	R. Taylor	South Cavan.
*John M. Roger.....	*R. Turnbull.....	Peterboro'.
John W. Smith.....	William Logan.....	Grafton and Colborne.
*John Smith.....	*John Smart.....	Darlington.
W. J. McKenzie.....	J. Ritchie.....	Baltimore and Coldsprings.
Francis Andrews.....	Thomas Short.....	Otonabee.
Robert Boag.....	G. Stewart.....	Cartwright and Manvers.
*William Blain.....	A. Robertson.....	North Cavan.
Jas. Bowie.....	A. Fraser.....	Norwood.
	James Hall.....	Smith.

REV. J. W. SMITH, *Pres. Clerk, Haldimand P. O.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Henry Gordon.....		Gananoque.
*James Rogers.....		Demorestville.
*William Gregg, A. M.....		Belleville.
Robert F. Burns.....	*Robert Matthews.....	Kingston, Chalmers' Ch.
*Andrew Wilson.....		Kingston, Brock Street.
James W. Chesnut.....		Madoc.
*Thomas Chambers.....		Picton.

REV. W. GREGG, *Presby. Clerk, Belleville.*

The Synod unanimously requested Mr. Gillespie, of London, an Elder of the Presbyterian Church of England, who was present, to sit as a member of Synod.

Mr. Gillespie, having thanked the Synod for their kindness, took his seat.

The Synod then proceeded to elect a new Moderator, when the Moderator nominated Mr. McAlister, of Metis, which nomination was cordially received by the Synod. Mr. McAlister declined the appointment.

Mr. Cheyne, Mr. Henry, Mr. Lowry, and Mr. Clark, of Quebec, were severally proposed and seconded.

Mr. Henry and Mr. Clark, requested their names to be withdrawn.

The Roll was then called, and the votes marked, when twenty voted for Mr. Cheyne, and thirty-four for Mr. Lowry.

Mr. Lowry was accordingly declared to be duly appointed as Moderator of Synod, and accordingly took the Chair, and addressed the Synod in impressive and appropriate terms.

The Synod agreed to observe the following order in regard to the daily meetings of Synod, viz: to meet at half-past nine o'clock, and remain in Session until one, to meet again at half-past three, and continue in Session until the final adjournment in the evening, a half hour being allowed for refreshments, which the friends of the Church in Montreal have kindly undertaken to provide in the basement floor.

The Synod unanimously agreed to tender to the late Moderator their thanks for his impressive and suitable sermon, and to request him to furnish such portions of it as he may think proper for publication in the *Record*.

Thanks were accordingly tendered to Mr. Gordon by the Moderator.

The Synod at Montreal, during the business.

The Synod appointed, Rev. D. Fraser, Moderator, and arrangements for the

The Synod then commenced the first part of its exercises. The

The Synod agreed to observe the following order in regard to the daily meetings of Synod, viz: to meet at half-past nine o'clock, and remain in Session until one, to meet again at half-past three, and continue in Session until the final adjournment in the evening, a half hour being allowed for refreshments, which the friends of the Church in Montreal have kindly undertaken to provide in the basement floor.

The Synod unanimously agreed to tender to the late Moderator their thanks for his impressive and suitable sermon, and to request him to furnish such portions of it as he may think proper for publication in the *Record*.

Thanks were accordingly tendered to Mr. Gordon by the Moderator.

The Synod then adjourned.

The Synod granted permission to Presbyteries to meet in Montreal, during the present Sessions of Synod, for any competent business.

The Synod appointed the following Committee, viz: the Moderator, Rev. D. Fraser, Mr. Redpath, and Mr. Rowan, to make arrangements for preaching on the Lord's day.

The Synod then adjourned to meet at four o'clock.

The first part of the afternoon session to be spent in devotional exercises. The Diet was closed with Prayer.

SECOND SESSION.

THE SAME DAY, *Four o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

According to previous appointment, the Synod spent the first portion of the diet in devotional exercises, which were conducted by the Moderator, Mr. Macalister, Dr. Burns, and Mr. Wardrope.

Thereafter the minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod proceeded to appoint several Committees as follows, viz:—

On Bills and Overtures.—The Moderator and Clerk of Synod, Dr. Burns, Professor Young, Messrs. Boyd, Duncan, Lochead, D. Fraser, S. C. Fraser, W. B. Clark, Scott, McLaren, Ball, Irvine, McRuar, Cheyne, Nisbet, McLeod, J. M. Roger, John Smith, Gregg, A. Wilson, and J. Rogers, Ministers, and Messrs. Young, Begg, Mitchell, Shaw, Heron, Smart, Turnbull, Redpath, Court, and Hossack, Elders.

On the Public Accounts of the Church.—Rev. W. Gregg, Messrs. Court, Davidson, Shaw and Hay.

On Statistical Returns.—Messrs. S. C. Fraser, S. Young, Ball, Black, Dallas, King, and Begg.

On Publication of Proceedings and Discussion of Synod.—Messrs. McLaren, McRuar, Scott, D. Fraser, S. C. Fraser, and Court.

The Synod also appointed Committees for revising the Synod Records, and the Records of the several Presbyteries.

The Synod then adjourned for half an hour.
Closed with prayer.

THIRD SESSION.

THE SAME DAY, *Seven o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod was again constituted.

After devotional exercises, the minutes were read and sustained.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on the State of Religion; the report was given in, and read by Mr. D. Fraser, one of the Conveners.

After lengthened conversation on the general subject of the Revival of Religion, and the various points specially brought out in the report, the following motion was unanimously agreed to:—

The Synod heard the report with lively gratitude, and yet with deep humiliation, cordially accept it, and return thanks to the Committee, and especially to the conveners for their judicious diligence; approve of its statements and suggestions; renew the Committee with additional members, and instruct them to print the report in the *Record*, and to follow it up with a pastoral address in the name of the Synod, and with the Moderator's signature, embracing the leading features of the report; recommend them to repeat their communications in any shape they please with the Ministers, and extend them to Catechists, and Sessions, and individual office-bearers in vacant charges, and empower them generally to adopt such measures as shall in their judgment seem well fitted to revive and to promote the work of God amongst us, and to report their diligence and its results to next Synod.

The Synod farther cordially approve of the suggestions made in regard to special Prayer in the present eventful crisis of the Church and of the nation, and earnestly recommend its practical adoption without delay, by all the Presbyteries and Members of the Church.

The Committee is appointed as follows, viz: Messrs. McLeod, D. Fraser, Boyd, Duncan, James Smith, R. F. Burns, Scott, Clark, Daniel Gordon, J. Gray, Dr. Bayne, and Dr. Willis, Ministers; and Messrs. Court, Rowan, Stewart, and McMurrich, Elders; Messrs. McLeod and Fraser, Conveners.

The Synod then adjourned, to meet to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M., and the Diet was closed with prayer.

The Synod ag
meeting were re
the names of m

The Synod to
recommending t
Presbytery of
sanctioned such

The Synod to
ton, on the subje
before they shall
After full discus
Mr. Irvine, that
that there is no o
garding entrants
adopting the Ove

It was moved
D. Fraser, that t
mittee, with a vie
Presbyteries migh
ministers duly ce
the laws of the C

The roll havin
the amendment, v

The Committee
D. Fraser, W. B
Hay, and Heron,
Synod.

The Synod call
Professor Young.
Session was close

The Synod aga
The minutes of
The Synod pro

FOURTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, 15th June, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met and was constituted. The minutes of last meeting were read and sustained. The roll was again called and the names of member in attendance marked.

The Synod took up an Overture from the Presbytery of Perth, recommending the change of the name of that Presbytery into the Presbytery of Ottawa. The Synod adopted the Overture and sanctioned such change.

The Synod took up an Overture from the Presbytery of Hamilton, on the subject of employment of ministers from other Churches before they shall have been formally received into this Church.— After full discussion it was moved by Dr. Burns, and seconded by Mr. Irvine, that the Synod, after due consideration, are of opinion that there is no occasion for change in the laws of the Church, regarding entrants from foreign Churches, and therefore decline adopting the Overture.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Gordon, seconded by Rev. D. Fraser, that the Overture be received and remitted to a Committee, with a view to consider and report under what restrictions Presbyteries might be permitted to employ, in Missionary services, ministers duly certified by other churches, prior to the period when the laws of the Church permit their formal reception.

The roll having been called, 24 voted for the motion, and 58 for the amendment, which was declared to be carried.

The Committee was appointed as follows, viz: Messrs. Gordon, D. Fraser, W. B. Clark, McRuar, Ministers, and Messrs. Fisher, Hay, and Heron, Elders, to report during the present meeting of Synod.

The Synod called for the College Report, which was given by Professor Young. The hour of adjournment having come, the Session was closed with prayer.

FIFTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, half-past 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read and approved.

The Synod proceeded to take up an Overture from the Presby-

tery of Toronto on the subject of the examination of students.— The overture was read, and several members of Presbytery heard in support of it.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Synod receive the Overture, and, inasmuch as members of that Presbytery in support of that Overture have recommended the appointment of a Board or Boards of Examination, send down the whole subject to Presbyteries, instructing them to report to next Synod what they deem the best means for conducting the examination of the Students of this Church, whether by Presbyteries alone, or by a Board or Boards, or by Presbyteries and Board combined.

The Synod then adjourned until half-past Six. Closed with prayer.

~~~~~  
SIXTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, *half-past Six o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod was again constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Committee appointed to make arrangements for preaching on the Lord's day gave in a report, and in accordance with it the Synod appointed, for Cote Street Church, Rev. W. McAlister, in the morning, and the Rev. John Alexander, in the evening; and for St. Gabriel Street Church, Rev. T. Wardrope, in the morning, and Rev. D. Inglis, in the evening.

The Synod then called for the Home Mission Report, which, in absence of Rev. Mr. Ure, was submitted by Mr. Reid.

(The Report detailed the spiritual destitution existing within the bounds of the several Presbyteries. From the statements given, it appeared that fully ninety labourers would be required in order to enable Presbyteries to respond to all the applications made to them.)

The report having been read, it was after lengthened deliberation unanimously resolved, that the report be gratefully received; that the Home Mission Committee be re-appointed, and that while they renew their efforts in giving effect to the laudable scheme already in operation for obtaining Ministers and Missionaries from the mother country, this Court would specially urge upon the Ministers and Elders within its bounds, to increase their efforts in seeking out young men who may give themselves to the work of the Ministry; and, further that each Presbytery be enjoined to commend its settled Ministers to share a portion of their labors

with the vacant bounds; and that Meetings annually order to stir up people.

The Synod far and Ure, who have requested, while a mission field before the additional labourers.

Dr. Burns gave Red River Mission John Black.

Thereafter Mr. On motion made receive the Report, the *Record*.

The Home Mission Rev. W. Reid, C Willis; Messrs Y Burns, H. Gordon, Fraser, H. Campbe Irvine, Inglis, Stark rich, Shaw, Jeffrey A. Fraser, Dallas, Elders.

The Synod then A. M. The Diet w

The Synod again The minutes of las Rev. D. Fraser la Esq., of London, of Church. The Synod agreed to tender to M their cordial thanks fo The Moderator in n thanks of the Synod to

1855.

of students.—  
Presbytery heard

at the Synod re-  
that Presbytery  
appointment of  
whole subject to  
Synod what they  
of the Students  
by a Board or

Closed with

o'clock, P. M.

d.  
s for preaching  
nce with it the  
McAlister, in  
evening; and  
in the morning,

report, which, in  
eid.

sting within the  
ments given, it  
ired in order to  
ations made to

ened delibera-  
fully received;  
and that while  
adable scheme  
ssionaries from  
upon the Min-  
their efforts in  
to the work of  
enjoined to re-  
of their labors

## MINUTES OF THE SYNOD AT MONTREAL, 1855.

11

with the vacant congregations and Mission Stations within its bounds; and that each Presbytery be advised to hold Missionary Meetings annually in all the congregations within its bounds, in order to stir up and increase the spirit of Missions among the people.

The Synod farther resolved that Dr. Bayne, Messrs. Gordon, and Ure, who have either gone to Britain, or are about to do so, be requested, while at home, to bring the claims of the Canadian Mission field before the Churches, with a view to the securing of additional labourers.

Dr. Burns gave some interesting information in regard to the Red River Mission, and its progress under the charge of the Rev. John Black.

Thereafter Mr. King submitted a report of the Buxton Mission. On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed to receive the Report, and to direct that it be printed and circulated in the *Record*.

The Home Mission Committee was appointed as follows, viz: Rev. W. Reid, Convener. The Moderator, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis; Messrs. Young, J. M. Roger, McLeod, J. Smith, Gregg, Burns, H. Gordon, Boyd, McMurray, Duncan, Wardrope, D. Fraser, H. Campbell, Clark, Quin, Scott, Ross, Ball, Doak, King, Irvine, Inglis, Stark, and McRuar, Ministers; and Messrs. McMurrich, Shaw, Jeffrey, Redpath, Court, Kennedy, Begg, Matthews, A. Fraser, Dallas, Mitchell, McLellan, McMillan, and Fisher, Elders.

The Synod then adjourned, to meet to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M. The Diet was then closed with prayer.

---

## SEVENTH SESSION.

SATURDAY, 16th June, Ten o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read.

Rev. D. Fraser laid on the table a donation from A. Gillespie, Esq., of London, of £100 in aid of the Home Missions of the Church. The Synod, on motion made and seconded, unanimously agreed to tender to Mr. Gillespie, who was present in the House, their cordial thanks for this munificent donation.

The Moderator in name of the Synod, accordingly conveyed the thanks of the Synod to Mr. Gillespie.

The Synod then took up the consideration of the College Report.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Report of the College Committee be received and approved; and the Synod express the satisfaction and thankfulness with which they have learned the harmony and prosperity of the Institution during the year; that the Synod accept and adopt the curriculum of study submitted in the Report, but expressing their strong opinion of the desirableness of bringing the Hebrew classes at as early a date as possible under the direct care of the College, call the serious attention of the College Committee to this subject, and empower the Committee, if they shall see fit, to make arrangements for having the Hebrew taught by any of the Professors, or of the Ministers of the Church; that the Synod appoint the Professors, with S. Spreull, Esq., and G. Brown, Esq., M. P. P., to be a Committee to confer with the authorities of the University College, with a view to have the classes of that Institution made more available than at present, to the students of this Church.

The Synod further, in accordance with the recommendation of the Report, appoint the following Committee for the superintendence of the College for the year, viz:—from the Presbytery of Toronto, Revs. Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Prof. Young, Messrs. Reid, Harris, Wightman, Ure, McTavish, Laing & Gray Ministers, with Messrs McMurrich, Jas. Shaw, John Shaw, G. Brown, S. Spreull, and A. McGlashan. From the Presbytery of London, Messrs. Scott and Ross, Ministers, with Mr. Begg, Elder. From the Presbytery of Hamilton, Messrs. Irvine, Inglis, Young, and Alexander, Ministers, with Mr. Fisher, Elder. From the Presbytery of Cobourg, Messrs. McLeod and Roger, with Mr. Turnbull, Elder. From the Presbytery of Kingston, Messrs. Gregg and Wilson, Ministers, with Mr. Mathews, Elder. From the Presbytery of Brockville, Messrs. Boyd and McMurray, Ministers. From the Presbytery of Ottawa, Messrs. Wardrope and Duncan, Ministers, with Mr. Hay, Elder; and from the Presbytery of Montreal, Messrs. W. B. Clark and D. Fraser, with Mr. Redpath, Elder; Dr. Willis and Prof. Young, Joint Conveners. Messrs. John Scott, Robt. Irvine, John Laing, J. M. Roger, W. Gregg, J. B. Duncan, and D. Fraser, were appointed corresponding members of the Committee, in terms of the recommendation contained in the Report.

The Synod then took up two Appeals from a sentence of the Presbytery of Toronto, in regard to the election to the office of the Eldership of Mr. G. A. Pyper and Mr. J. M. Campbell, one Appeal by Dr. Burns, and another by Mr. Thos. M'Kay, Mr. D. Fraser, and others, members of Knox's Church, Toronto.

Parties were called, when there appeared Dr. Burns, for himself as complainant; Mr. D. Fraser appellant; Mr. Lowrie and Mr. Laing for the Presbytery of Toronto; Mr. J. Shaw for the Session of Knox's Church.

The various  
The hour of  
with prayer.

The Synod wa  
The minutes o  
The Synod ag  
when Mr. Fraser  
of the appellants.

Thereafter Mr  
many interesting  
of the Presbyteria

It was then mo  
and unanimously

That the Synod  
of London, an hono  
heartly thanks to Mr.  
the Synod of the En  
Synod of the Presbyte  
felt by this Synod in t

The Synod then  
report of the Com

The report was

It was moved an

That the report be  
given to the Committe  
and that instructions  
and congregations of the C  
supporting and augmen  
regard to the position a  
ensuing year.

The Committee v  
Professor Young, M  
and R. F. Burns, m  
Elmslie, Walker, M  
Shaw, Spreull, Morg  
Court, Gibb, Dr. Di  
Hamilton, Convener

The Synod then a  
and the Diet was

The various papers in the case were read.  
The hour of adjournment having come, the Session was closed with prayer.

---

EIGHTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, *half-past Three.*

The Synod was again constituted.

The minutes of last sederunt were read and sustained.

The Synod again took up the case from Knox's Church, Toronto, when Mr. Fraser, appellant, proceeded to read a paper on the part of the appellants.

Thereafter Mr. Gillespie addressed the Synod; communicating many interesting facts with reference to the progress of the state of the Presbyterian Church of England, and of its missionary efforts.

It was then moved by Mr. Fraser, and seconded by Dr. Burns, and unanimously agreed to,

That the Synod having heard the address of Alexander Gillespie, Esq., of London, an honoured Elder of the Presbyterian Church in England, return hearty thanks to Mr. Gillespie for his address; and request him to convey to the Synod of the English Presbyterian Church, the fraternal greetings of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, assuring them of the deep interest felt by this Synod in their progress and success at home and abroad.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Widows' Fund.

The report was given in and read by Mr. Reid.

It was moved and seconded, and unanimously agreed,

That the report be received and adopted; that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Committee for their diligence; that the Committee be reappointed; and that instructions to Presbyteries be renewed to keep before the various congregations of the Church the duty of increased liberality, with the view of supporting and augmenting the Fund; and that the advice of an Actuary, in regard to the position and prospects of the Fund, be taken in the course of the ensuing year.

The Committee was appointed as follows, namely, Dr. Burns, Professor Young, Messrs. Smellie, Scott, Boyd, Irvine, D Fraser, and R. F. Burns, ministers; Messrs. Fisher, Osborne, Buchanan, Elmslie, Walker, M'Lellan, Davidson, Blain, Ferrier, M'Murich, Shaw, Spreull, Morgan, C. S. Patterson, Hay, Redpath, D. Davidson, Court, Gibb, Dr. Dixon and Hon. J. M'Donald. John Fisher, Esq., Hamilton, Convener.

The Synod then adjourned to meet on Monday at 10 o'clock, A. M. and the Diet was closed with prayer.

## NINTH SESSION.

MONDAY, 18th June, Ten o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The minutes of last Sederunt were read and approved.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the case from Knox's Church.

The Moderator, with permission of the House, left the Chair, which was taken by Mr. Boyd.

The papers having been all read, the Synod proceeded to hear parties.

Dr. Burns was then heard for himself; Mr. James Shaw for the Session; Mr. Laing for the Presbytery of Toronto.

The hour of adjournment having come, the Session was closed with prayer.

## TENTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, 18th June, half-past Three, P. M.

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Presbytery of Toronto applied to the Synod for leave to take on public probationary trials, Mr. Alexander McLean, and Mr. John Milloy, students of Divinity.

The Synod having heard the certificates of the Professor of Divinity in favor of these young men, the Synod granted leave to the Presbytery of Toronto, or to any other Presbytery within whose bounds they may be labouring, to take them on trial for license.

The Synod took up a petition from the Presbytery of London, praying the Synod to grant them permission to induct the Rev. Mr. Bethune, lately from Prince Edward Island, into a pastoral charge, if they shall see cause, before the expiry of twelve months.

The Synod unanimously agreed to grant the prayer of the petition.

The Synod then took up an overture from the Presbytery of Toronto on the subject of Manses.

The Synod having considered the overture, agreed to sustain it and in terms of it instructed Presbyteries to correspond with the

various Congregations for their ministerial action in the present matter.

The Synod formerly of Inc. in the United S. Church.

The Synod Toronto, leaving memorial.

The Synod the Church, Toronto

Mr. Laing had tery parties were by Rev. W. B.

That the Synod in this case, sustain the commend the Minister spirit of mutual forbearance.

It was moved

That the Synod v Messrs Pyper and Co in consequence of this case, appears to visit that congregation greater harmony, and seem fit.

The roll was called first motion, and

The first motion

Parties were re

The Synod adjourned was closed with prayer

The Synod again

The minutes of last

The Synod then

committee, on Union with

The report was a

various Congregations under their care, that have as yet no manse for their ministers, urging on them the propriety of taking prompt action in the premises, and to report at next Synod their progress in the matter.

The Synod then took up a memorial from the Rev. D. Clarke, formerly of Indian Lands, and who had been lately for a short time in the United States, praying to be recognized as a minister of this Church.

The Synod agreed to remit the matter to the Presbytery of Toronto, leaving it to them to dispose finally of Mr. Clark's memorial.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the case from Knox's Church, Toronto.

Mr. Laing having finished his pleading on behalf of the Presbytery parties were removed; after mature discussion, it was moved by Rev. W. B. Clark, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having heard the papers read, and the pleadings at the bar, in this case, sustain the finding of the Presbytery, dismiss the appeal, and commend the Ministers and members of Knox's Congregation to cultivate a spirit of mutual forbearance and love.

It was moved by Rev. W. Gregg, and duly seconded,

That the Synod waive the merits of the appeal, find nothing proven against Messrs Pyper and Campbell, to disqualify them for the office of Eldership, but in consequence of the painful state of things which, from the evidence elicited in this case, appears to exist in Knox's Church, Toronto, appoint commissioners to visit that congregation, confer with parties with a view to bring about a state of greater harmony, and tender to them such counsel as in the circumstances may seem fit.

The roll was called and votes marked, when 40 voted for the first motion, and 12 for the second.

The first motion was declared to be carried.

Parties were recalled, and the finding of Synod intimated.

The Synod adjourned until half-past seven, P. M., and the diet was closed with prayer.

---

#### ELEVENTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, *half-past Seven, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and constituted.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the Report of the Committee, on Union with the United Presbyterian Church.

The report was accordingly read.

It was resolved to take up, in connexion with this Report, various Petitions which had been forwarded from Congregations in favour of Union. These were also read.

The Synod then proceeded to discuss the question.

The hour of adjournment having come, it was agreed to adjourn the discussion until tomorrow afternoon.

The diet was then closed with prayer.

~~~~~

TWELFTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, 19th June, half-past Nine, A. M.

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The Minutes of last session were read and approved.

The Synod took up a reference from the Presbytery of Toronto, in regard to the Rev. A. C. Geikie, who had applied to the Presbytery to be received as a Minister of the Church. The Synod sustained the reference and agreed to sanction the employment of Mr. Geikie in the missionary service of the Church until he shall formally be received as a minister.

The Synod called for the report of the College Building Committee, and also of the Committee appointed to draft a Deed for the holding of College property. Reports were given in and read.

It was Moved by Dr. Burns, and duly seconded,

That the proceedings at the special meeting in November last, regarding the College, be approved generally, and that the Committee be re-appointed with instructions to obtain a trust deed on the principle of the model deed for congregations; approve of the method proposed in the minute of the date referred to for the election of Trustees; limit the anticipatory disruption clause to the Ministers and Elders of the whole Church at the time, and the Committee is instructed on obtaining such a deed to proceed forthwith to receive donations and subscriptions to the extent of at least £10,000, and to obtain suitable plans and estimates, the result to be submitted to next Synod, or if the Committee choose, to a meeting to be especially called.

It was moved by Mr. Archibald Young, and duly seconded,

That the College building proposed to be erected in connexion with the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, shall be vested in Trustees, chosen by the respective congregations, according to the resolutions passed at the *pro renata* meeting of Synod, only that those shall be held elected, who have the greatest number of votes, to be held for the Synod, holding the principles recognised in the standards of this Church.

It was moved by Mr. McLaren, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having taken into consideration the subject of Deeding the College property, declare in favour of a deed which secures the property to the principles of our church as at present defined in the Standards of this body, the property to be held by Trustees, elected annually by the Synod.

It was agreed against each other the motion made

The first motion, were the McLaren's motion

Mr. McLaren accordance with ing them to obtain passed, and, on motions and subscriptions the result to be choose, to a meeting

The following Dr. Burns, Dr. W. McLeod, Lowry; S. Spreull, G. Br. Fisher, Hamilton stock; Messrs. Cl. Mr. Young, Port. Messrs. Hay and K. Redpath, Court and Hossack, Quebec ville; Messrs. M. Aleekhill; Mr. C. Kemp, Norwood; and Stewart, King McPherson, Embell, Prescott, with Murrich, Toronto,

The Synod then Preparation of a B. Smellie, Convener of the Synod to Mr. S. Book of Discipline; submitted, and to re Diet of Synod. T. Gregg, and Mr. D. Closed with prayer

The Synod again The Minutes of last

Report, various
negations in favour

tion.

agreed to adjourn

past Nine, A. M.

proved.

tery of Toronto,
ied to the Presby-
ch. The Synod
he employment of
rch until he shall

ge Building Com-
raft a Deed for the
n in and read.

d,
er last, regarding the
be re-appointed with
odel deed for congre-
f the date referred to
on clause to the Minis-
committee is instructed
onations and subscrip-
itable plans and esti-
Committee choose, to

uly seconded,
nexion with the Synod
Trustees, chosen by
s passed at the *pro re*
lected, who have the
g the principles recog-

onded,

subject of Deeding the
es the property to the
dards of this body, the
Synod.

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD AT MONTREAL, 1855.

17

It was agreed that the last two motions should be put to the House against each other, which having been done, a majority supported the motion made by Mr. McLaren.

The first motion, viz: that made by Dr. Burns, and Mr. McLaren's motion, were then put to the House, when 39 voted for Mr. McLaren's motion, and 20 for Dr. Burns' motion.

Mr. McLaren's motion was then declared to be carried, and in accordance with it, the Synod re-appointed the Committee, instructing them to obtain a Deed in accordance with the motion now passed, and, on obtaining such a deed, to proceed to receive donations and subscriptions, and to obtain suitable plans and estimates, the result to be submitted to next Synod, or if the Committee choose, to a meeting to be especially called.

The following form the Committee on College Buildings, viz: Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Professor Young, Rev. Messrs. Irvine, Clark, McLeod, Lowry; Messrs. McMurrich, James Shaw, John Shaw, S. Spreull, G. Brown, Toronto; Messrs. Buchanan, Stewart, and Fisher, Hamilton; Mr. Christie, Niagara; Mr. A. Smith, Woodstock; Messrs. Clark and Begg, London; Mr. McKellar, Chatham; Mr. Young, Port Sarnia; Messrs. Morgan and Jeffrey, Cobourg; Messrs. Hay and Kennedy, Ottawa; Mr. Toshach, Ramsay; Messrs. Redpath, Court and Murray, Montreal; Messrs. Gibb, Ross, and Hossack, Quebec; Mr. Ferrier, Fergus; Mr. J. Paterson, Streetsville; Messrs. Miller, Cook and Lutz, Galt; Mr. Stewart, Van-aleekhill; Mr. Cattanaeh, Lochiel; Mr. Short Otonabee; Mr. Kemp, Norwood; Mr. J. Hall, Peterborough; Messrs. J. Miller and Stewart, Kingston; Hon. J. McDonald, Gananoque; Mr. McPherson, Embro; Sheriff Sherwood, Brockville; Mr. Campbell, Prescott, with power to add to their number. Mr. J. McMurrich, Toronto, Convener.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on the Preparation of a Book of Discipline, which was given in by Mr. Smellie, Convener of the Committee. On motion made, and seconded, it was resolved to receive the Report; express the thanks of the Synod to Mr. Smellie for his diligence in the preparation of a Book of Discipline; and appoint a committee to consider the draft submitted, and to report with regard to the printing of it to a future Diet of Synod. The Committee to consist of Prof. Young, Mr. Gregg, and Mr. D. Fraser,—Mr. Gregg, Convener.

Closed with prayer.

THIRTEENTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, half-past Three, P. M.

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The Minutes of last Session were read and sustained.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

Resolved—That in the appointment of Trustees for holding the College property, according to the motion passed at last sederunt, the second resolution adopted at the special meeting in November last be retained, to the extent that each congregation shall elect an individual, being a member of the Church, and transmit the name of such person to the Clerk of Synod, on or before the 1st June, and that from the individuals thus chosen by the congregation the Synod shall appoint Trustees.

The Synod then took up a joint memorial from the Presbyteries of Brockville and Ottawa, praying for the Union of these two Presbyteries into one. The Synod unanimously agreed to grant the application of the Presbyteries, and to sanction the Union of these two Presbyteries into one, under the designation of the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa. The Synod further appointed the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa to meet at Ottawa on the last Tuesday of July, at 7 o'clock, P. M., Mr. R. Boyd to be Moderator at the first meeting.

The Synod resumed consideration of the subject of Union with the United Presbyterian Church. The following motions were laid on the table:—

It was moved by Mr. John Ross, and duly seconded,

That the Synod believing that it is its duty to welcome a friendly conference with brethren holding forth to us the right hand of fellowship, and at one with us regarding the grand truths of the Gospel, and the order of the house of God, although differing from us on other points which we deem of importance as belonging to the constitution of this Church, and believing farther that such conference would tend to remove mutual misapprehensions, and to promote that harmony of sentiment and affection which might in due time lead to a lasting union, appoint a Committee to confer with any Committee appointed, or that may be appointed by our brethren of the United Presbyterian Church, on the subject of Union.

It was moved by Mr. Laing, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having heard the report of the Committee on Union, with the United Presbyterian Church, and petitions on the same subject, express their deep regret that owing to a misunderstanding of the deliverance of the Synod last year, the Committees of the two bodies were prevented from meeting and thus understanding more perfectly the position of each; and, being extremely desirous to come to a more thorough understanding of that position, declare it as their conviction, that the principal, if not the only hindrance to Union is, that this Synod consider it the imperative duty of officers and magistrates in their public and representative capacity, to legislate and rule in subjection to the authority, and in accordance with the dictates of revelation, where these are known,—yet appoint a Committee to confer with that Church, if they agree to such conference, and in the mean time tender to them their fraternal regards, and recommend friendly intercourse and interchange of good offices between the ministers and office bearers of the two communions.

It was moved by Dr. Burns, and seconded,—

That the Synod deeply regret the circumstances which have hitherto kept asunder two bodies so nearly at one on great principles, as the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and the United Presbyterian Church; and the members of this Synod cannot but cherish just alarm, lest errors of a dangerous character, regarding the nature of Christ's supremacy over the nations, and the responsibility of nations, as such, for the manner in which they deal with the written revelation of God, have made serious inroads among the Ministers and Mem-

bers of that Church draw up, and print copies as held in the the accredited organ committee shall hold who may harmonise that this Committee sentation the doctri in the belief and pra

The vote being put against each The first and second for the first, and which was accord

The Committee Dr. Burns, Messrs Ministers; and Elders; Mr. Ure

The Synod again The Minutes of The Committee Presbytery of Hamilton Ministers from Foreign The Synod susta tion, which is as fo

1. That in all cases way of "orderly transla as pointed out in the a 1847, but with private be recognised but with

2. That in the case by the ecclesiastical b ment in connexion w testimonials shall be ta

3. That these testim of Presbytery, occurri period of their presenta

4. That unless the applicant shall be emp case being brought be shall be competent for t

Th Synod then c eign Missions. Th venger.

bers of that Church in these lands. The Synod appoint a Select Committee to draw up, and print in the *Record*, a short and well digested declaration of principles as held in the standards of the Church, in opposition to those avowed through the accredited organs of the United Presbyterian Church, and the same Committee shall hold conference, when desired, with the brethren of other churches who may harmonise in sentiment with us on such vital matters, and farther, that this Committee be required, from time to time, to vindicate from misrepresentation the doctrine really held by this Church in its accredited standards, and in the belief and practice of its members.

The vote being called for, the second and third motions were put against each other, when the second carried by a majority. The first and second having been then put to the House, 22 voted for the first, and 38 for the second, viz. that moved by Mr. Laing, which was accordingly declared to be carried.

The Committee was appointed as follows,—viz.: the Moderator, Dr. Burns, Messrs. Ure, Laing, Ross, McLaren, Inglis and Duncan, Ministers; and Messrs. Heron, Young, and Fisher, of Hamilton, Elders; Mr. Ure, Convener. Closed with prayer.

~~~~~  
FOURTEENTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, 19th June, 1855, half-past Seven, P. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The Minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Committee appointed to consider the Overture from the Presbytery of Hamilton, with reference to the employment of Ministers from Foreign Churches, gave in their Report.

The Synod sustained the Report, and adopted its recommendation, which is as follows:—

1. That in all cases, when applicants for admission do not come to us, in the way of "orderly translation, or express designation as Ministers or Missionaries," as pointed out in the amended Act for the admission of Ministers of Synod of 1847, but with private Certificates only, no connexion with this Church shall be recognised but with the express sanction of the Synod.
2. That in the case of Ministers provided with testimonials regularly granted by the ecclesiastical body with which they are connected, applying for employment in connexion with this Church, previous to a meeting of Synod, these testimonials shall be tabled at an ordinary meeting of Presbytery.
3. That these testimonials must lie on the table till the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery, occurring at an interval of not less than two months from the period of their presentation.
4. That unless the Presbytery at this second meeting be unanimous, no such applicant shall be employed in connection with this Church, previous to his case being brought before the Synod; but that, in the event of unanimity, it shall be competent for the Presbytery to avail themselves of his services.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions. The Report was given in by Mr. Fraser, Convener.

The Synod, on motion made and seconded,

*Resolved*—That the same be received, and the thanks of the Synod given to the Convener and Committee; that the Synod express their regret that the Committee have been unable to secure Missionaries to go out to the foreign field; that the Committee be reappointed, with instructions to keep the claims of Foreign Missions before the members of the Synod, through the pages of the *Record*. The Synod further authorized the Committee to employ one or more of those Missionaries already in the field of India, who may be found suitable, until such time as they can obtain men from Canada, who may be found suitable and willing to undertake the work.

The Committee on Foreign Missions was appointed as follows, viz: The Moderator, Dr. Burns, Dr. Bayne, Professor Young, Messrs. Reid, Clark, Inglis, McRuar, D. Fraser, Duncan, and Scott, Ministers; Messrs. Redpath, Court, Hay, Rowan, Hossack, and Cattanaich, Elders. Mr. Fraser, Convener.

The Rev. Mr. Tanner afterwards addressed the Synod on the progress, position, and claims of the French Canadian Missionary Society.

The following motion was adopted, viz:—

That the thanks of the Synod be given to Mr. Tanner, and that we assure him of the deep sympathy and interest felt by this Synod, in the work in which the Society which he represents is engaged, and of the unfeigned joy and gratitude to God, felt by the Synod, for the measure of success which has already crowned its labours. The Synod farther agreed that a collection, as usual, be taken up in all the congregations of the Church, in aid of the funds of this Society.

The Committee appointed to examine the Public Accounts of the Church, gave in a Report.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Report be received.

The Committee on the Statistical Returns gave in a Report:

On motion made and seconded it was agreed

That the Report be received, and the Synod record its thanks to the Convener, Rev. S. C. Fraser, for the excellent tables which he has so carefully prepared. The Synod ordered the Report to be printed in the columns of the *Record*, empower the Synod Clerk to correspond with Ministers who have neglected to forward Returns, and enjoin Presbyteries to see to the preparation of Reports for the future, by all the congregations within their bounds.

The Synod then took up an Overture, on the subject of the Support of the Ministry, brought in by the Elders attending the meeting of Synod. The Synod sustained the Overture, and renewed the recommendation of last year in regard to the increase of the stipends of Ministers in a rate commensurate with the greatly enhanced cost of living. The Synod also recommended all congregations to make arrangements for defraying the travelling expenses of their Ministers and ruling Elders, when attending the meeting of Synod.

The Synod then adjourned, to meet to-morrow at half-past nine o'clock, a. m.; and the Diet was closed with prayer.

The Synod  
The Minutes  
The Commi  
Presbyteries,  
were sustained

The Synod  
lishment of a  
The followin  
That the Synod  
teries to take im  
bounds, and appoi  
Board of Publicati  
Convener; Dr. B  
Gregg, and War  
Shaw, and Cattana

The Committe  
The Synod su  
as follows, viz:  
isters; and Dr.  
Gregg, Convener

In accordance  
same Committee  
periodical suitab  
a series of lesson  
the Edinburgh S

The Committe  
examine the man  
Committee, of v  
port to the follow

The Committee a  
lie, beg to Report to  
the manuscript; rec  
and that the Synod,  
eral approval, as a w  
and members of the  
requirements of the  
Tract or Manual of  
business in general, t  
of January next, tha  
next Synod.

The Report wa  
Clerk of Synod w  
Mr. Gregg, Conve  
A Verbal Rep  
Record Committe

The same was  
lows, viz: The M  
Mr. Irvine, Dr. B

## FIFTEENTH SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 20th June, 1855, half-past Nine, A. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The Minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Committees appointed to revise the Records of the several Presbyteries, and the Synod Records, gave in their Reports, which were sustained, and the Records ordered to be attested accordingly.

The Synod then took up an Overture on the subject of the establishment of a Board of Publication and Colportage.

The following motion was agreed to, viz:—

That the Synod cordially approve of the object, earnestly recommend Presbyteries to take immediate steps to establish a system of Colportage within their bounds, and appoint the following Committee, to mature a scheme for a general Board of Publication and Colportage, to report to next Synod, viz: Mr. Inglis, Convener; Dr. Burns, Messrs. Irvine, John Alexander, Laing, Scott, King, Gregg, and Wardrope, Ministers; and Messrs. McLellan, Begg, Mitchell, Shaw, and Cattanach, Elders.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools gave in a Report.

The Synod sustained the Report, and reappointed the Committee as follows, viz: Messrs. Gregg, Nisbet, Laing, and Chambers, Ministers; and Dr. Holden, Mr. Court, and Mr. A. Fraser, Elders. Mr. Gregg, Convener.

In accordance with an Overture presented to the Synod, the same Committee were appointed to take steps for publishing a periodical suitable for Sabbath School teachers and scholars, with a series of lessons for each Sabbath, on the plan of those issued by the Edinburgh Sabbath School Society.

The Committee, which had been appointed at a previous Diet, to examine the manuscript of the Book of Discipline, prepared by the Committee, of which Mr. Smellie was Convener, gave in a Report to the following effect:—

The Committee appointed to examine the manuscript presented by Mr. Smellie, beg to Report to the Synod that the Convener of the Committee has perused the manuscript; recommend that the work should be published by the author, and that the Synod, while not responsible for its contents, should give it a general approval, as a work calculated to be very useful to ministers, office-bearers, and members of the Church. But inasmuch as this work does not meet the requirements of the Synod, that a small Committee be appointed to prepare a Tract or Manual of Discipline, for the guidance of Church Courts, and of Church business in general, to be printed and sent down to Presbyteries before the first of January next, that the Presbyteries may carefully revise it, and Report to next Synod.

The Report was received, and Mr. Gregg, the Moderator, and Clerk of Synod was appointed a Committee in terms of the Report. Mr. Gregg, Convener.

A Verbal Report was given in behalf of the Agency and Record Committee.

The same was received, and the Committee appointed as follows, viz: The Moderator, Mr. Ure, Dr. Bayne, Professor Young, Mr. Irvine, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Mr. Wightman, and Mr. Laing,

Ministers ; and Messrs. Shaw, McMurrick, McLellan, Fisher, and Court, Elders. Dr. Burns, Convener.

The Synod took up an Overture on the subject of the enlargement or more frequent publication of the *Missionary and Ecclesiastical Record*.

The Synod referred the Overture to the Agency and Record Committee, recommending the subject of it to their careful consideration.

The Synod then took up an Overture from the Presbytery of Cobourg, on the introduction of instrumental music into the public worship of God.

It was moved by Mr. Fraser, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having heard the Overture from the Presbytery of Cobourg declare that the introduction of instrumental music in public worship is not approved or permitted by this Church, and enjoin all Presbyteries to take order that no such innovation be introduced in any of the congregations within their bounds ; but to take steps, so far as practicable, to encourage and cultivate the harmonious exercise of vocal praise.

It was also moved by Mr. H. Gordon, and duly seconded,

That having heard the Overture, and it having come to the knowledge of the Synod that instrumental music of a kind contrary to the practice of this Church, has been introduced into the congregation of Brockville, the Synod, without entering on the general question of the use of instrumental music, but with special reference to the long practice and present feelings of the congregations of this Church, associated with the dearest and most hallowed associations, are of opinion that the tendency of such an innovation as has begun, would be to disturb the peace and harmony of this Church ; earnestly and affectionately recommend to the minister, Session, and Congregation of Brockville, to abstain from anything that would wound the Christian feelings of their fellow Christians connected with this Church—remit to the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa to deal with the subject in accordance with this deliverance, and recommend to all Presbyteries, Sessions, and Congregations, to discountenance any changes connected with the worship of this Church, before submitting them to the deliberate consideration of the Church, in the regular constitutional manner pointed out by the laws and practice of this Church.

It was also moved by Mr. Cheyne, and seconded,

That the Synod having heard the Overture from the Presbytery of Cobourg, regret to find that instrumental music has been introduced into the worship of God in a congregation of this Church, record its strong disapprobation of this innovation, and would reprobate the use of instrumental music in the worship of God, refer the matter to the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa, to deal with the congregation as it may judge fit, so as to bring about a discontinuance of this innovation.

The second and third motions were put to the House, against each other, when the second carried.

A vote was afterwards taken on the first and second motions, when 34 voted for the first, and 4 for the second.

The first motion, viz—that by Mr. Fraser—was accordingly declared to be carried.

The Synod adjourned, to meet at half-past Three, p. m. ; and the Diet was closed with prayer.

The Synod a

The Minutes

An Overture  
the lumberers of  
Presbytery of I

The Report o  
Marriages, and

The Report v  
lows: The Mod  
and Reid, Minis  
The Moderator,

The Report o  
in and read.

its recommendat  
Rev. R. F. Burn  
Reid, Gregg, Lo  
Stewart, Redpat  
F. Burns, Moder

The Committe  
Synod agreed to  
condemnation of  
nally secularized  
system have been

An Overture,  
ance, were taken  
ing, it was agree  
every competent  
ing drinks. Fur  
Legislature for th

An Overture o  
German populati  
some measure, th  
proved. The S  
Hamilton, in the  
something for the  
population.

An Overture or  
for Prayer, for th  
mittee on the Stat

Various papers

## SIXTEENTH SESSION.

THE SAME DAY, *half-past Three, P. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The Minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

An Overture on the employment of Missionary Labour among the lumberers on the Ottawa, was taken up, and referred to the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa for consideration and action.

The Report of the Committee anent the Registration of Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, was given in.

The Report was received, and the Committee reappointed as follows: The Moderator, Dr. Burns, Professor Young, Messrs. Irvine, and Reid, Ministers; and Messrs. Shaw and McMurrich, Elders. The Moderator, Convener.

The Report of the Committee on Sabbath Observance was given in and read. The Synod agreed to sustain the Report, adopt its recommendations, and reappoint the Committee as follows, viz: Rev. R. F. Burns, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Mr. Gordon, Messrs. Reid, Gregg, Lowry, Irvine, and Inglis, Ministers; and Messrs. Stewart, Redpath, Robertson, and McMurrich, Elders. Rev. R. F. Burns, Moderator.

The Committee on the Clergy Reserves gave in a Report. The Synod agreed to receive the Report, and to express their strong condemnation of the Act by which the Reserves have been nominally secularized, while all the evils flowing from the previous system have been perpetuated and confirmed.

An Overture, and various papers, on the subject of Intemperance, were taken up and considered by the Synod. After reasoning, it was agreed to recommend Ministers to give prominence, in every competent way, to the evils arising from the use of intoxicating drinks. Further, the Synod resolved again to petition the Legislature for the enactment of a Prohibitory Law.

An Overture on the subject of Spiritual Destitution among the German population, and the importance of seeking to supply, in some measure, this destitution, was considered, and generally approved. The Synod referred the subject to the Presbytery of Hamilton, in the earnest hope that they may be able to devise something for the spiritual benefit of this interesting class of the population.

An Overture on the importance of setting apart a special season for Prayer, for the revival of religion, was referred to the Committee on the State of Religion.

Various papers, with reference to the American Tract Society,

were brought before the Synod. The Synod agreed to refer them to the Board of Publication and Colportage.

An Overture on the subject of the publication of a Tract or Treatise on the Eldership, was brought before the Synod. Mr. Court was heard in favour of the Overture. The Synod agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Colportage and Publication.

An Overture on the establishment of Congregational Libraries was taken up. The Synod approved the subject, and referred it to the Committee on Publication and Colportage.

An Overture on the subject of the desirableness of obtaining Theological Works, on reasonable terms, for Ministers' libraries, was brought in by the Elders attending the Synod. The following were appointed a Committee to give their attention to the matter, and take such steps as they may deem best for carrying out the object of the Overture, viz: Messrs. Court, Redpath, Rowan, with Rev. Messrs. Fraser and Inglis. Mr. Court, Convener.

The Synod appointed the four Quarterly Collections to be taken up in the usual order, viz:—

1. For French Canadian Missionary Society, on third Sabbath of July.
2. For Buxton Mission and Synod Fund, on third Sabbath of October.
3. For Foreign Missions, on third Sabbath of January.
4. For Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, on third Sabbath of April.

The Synod also ordered the contributions for the College to be taken up and remitted, in the course of the months of January and February.

The Synod, before closing, resolved to record their thanks to the Office-bearers of Cote Street Church, for the comfortable accommodation provided for the meetings of the Court, and also to the friends in Montreal, for the hospitality so kindly extended to the Ministers and Elders during the present Session.

The business of the Court having been concluded, the Moderator addressed the Synod, and announced that the next ordinary meeting of Synod would be held in London, and within St. Andrew's Church there, on the second Wednesday of June, 1856, at Seven o'clock, p. m.

After prayer, and the singing of the 126th Psalm, the Synod was closed with the benediction.

## PRESBYTERY

of Settlement and  
ters during

## INDUC

John McTavish,  
lish, in Scotland,  
al charge of the u  
h and Eldon, on th

## DEMISSE

Rev. James Boyd, a  
ed from the pastoral  
gations in Markha  
er, 1854.

Same date—Rev. Jo  
the pastoral charge o  
in Brock and Reac  
of his health, and th

On the 24th Janua  
chlan, on account of  
ealth, resigned the p  
ggregations, namely,  
gation at Acton.

## THOS. WIG

er, 1855.

## PRESBYTERY OF

## ense:

John Anderson, st  
eacher, on 2nd Augu  
inations:

Hugh Campbell, pro  
minister at Cornwall,  
John Anderson, pro  
minister at Lancaster  
11th October, 1854.

Robert McArthur, p  
minister at Durham,  
Louis de Gonzague, on 2  
John Milne, proba  
minister at English Riv  
er, 1854.

## ulations:

Duncan Cameron, t  
eekhill to Lochiel, wi  
ducted there, on 19th  
David Inglis, transla  
reet Church, Montrea  
Hamilton, on 26 h  
ew to his induction a  
reet Church, Hamilto

D. FRASE

, 1855.

eed to refer them

on of a Tract or  
the Synod. Mr.  
the Synod agreed  
and Publication.

ational Libraries  
and referred it to

ness of obtaining  
ministers' libraries,  
od. The follow-  
ention to the mat-  
for carrying out  
Redpath, Rowan,  
Convener.

ctions to be taken

on third Sabbath

third Sabbath of

January.

on third Sabbath

the College to be  
s of January and

their thanks to the  
portable accommo-  
also to the friends  
d to the Ministers

ed, the Moderator  
xt ordinary meet-  
in St. Andrew's  
e, 1856, at Seven

m, the Synod was

## APPENDIX.

### PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

*of Settlement and Resignation of Ministers during past year.*

#### INDUCTION.

Mr. John McTavish, late of the Free Church, Edinburgh, in Scotland, was inducted into the pastoral charge of the united congregations of Markham and Eldon, on the 27th July, 1854.

#### DEMISSIONS.

Rev. James Boyd, at his own request, was removed from the pastoral charge of the united congregations in Markham, on the 29th of November, 1854.

Same date—Rev. John Mitchell was loosed from the pastoral charge of the united congregations in Brock and Reach, on account of the decline of his health, and the extent of his field of labor.

On the 24th January, 1855, Rev. John Mitchell, on account of the delicate state of his health, resigned the pastoral care of one of the congregations, namely, Boston, retaining the charge at Acton.

THOS. WIGHTMAN, *Pres. Clerk.*

### PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

#### Inductions:

Mr. John Anderson, student, licensed as a preacher, on 2nd August, 1854.

#### Probationers:

Mr. Hugh Campbell, probationer, ordained as minister at Cornwall, on 20th Sept., 1854.

Mr. John Anderson, probationer, ordained as minister at Lancaster and Dalhousie Mills, on 11th October, 1854.

Mr. Robert McArthur, probationer, ordained as minister at Durham, (Ormsdown,) and St. Louis de Gonzague, on 29th November, 1854.

Mr. John Milne, probationer, ordained as minister at English River, on 30th November, 1854.

#### Translations:

Mr. Duncan Cameron, translated from Vancouver to Locheil, within the bounds, and inducted there, on 19th December, 1854.

Mr. David Inglis, translated from St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal, to the Presbytery of Hamilton, on 26th April, 1855, with a view to his induction as pastor of McNab Street Church, Hamilton.

D. FRASER, *Presby. Clerk.*

### PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

Since the meeting of Synod, in 1854, this Presbytery have to Report—

*First.* The following Students were licensed to preach the Gospel:—

1. On the 8th August, 1854, Mr. Thomas S. Chambers.

2. On the 11th October, 1854, Mr. David Wardrope.

3. On the same day, Mr. John Rennie.

*Second.* The following Probationers were ordained:—

1. On the 25th April, 1855, Mr. James Pirie was ordained over the congregation at Niagara.

2. On the 6th June, 1855, Mr. John McKay was ordained over the congregation at Wellesley.

*Third.* The following Ministers were inducted:—

1. On the 13th September, 1855, the Rev. John Alexander, formerly of Niagara, was inducted to the charge at Brantford.

2. On the 27th September, 1854, the Rev. Duncan McRuar, formerly of Blenheim and Paris, was inducted to the charge at Ayr.

3. On the 9th May, 1855, the Rev. David Inglis, formerly of St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal, was inducted to the charge of the Second or McNab Street Church, Hamilton.

4. On the 23rd May, 1855, the Rev. Alexr. McLean, formerly of Wellington Square and Waterdown, was inducted to the charge of the united congregations of Cumminville and Nairn Church.

5. On the 24th May, 1855, the Rev. Andrew Stevens, formerly of the Free Church Bonhill, Scotland, was inducted to the charge of the congregation at Paris.

*Fourth.* The Presbytery have to record with sorrow the decease, since the last meeting of Synod, of the Rev. Robert Lindsay, late of Ayr.

M. Y. STARK, *Pres. Clerk.*

### PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.

The Presbytery of Perth have to Report that during the past Synodical year two settlements have taken place, viz: 1st, at Dalhousie, where Mr. J. Geggie, formerly of Spencerville, has been inducted; 2nd, at Bristol, where Mr. D. Wardrope was ordained as pastor of that congregation.

S. C. FRASER, *Pres. Clerk.*

## PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

Licenses, Ordinations, &c., that have taken place within the bounds of the Presbytery of London, during the year, 1854-55, viz:—

## INDUCTIONS.

One case. the Rev. David Walker, late of Kirkwall, Scotland, was inducted over the congregation of Port Sarnia, on the 14th day of February, 1855.

## ORDINATIONS.

Two cases. The Rev. William Doak, probationer, from the Free Church of Scotland, was ordained over the Congregation of Port Stanley, on the 14th day of February, 1855; and the Rev. James H. McNaughton, probationer, from the Free Church of Scotland, was ordained over the congregation of Saugeen, on the 23rd day of February, 1855.

## LICENSES.

One case. Mr. James Ferguson, student of divinity, of Knox's College, was licensed to preach the Gospel on the 11th day of May, 1855. No depositions or deaths.

JOHN SCOTT, *Pres. Clerk.*

## PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

## DEMISSION.

Since last meeting of Synod, the Rev. D. M. McAleese, demitted the pastoral charge of Norwood, and was released by the Presbytery.

## ORDINATIONS.

1. Since last meeting of Synod, the Rev. W. Blain has been ordained as pastor of the congregation of North Cavan.

2. On the 15th May, 1855, the Rev. James Bowie was ordained and inducted into the pastoral charge of Norwood.

J. W. SMITH, *Pres. Clerk.*

## PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

The Presbytery of Kingston have to Report that, on the 23rd May, they ordained Mr. Thos. Chambers to the pastoral charge of the congregation of Picton.

W. GRÉGG, *Pres. Clerk.*

## PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

The Presbytery of Brockville have to Report that, since last meeting of Synod, Mr. Geggie has been loosed from the pastoral charge of the congregation of Spencerville.

J. McMURRAY, *Pres. Clerk.*

## REPORT OF THE COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

I. In presenting their Annual Report to Synod, the College Committee would advert with thankfulness to the continued prosperity of the educational institute. The number of students attending last session was 43; of whom 20 were in the theological department, 20 were theological students, and 7 were receiving instruction from Mr. Smith, to prepare themselves for entering on the curriculum.

II. From the resolution adopted three months ago, to continue in the literary classes whose admission to the Divinity Hall it was thought might be advantageously postponed, a number of candidates for license, at the expiration of this session, is less than it would otherwise have been. The Committee expect, however, that a correspondingly greater number will be in attendance next year for the public service of the Church. Meanwhile three labourers are about to go to the work, as soon as the Presbyteries have been satisfied of their qualifications. It will prove an accession in one of the most important of the Church's departments, all of whom are possessing the Gaelic language; and being admitted to minister to the Highland emigrants and their families.

III. An account of the studies with which the young men in the different classes have been engaged during last session, has been drawn up by the Professors and Mr. Smith, and is inserted in the *Ecclesiastical Record* for May last. It has been prepared and published, partly for the satisfaction of the Synod, and partly to guide Presbyteries in the examination of students.

IV. The Committee have been instructed to prepare, and to lay before the Synod, a curriculum which it could recommend for the Synod's adoption, beg respectfully to submit the following:—

*Preliminary Class.*—For those who, on examination, are not found qualified to enter upon the course properly so called. The course includes: Rhetoric and Mathematics; English Grammar; Elements of Civil History; Elements of Latin and Greek.

*Non-Theological Course.*

1. First year—Classics; Mathematics; English Composition.
2. Second year—Classics; Junior Philosophy (Logic and Metaphysics); Physical Science (Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, or Mineralogy); History and English Literature (Junior Department.)
3. Third year—Senior Philosophy, (Metaphysics and Ethics); Junior Hebrew; Physical Science, (Geology); History and Literature (Senior Department.)

logical Course.  
 first year—Evidences  
 of Religion; Se  
 cretory; Exposition  
 second year—Systema  
 tory; Hermeneutic  
 pastoral Theology.  
 third year—Systemati  
 cs and Biblical Cr  
 ology.  
 principal difference  
 admitted, and that w  
 ed, is, that students i  
 gical course are, acc  
 ed, required to atten  
 by Professor Young  
 of Scripture. In thi  
 early of the Old T  
 ed by the students  
 ly expounded by t  
 opinion of the Com  
 with, but, on the  
 preparation for th  
 study of hermen  
 in, under Dr. Willis,  
 theological course.  
 ed, not as the bes  
 ed, but as the best whic  
 a present circumsta  
 ro professors. Tho  
 that the appointment  
 practicable, of a third  
 of Biblical Criticism an  
 in the teaching of th  
 also be committed, w  
 a. When the Church  
 such an appointment  
 curriculum now sub  
 will probably suggest  
 has principally ren  
 in Knox's College  
 at the great majority  
 come up to Toronto to  
 ble to profit by the Lat  
 present conducted in  
 committee are happy t  
 y have good hopes of  
 fected, as will render  
 College suitable for th  
 of this Church. And  
 andone to secure so in  
 stated that a small C  
 specially to attend to th  
 to confer, in name of t  
 of the University, the C  
 nals who have it in th  
 object desired by th  
 of this object being acc  
 necessary for the Synod

## THE COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

... the Annual Report to the Committee would advertise the continued prosperity of the college. The number of students in session was 43; of whom 20 were in the Divinity department, and 7 were receiving instruction from Mr. Smith, to prepare them for the ministry.

The resolution adopted three years ago in the literary classes, to remove the Divinity Hall into the Divinity Hall, has been advantageously postponed for license, at the expense of more than it would otherwise have cost. The Committee expect, however, that a larger number will be in session in the public service of the Church, and labourers are about to go forth from the Presbyterian churches of their qualifications. The session in one of the most important departments, all of which are in the English language, and being attended by Highland emigrants and

of the studies with which the different classes have been provided, has been drawn up by Mr. Smith, and is inserted in the *Record* for May last. It is intended, partly for the satisfaction of the students, and partly to guide the Presbytery in their appointments.

The Committee have been instructed by the Synod, to recommend for the Session to submit the following

... ss.—For those who, are not found qualified to be properly so called. Mathematics; English Grammar; Civil History; Elements of Logic.

*Course.*  
Mathematics; Elements of

... classics; Junior Philosophy (Metaphysics); Physical Science (Astronomy, Chemistry, or Meteorology, and English Literature.)

... Junior Philosophy, (Metaphysics); Junior Hebrew; Physical Science; History and Literature.)

*ological Course.*

... year—Evidences of Natural and Revealed Religion; Senior Hebrew; Church History; Exposition of Scripture.

... year—Systematic Theology; Church History; Hermeneutics and Biblical History; Pastoral Theology.

... year—Systematic Theology; Hermeneutics and Biblical Criticism; Pastoral Theology.

The principal difference between the curriculum submitted, and that which has hitherto been pursued, is, that students in the first year of their theological course are, according to the scheme proposed, required to attend a class, to be conducted by Professor Young, for the critical exposition of Scripture. In this class, select portions, chiefly of the Old Testament Scriptures, are to be expounded by the Professor. This, in the opinion of the Committee, will not interfere with, but, on the contrary, be an excellent preparation for the formal and systematic study of hermeneutics and Biblical Criticism, under Dr. Willis, in the two last years of the theological course. The curriculum is proposed, not as the best that could be devised under the present circumstances, with a staff of only two professors. The Committee are of opinion that the appointment, when that shall be practicable, of a third professor, to fill the vacant places in Biblical Criticism and Hermeneutics, and to assist in the teaching of the Hebrew language, would be of great advantage. When the Church is in circumstances to make such an appointment, other modifications of the curriculum now submitted by the Committee will probably suggest themselves as desirable.

... has principally rendered the services of the Session in Knox's College indispensable, is the fact that the great majority of the young men who come up to Toronto to study for the ministry are unable to profit by the Latin and Greek classes now present conducted in University College. The Committee are happy to be able to report that they have good hopes of such an alteration being effected, as will render the classes in University College suitable for the generality of the students of this Church. And that nothing may be done to secure so important a result, it is suggested that a small Committee be nominated, especially to attend to this matter, with authority to confer, in name of the Synod, with the authorities of the University, the Government, or any other persons who have it in their power to promote the object desired by the Synod. In the event of this object being accomplished, it may be necessary for the Synod to retain the ser-

vices of a tutor in Knox's College beyond next session.

VI. As some irregularity has been found to prevail throughout the Church, in the matter of the examination of students, the Committee would respectfully call the attention of the Synod to the subject, and request this Court to make such regulations, and give such directions, as in its wisdom it may see fit, to remedy the defects which exist, and to secure the thorough, regular, and efficient examination of the students of the Church, both prior to their entering upon their studies in Knox's College, and at the different stages of their course.

VII. The Committee beg to urge upon the Synod the importance of taking decided steps towards the erection of College buildings. This matter having been committed into the hands of a special Committee, your Committee would not have adverted to it, had it not been well known that nothing practical had been effected during the past year. The necessity for College buildings becomes every year more and more urgent; and it is hoped that the Synod will not pass by without such an expression of the mind of the Committee, as will secure the most vigorous action during the ensuing year.

VIII. In conclusion, it is recommended that the College Committee, now to be appointed by the Synod, should contain one member, who might, even when it was impossible for him to attend the meetings of the Committee, still to give the Committee the benefit of his opinion, and convey also the sentiments of his co-presbyters, by correspondence, who might take it specially in charge to keep alive an interest in the College, within the bounds of the Presbytery to which he belonged, and to urge upon the Presbytery from time to time the consideration of such measures, and the adoption of such courses of action, as should seem best fitted in any way to strengthen the foundations, and to increase the efficiency of the great central institution of our Church.

## REPORT OF WIDOWS' FUND COMMITTEE,

For year ending 31st May, 1855.

Your Committee are glad to report to the Synod that the Fund is, on the whole, in a prosperous condition, although not in a position to justify any relaxation of the efforts of the friends of the Church in aid of this most important object.

The following is a statement of the receipts and expenditure for the past year, and also of the present position of the Fund:—

**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND, OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MAY, 1855.**

RECEIPTS.

|                                                        |              |          |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Congregational Collections reported up to date..... | £302         | 10       | 1½        |
| 2. Annual rates paid by Ministers, and fines.....      | 153          | 0        | 0         |
| 3. Donations.....                                      | 1            | 11       | 3         |
| 4. Interest.....                                       | 155          | 10       | 9½        |
| 5. Principal invested, repaid.....                     | 95           | 0        | 6         |
| 6. Bal. on hand at beginning of year                   | 439          | 14       | 4½        |
| <b>Total receipts for year .....</b>                   | <b>£1147</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>0½</b> |

EXPENDITURE.

|                                                                                      |             |          |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Annuities—2, £30 each; 1, £35; 2, £37 10s. each; 1, half-yearly payment, £15..... | £185        | 0        | 0         |
| 2. Proportion of Agent's salary.....                                                 | 50          | 6        | 0         |
| 3. Postage, discount on drafts.....                                                  | 2           | 19       | 6         |
| 4. Invested in purchase of debentures                                                | 666         | 0        | 0½        |
| 5. Minister's rate repaid with inter.                                                | 2           | 3        | 9         |
| 6. Blank Book for Ledger, Stationery, and incidental expenses.....                   | 2           | 0        | 0         |
| Balance in hand.....                                                                 | 239         | 3        | 9         |
| <b>Total .....</b>                                                                   | <b>1147</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>0½</b> |

**STATE OF THE MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND, OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, 31ST MAY, 1855.**

|                                                                                               |              |           |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| 1. Number of Annuitants—4, having annuities of £30 each; 2, having annuities of £37 10s. each |              |           |          |
| <b>Total charge at present for annuities</b>                                                  | <b>£195</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b> |
| 2. Number of Ministers at present contributing.                                               |              |           |          |
| Presbytery of Toronto.....                                                                    | 16           |           |          |
| "    Cobourg.....                                                                             | 6            |           |          |
| "    Kingston.....                                                                            | 6            |           |          |
| "    Brockville.....                                                                          | 4            |           |          |
| "    Perth.....                                                                               | 9            |           |          |
| Presbytery of Montreal .....                                                                  | 13           |           |          |
| "    London.....                                                                              | 16           |           |          |
| "    Hamilton.....                                                                            | 11           |           |          |
|                                                                                               | <b>81</b>    |           |          |
| 3. Amount invested in debentures bearing interest at 6 per cent.                              |              |           |          |
| Debentures of County of Waterloo.....                                                         | £1019        | 0         | 0        |
| Do.    Town of Sarnia                                                                         | 500          | 0         | 0        |
| Do.    Township of Dereham.                                                                   | 1939         | 17        | 0        |
| Do.    County of Middlesex...                                                                 | 600          | 0         | 0        |
|                                                                                               | <b>£4058</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>0</b> |
| 4. Money in hand for investment                                                               | 239          | 3         | 9        |

During the past year one annuitant has upon the fund, making now six in all.

The Committee rejoice to observe that many ministers of the Church contribute to the fund. There are, however, several who are not contributors. The Committee deeply regret as they regard it as a duty which ministers not only to themselves and to those dependent upon them, but also to their congregations, to put themselves in a position to enable them to give to it to benefit by this fund.

The Committee also earnestly recommend that measures should yet be taken for drawing out the interest and zeal of such congregations which have not contributed in an adequate measure to this most important fund. The Committee suggest that the Synod should recommend to the consideration of Presbyteries.

The Committee, while thankful for the efforts which has attended the efforts made to raise the fund, are decidedly of opinion that it would be unsafe to lay aside the annual congregational collections until the vested capital shall have accumulated very considerably above the present amount.

In name, and by appointment of Committee,  
*W. REID, Sec'y and Treasurer*

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.**

In presenting this Report, the Committee have to state, with regret, that the Statistics have to state, with regret, that the papers submitted to them, although more complete than those of last year, are nevertheless from being satisfactory. Some of the reports are most full and accurate; others are very meagre and incomplete. The Presbyterial Report; for instance, has rendered no Report; and only one Congregation has another matter which Report—that of Prescott—has reached the Committee. The Synod will perceive, therefore, only an approximation to a full Report expected from the Committee.

The Committee would, in the first place, draw the attention of Synod to the Congregational Report; nor is it necessary to have disregarded this part of duty. As expressed that some definite action may be taken by the Synod in this matter, to insure the future greater regularity. If no notice be taken of these irregularities, it is useless to expect Reports, or to appoint a Committee to correct them.

Those who have neglected to make returns are the following:—In the Presbytery of Montreal....3—Quebec, Osnabrock, Lingwood, Ottawa.....0. Brockville..3—All, except Prescott. Kingston....0. Cobourg....0.

...1.—King and V...  
 ...4.—Fergus, Gu...  
 ...1.—Ingersoll.

...12 Congregation...  
 ...justice to state, in...  
 ...books of the Cong...  
 ...by fire.

...will be seen that since...  
 ...have been recei...  
 ...Congregations.)

**MEMBERSHIP AND PASTOR**

...returns handed in to...  
 ...as far as they exte...  
 ...of the Church in po...  
 ...pleasing to record, ...  
 ...that out of 104 minis...  
 ...visit their flocks. The...  
 ...within the bounds preach...  
 ...day, and that most...  
 ...ing the week, combin...  
 ...already mentioned,  
 ...and the world a fav...  
 ...bers of our Synod.

**LIBRARIES—MA**

...with much pleasure ...  
 ...fact that Congregati...  
 ...nsively formed thro...

...School Libraries, ...  
 ...volumes are found ...  
 ...; and it is hoped tha...  
 ...plete than those of last year, are nevertheless from being satisfactory. Some of the reports are most full and accurate; others are very meagre and incomplete. The Presbyterial Report; for instance, has rendered no Report; and only one Congregation has another matter which Report—that of Prescott—has reached the Committee. The Synod will perceive, therefore, only an approximation to a full Report expected from the Committee.

The Committee would, in the first place, draw the attention of Synod to the Congregational Report; nor is it necessary to have disregarded this part of duty. As expressed that some definite action may be taken by the Synod in this matter, to insure the future greater regularity. If no notice be taken of these irregularities, it is useless to expect Reports, or to appoint a Committee to correct them.

Those who have neglected to make returns are the following:—In the Presbytery of Montreal....3—Quebec, Osnabrock, Lingwood, Ottawa.....0. Brockville..3—All, except Prescott. Kingston....0. Cobourg....0.

...following tabular state...  
 ...the state of the Chur...  
 ...already just referred to

year one annuitant has  
king now six in all.  
e rejoice to observe t  
the Church contribute  
however, several who a  
e Committee deeply reg  
as a duty which minist  
elves and to those dep  
also to their congregati  
a position to enable the  
nefit by this fund.  
also earnestly recomme  
ret be taken for drawing  
real of such congregati  
ed in an adequate mea  
ortant fund. The Com  
ynod should recommen  
eration of Presbyteries.  
, while thankful for the  
d the efforts made to ra  
y of opinion that it wo  
the annual congregatio  
vested capital shall hav  
derably above the presen  
appointment of Comm  
REID, Sec'y and Treas

- ...1.—King and Vaughan.
- ...4—Fergus, Guelph, Paris, Naasaga-  
...1—Ingersoll. ]weya.

al, 12 Congregations not reported.  
at justice to state, in reference to Guelph,  
books of the Congregation have been  
ed by fire.

ll be seen that since the meeting of Syn-  
ms have been received from several of  
e Congregations.)

MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL VISITATIONS.

returns handed in to the Committee are  
as far as they extend, in exhibiting the  
of the Church in point of membership;  
pleasing to record, and to report to the  
that out of 104 ministers, only *two* are said  
visit their flocks. The fact that all the min-  
within the bounds preach at least twice every  
day, and that most have appointments  
ing the week, combined with the circum-  
already mentioned, will present to the  
and the world a favourable view of the  
members of our Synod.

LIBRARIES—MANSES.

with much pleasure that the Committee  
fact that Congregational Libraries are  
ensively formed throughout the bounds.  
School Libraries, containing several  
volumes are found connected with our  
; and it is hoped that such will continue  
eace. At the same time the Commit-  
d most earnestly submit to the Synod  
it would not be desirable to make an  
eclaration in favour of Congregational

is another matter which also has much  
the Committee, that, namely, of Man-  
Glebes. It is not necessary to state to  
d how much the possession of a Manse  
e may contribute to supplement a small  
d otherwise conduce to the comforts of  
; nor is it necessary to say that there  
facilities in a young country, like Can-  
equiring at least a glebe. The Synod  
dy anticipated the recommendation of  
mittee in this matter, in the deliverance  
has given.

Following tabular statement will give, at  
the state of the Church, as regards the  
already just referred to:—

| PREBYTERIES.    | No. of Ministers. | No. of Members. | Increase of Mem-<br>bers, 1855. | No. of Congrns<br>and Stations. | No. of Vols. in<br>Cong. Libraries. | Manses and Glebes | Value of Manses,<br>&c. | Value of Churches. |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Montreal.....   | 16                | 1,644           | 177                             | 5                               | 824                                 | 5                 | £1,308                  | £9,620             |
| Ottawa.....     | 11                | 1,494           | 107                             | 4                               | 700                                 | 5                 | 1,325                   | 2,750              |
| Brockville..... | 4                 | 150             | 19                              | ..                              | ..                                  | ..                | ..                      | 1,400              |
| Kingston.....   | 7                 | 595             | 84                              | 2                               | 220                                 | ..                | ..                      | 6,350              |
| Coburg.....     | 10                | 1,778           | 143                             | 1                               | 25                                  | 3                 | 2,325                   | 3,570              |
| Toronto.....    | 20                | 1,858           | 209                             | 6                               | 1,967                               | 3                 | 700                     | 10,675             |
| Hamilton.....   | 16                | 1,530           | 115                             | 3                               | 730                                 | 2                 | 250                     | 7,650              |
| London.....     | 20                | 2,142           | 205                             | 4                               | 570                                 | 7                 | 5,034                   | 7,790              |
| Total.....      | 104               | 11,191          | 1,509                           | 25                              | 5,036                               | 25                | 10,942                  | 49,805             |

The material property belonging to the Church,  
according to the above statement, is between  
£60,000 and £70,000.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Committee will now proceed to give a  
synopsis of the condition of the Church in a  
financial point of view. They are not able, and  
they regret this, to institute a comparison between  
the present and the past year. The data fur-  
nished to them apply exclusively to the current  
year; and some of the Congregations that eli-  
cited special remarks last year, are not reported  
at all this year. Still it is the impression of the  
Committee that a forward movement has been  
made.

MINISTERS' STIPENDS.

There is, upon the whole, an improvement in  
the amounts paid to ministers, but the Committee  
cannot say to what extent. It is evident that  
the recommendation of last Synod has not been  
come up to; nay, there are still *seven* ministers in  
receipt of less than £100. They are the follow-  
ing:—

- Presbytery of Montreal, 4—Metis, £80; Leeds,  
£80; English River, £95; St.  
Therese, £46.
- Do.....do.....Ottawa, 1—Pembroke, £87.
- Do.....do..... Brockville—No Report.

COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.

is Report, the Commit-  
state, with regret, th  
o them, although more  
last year, are neverthe  
ctory. Some of the  
accurate; others are  
incomplete. The Pre  
stance, has rendered  
and only *one* Congreg  
escott—has reached the  
nod will perceive, the  
tion to a full Report  
Committee.  
would, in the first pla  
nod to the Congregati  
his part of duty. A  
e definite action may b  
his matter, to insure  
arity. If no notice b  
ties, it is useless to  
oint a Committee to  
neglected to makè re  
the Presbytery of  
ebec, Osnabrock, Ling  
except Prescott.

Do.....do.....Kingston, 0.  
 Do.....do.....Cobourg, 0.  
 Do.....do.....Toronto, 0.  
 Do.....do.....Hamilton, 2—Saltfleet, £85; Owen's Sound, £78.

The lowest on the list is St. Therese, £46. The lowest last year was Osnabruck, with something like £30. There is no Report this year from that Congregation, and the Committee cannot say whether any or what improvement has taken place.

In looking over the column devoted to stipend, the Committee have ascertained the following items of interest:—

|                         |    |            |
|-------------------------|----|------------|
| — and under £100.....   | 7  | ministers. |
| £100 and under 150..... | 50 | "          |
| 150 and under 200.....  | 13 | "          |
| 200 and under 300.....  | 6  | "          |
| 300 and under 400.....  | 2  | "          |
| 400.....                | 2  | "          |

It thus appears that at least two-thirds of the ministers receive less than £150 each per annum; and also that one receives the small pittance of £46, and others the sum of £400 each.

KNOX'S COLLEGE.

Very few of our Congregations have failed this year to contribute to the funds of our educational institute, still the amount is not such as the friends of the College would desire. The following have not contributed:—

Presbytery of Montreal, 6—Lachute, St. Therese, Indian Lands, St. Eustache, Cornwall, Durham.  
 Do.....do.....Ottawa, 1—Wakefield.  
 Do.....do.....Brockville—No Report.  
 Do.....do.....Kingston, 2—Chalmer's Church, Kingston, Demorestville.  
 Do.....do.....Cobourg, 2—Baltimore, Cartwright.  
 Do.....do.....Toronto, 0.  
 Do.....do.....Hamilton, 1—Niagara.  
 Do.....do.....London, 3—Amherstburg, Saugeen, Buxton.

Total non-contributors to Knox's College, 13.

FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The following Congregations have not taken up the Synodical Collection for this most excellent institution. It has more claims on us, as the Presbyterian Church of Canada, than perhaps any other benevolent association can have. It appeals to our patriotism, as well as to our Christianity.

There are only eight who have failed. They are the following:—

Presbytery of Montreal, 4—Metis, Lachute, Lancaster, English River.  
 Do.....do.....Ottawa, 0.  
 Do.....do.....Brockville—No Report.  
 Do.....do.....Cobourg, 0.

Do.....do.....Kingston, 1—Brock Street  
 Do.....do.....Toronto, 0. [Kin  
 Do.....do.....Hamilton, 1—Niagara.  
 Do.....do.....London, 2—Chatham, Sa

FOREIGN AND JEWISH MISSIONS.

The contributions for this scheme have very generally taken up, and, it would with considerable success. The following congregations, however, have not sent in their contributions to this interesting object:—

Presbytery of  
 Montreal....2—Metis, Durham.  
 Ottawa.....0.  
 Brockville...—No Report.  
 Kingston....2—Brock Street Church, Kingston, Demorestville.  
 Cobourg....2—S. Cavan, Otonabee.  
 Toronto....2—Chinguacousy, Streetsville.  
 Hamilton....0.  
 London.....3—N. Easthope, Sarnia, Saugeen.

Total, 11 Congregations.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

This scheme, the Committee believe, is dear to the Church, and it is gratifying to find that, upon the whole, the collections in it have been very generally taken up. All the congregations in the Presbyteries of Ottawa and Kingston have contributed, and in the other Presbyteries only eleven have failed to do so.

Presbytery of Montreal, 2—Metis, English River, Buxton.  
 Do.....do.....Toronto, 4—Chinguacousy Mills, Acton, Barrie.  
 Do.....do.....Hamilton, 1—Wellington Street.  
 Do.....do.....London, 1—Aldborough.

PRESBYTERY'S HOME MISSION FUND.

In the different Presbyteries considerable have been raised for local missionary work is a pleasing fact that some Presbyteries of Ottawa and London for instance—have taken down a systematic plan for meeting the needs, besides contributing to the support of missionaries,—with the exception of the Presbyteries of Cobourg and Hamilton, from which no contributions are yet expected, from which collections could reasonably have been looked for to have contributed to this fund.

BURSARIES.

This column can be dismissed in a few words. Only four Congregations within the bounds reported as having contributed. They are—Knox's Church, Hamilton; St. Gabriel's Church, Montreal; and Ramsay.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

|                  |       |    |    |
|------------------|-------|----|----|
| Miscellaneous    | £     | s. | d. |
|                  | 1,097 | 10 | 0  |
| Churches         | £     | s. | d. |
|                  | 1,027 | 2  | 4  |
| Mrs. P.          | £     | s. | d. |
|                  | 85    | 11 | 11 |
| Widows & Orphans | £     | s. | d. |
|                  | 44    | 5  | 0  |
| French M.        | £     | s. | d. |
|                  | 106   | 13 | 5  |
| Buxton           | £     | s. | d. |
|                  | 30    | 5  | 0  |
| French M. & C.   | £     | s. | d. |
|                  | 154   | 7  | 1  |
| College          | £     | s. | d. |
|                  | 840   | 1  | 7½ |
| Stipends         | £     | s. | d. |
|                  | 1,861 | 0  | 0  |
|                  | 1,215 | 11 | 2  |
| Presbytery       | £     | s. | d. |
| Montreal         | 1,750 | 0  | 0  |
| Ottawa           | 1,215 | 11 | 2  |
| Brockville       | 0     | 0  | 0  |

FINANCIAL STATEMENT—1855.

|                           | £      | s. | d. |
|---------------------------|--------|----|----|
| Montreal.                 | 1,861  | 0  | 0  |
| Ottawa.....               | 1,215  | 11 | 2  |
| Brockville.               | 150    | 0  | 0  |
| Kingston..                | 830    | 8  | 4  |
| Cobourg...                | 1,521  | 0  | 0  |
| Toronto...                | 1,936  | 2  | 6  |
| Hamilton...               | 2,009  | 1  | 6  |
| London...                 | 1,945  | 10 | 0  |
| Total...                  | 11,469 | 13 | 6  |
| Stipends                  | £      | s. | d. |
| Colleges                  | 840    | 1  | 7½ |
| French Missionary Society | 154    | 7  | 1  |
| Buxton Fund               | 30     | 5  | 0  |
| French Missionary Society | 106    | 13 | 1  |
| Widows' Pensions          | 44     | 5  | 0  |
| Presbytery's              | 85     | 11 | 1½ |
| Churches                  | 1,027  | 2  | 4  |
| Miscellaneous             | 1,097  | 10 | 0  |
| Total                     | 4,198  | 15 | 9½ |

The Committee have thus gone over the tables and matters submitted to them, and called the attention of Synod to what they conceived to be worthy of observation. They submit, in a tabular form, the Church's financial condition; and they feel that they may congratulate the Synod on the respectable appearance which our Presbyteries make.

Hamilton is the Presbytery that raises the largest amount of money, and Cote Street Church, Montreal, the Congregation. In the latter case, the sum is £1,435 5s. 8d.

The Committee feel that they are safe in calculating that the Congregations not reported, raise in the way of stipend at least £1,000. Let the amount thus raised—say £12,500—be equally divided among the 104 ministers, and the share of each would be a fraction over £120.

In conclusion, the Committee cannot close their Report without adverting to the short history of our separate organization as a Church. Eleven years since, the ministers of the Free Presbyterian Church of Canada amounted to 22; now they number 104, with a membership of 1,200 souls, raising yearly, for sustenance and missionary purposes, £25,000, and possessed of property estimated moderately at £60,000. The Lord hath done great things for us, and it becometh us to be glad.

All which is respectfully submitted.

S. C. FRASER, *Convener.*

FORMULA TO BE SIGNED BY MINISTERS, ELDERS, DEACONS, AND PROBATIONERS.

I, —, do hereby declare that I do sincerely own and believe the whole doctrine contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith, as approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the year one thousand six hundred and forty-seven, to be the truths of God, and I do own the purity of worship presently authorised and practised in this Church, and also the Presbyterian Government and Discipline thereof: which Doctrine, Worship and Church Government I am persuaded are founded on the Word of God and are agreeable thereto; and I promise that, through the grace of God, I shall firmly and constantly adhere to the same, and to the utmost of my power shall in my station assert, maintain, and defend the said Doctrine, Worship, Discipline, and Government of this Church, by Sessions, Presbyteries, and Synods; that I shall, in my practice, conform myself to the said Worship, and submit to the said Discipline and Government, and never endeavour, directly or indirectly, the prejudice or subversion of the same; and I promise that I shall follow no divisive course from the present order in the Church; renouncing



# INDEX.

|                                                                                                                  | PAGE       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Agency Committee.....                                                                                            | 21         |
| Appeal from sentence of Presbytery of Toronto in matter of Election of<br>Elders in Knox's Church, Toronto ..... | 13, 14, 15 |
| Bethune, Rev. Mr.....                                                                                            | 14         |
| Book of Discipline.....                                                                                          | 17, 21     |
| Board of Publication and Colportage, Overture anent .....                                                        | 21         |
| Brockville, Presbytery of, united with Ottawa.....                                                               | 18         |
| Clergy Reserves, Report on.....                                                                                  | 23         |
| Clark, Rev. Daniel .....                                                                                         | 15         |
| Employment of Probationers, Overture anent.....                                                                  | 9, 19      |
| Foreign Missions, Committee.....                                                                                 | 19, 20     |
| Gillespie, Alexander, Esq., requested to sit with Synod.....                                                     | 6          |
| “ “ presents £100 for Home Missions .....                                                                        | 11         |
| “ “ addresses the Synod .....                                                                                    | 13         |
| Geikie, Rev. A. C.....                                                                                           | 16         |
| German Population, Overture anent.....                                                                           | 23         |
| Gordon, Rev. Henry, receives thanks for Sermon .....                                                             | 6          |
| Home Mission Committee's Report given in.....                                                                    | 10, 11     |
| Instrumental Music, Overture anent .....                                                                         | 22         |
| Intemperance, Resolution anent .....                                                                             | 23         |
| Knox's College, Report of Committee .....                                                                        | 25         |
| “ “ Deliverance of Synod .....                                                                                   | 12         |
| “ Deeding of Property .....                                                                                      | 16, 17     |
| “ Building Committee .....                                                                                       | 17         |
| Lowry, Rev. Thomas, elected Moderator.....                                                                       | 6          |
| Manses, Overture anent .....                                                                                     | 15         |
| Moderator appointed.....                                                                                         | 6          |
| Ottawa, Presbytery of, united with Brockville.....                                                               | 18         |
| Perth Presbytery, designation changed into Presbytery of Ottawa.....                                             | 9          |
| Presbyterial Reports .....                                                                                       | 25         |
| Registration of Marriages, &c., Committee regarding .....                                                        | 23         |
| Sabbath Observance Committee.....                                                                                | 23         |
| Sabbath Schools, Committee on.....                                                                               | 21         |
| Statistics, Report of Committee on.....                                                                          | 28         |
| Support of Ministry, Overture on.....                                                                            | 20         |
| Synod Roll.....                                                                                                  | 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| State of Religion, Report on, presented.....                                                                     | 8          |
| “ “ Committee on .....                                                                                           | 8          |
| Students, Examination of.....                                                                                    | 9, 10      |
| “ to be taken on trial for License.....                                                                          | 14         |
| Synodical Collections .....                                                                                      | 24         |
| Tanner, Rev. Mr., addresses Synod.....                                                                           | 20         |
| Union with the U. P. Church.....                                                                                 | 15, 18     |
| Widows' Fund, Report on.....                                                                                     | 27         |
| “ “ Committee.....                                                                                               | 13         |