

AN ABSTRACT

OF THE



MINUTES OF SYNOD

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

AT

TORONTO, 1840.



PRINTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CLERK

WILLIAM WILSON

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

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OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA



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AN ABSTRACT

OF THE

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA,

(IN CONNEXION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.)

SESSION X.

HOLDEN AT TORONTO, 2d—7th JULY, 1840.

TORONTO:

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE BRITISH COLONIST,
WELLINGTON BUILDINGS.

1840.

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA

(IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND)

SESSION

HOLDEN AT TORONTO, 21-24 JULY 1890

TORONTO

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE BRITISH COLONIST

WILLIAMSON BUILDINGS

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 - *Hugh Urquhart
 - Alexander M'N
 - John M'Isaac..
 - Daniel Clark..
 - †Robert Lyle..
 - †John Dickey..
 - †Isaac Purkis..
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- MINIST
- *Robert M'Gill.
 - George Cheyno..
 - James Smith. . .
 - *Mark Y. Stark .
 - *Alexander Gale.
 - *Donald M'Kenz

AN ABSTRACT, &c.

SESSION X.

DIET I.

TORONTO, Thursday, July 2, 1840.

After sermon from Ephesians iv. 11, 12, 13, by the Reverend Robert M'Gill, Minister of Niagara, Moderator for the preceding year;—the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, met according to appointment, and was constituted with prayer by the said Rev. Mr. M'Gill. Synod constituted

Attested Rolls of the several Presbyteries were produced by the Clerk of Synod, and the Synod Roll was made up and read as follows. [An asterisk is prefixed to the names of the Members who were present in Synod]: Synod Roll.

PRESBYTERY OF GLENGARRY.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
John M'Kenzie.....	Hon. John M'Gillivray.....	Williamstown.
*Hugh Urquhart.....	*Hon. Mr. Justice M'Lean..	Cornwall.
Alexander M'Naughton.....		Lancaster.
John M'Isaac.....		Lochiel.
Daniel Clark.....		Indian Lands.
†Robert Lyle.....		Finch.
†John Dickey.....		Williamsburgh.
†Isaac Purkis.....		Osnabruck.
		Martintown.
		L'Original.
	The Rev. Alexander N'Naughton, Presbytery Clerk.	

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Robert M'Gill.....	*James Lockhart.....	Niagara.
George Cheyno.....	James Noble.....	Amherstbur.
James Smith.....	James Armstrong.....	Guelph.
*Mark Y. Stark.....	*William Craigie.....	Ancaster and Dundas.
*Alexander Gale.....	*William M'Millan.....	Hamilton.
*Donald M'Kenzie.....		Zo.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON—Continued.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*John Bayne.....	Allan Henderson.....	<i>Galt.</i>
*Angus Muckintosh.....		<i>Thorold.</i>
*Alexander Gardiner.....	John Monro.....	<i>Fergus.</i>
*Daniel Allan.....		<i>Stratford and Woodstock.</i>
*William M'Killican.....	John Russell.....	<i>St. Thomas.</i>
*Duncan M'Millan.....		<i>Williams.</i>
*William Meldrum.....		<i>Pustinch.</i>
†William King.....		<i>Nelson.</i>
†John Bryning.....		<i>Mount Pleasant.</i>
†George M'Clatchey.....		<i>Clinton.</i>
†Daniel W. Eastman.....		<i>Grimsby.</i>
		<i>Aldborough.</i>
The Rev. Alexander Gale, Presbytery Clerk.		

PRESBYTERY OF QUEBEC.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Henry Esson.....	Thomas Blackwood.....	<i>St. Gabriel Street, Montreal.</i>
*Alexander Mathieson, D. D.....		<i>St. Andrew's, do.</i>
John Clugston.....	David Douglas.....	<i>St. John's, Quebec.</i>
Edward Black, D. D.....		<i>St. Paul's, Montreal.</i>
Duncan Moodie.....		<i>Dumdee.</i>
William Mair.....		<i>Chatham and Grenville.</i>
Walter Roach.....	William Hall.....	<i>Beauharnois & Chateauguay.</i>
William M. Walker.....		<i>Huntingdon.</i>
John Taylor.....		<i>Lachine.</i>
James Anderson.....	John Graham.....	<i>Ormestown.</i>
John Cook, D. D.....	John Thomson.....	<i>St. Andrew's, Quebec.</i>
*James C. Muir.....	William Greig.....	<i>Georgetown.</i>
Thomas M'Pherson.....		<i>Beechridge.</i>
David Black.....	James Fenton.....	<i>Laprairie.</i>
John M'Morine.....		<i>Melbourne.</i>
The Rev. Walter Roach, Presbytery Clerk.		

PRESBYTERY OF BATHURST.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
John Cruickshank.....		<i>Bytown.</i>
Thomas C. Wilson.....		<i>St. Andrew's, Perth.</i>
William M'Alister.....		<i>Lanark and Dalhousie.</i>
*John Smith.....		<i>Beckwith.</i>
*John Fairbairn.....	Andrew Toshach.....	<i>Ramsay.</i>
*George Romanes.....		<i>St. Francis.</i>
*William Bell.....	John Ferguson.....	<i>Perth.</i>
*Peter C. Campbell.....	James Morris.....	<i>Brockville.</i>
†William Smart.....		<i>Brockville.</i>
†Robert Boyd.....		<i>Prescott.</i>
†John Gemmell.....		<i>Lanark.</i>
†Joseph Anderson.....		<i>South Gower.</i>
The Rev. Thomas C. Wilson, Presbytery Clerk.		

MINISTERS
 John Machar.
 *Henry Gordon.
 Robert M'Dow.
 James Ketchan.
 *Thomas Alex.
 *John M. Roge.
 Archibald Colq.
 *Robert Neill.
 *William Reid.
 †James Rogers.
 †James Dougl.

MINISTERS
 *William Rinto.
 *Andrew Bell.
 *Peter Ferguso.
 *William Ritch.
 *James George.
 *Peter M'Naug.
 *William T. Le.
 *Robert Murray.
 *John Tawse.
 *George Gallo.
 †Thomas John.
 †Samuel Porter.
 †Alexander Lev.

The Synod Moderator for
 Hugh Urquhart
 chosen, and,

The Moderator

The Moderator

On a motion
 dained Miss
 a Minister
 Brunswick,

† The name of
 the second Diet

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD AT TORONTO, 1840.

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
John Machar.....	*Joseph Bruce.....	Kingston.
*Henry Gordon.....	.....	Gananoque.
Robert M'Dowall.....	Isaac Fraser.....	Fredericksburgh.
James Ketchan.....	Herman Ziericks.....	Belleville.
*Thomas Alexander.....	Andrew Milne.....	Cobourg.
*John M. Roger.....	James Hamilton.....	Peterboro' and Cavan.
Archibald Colquhoun.....	Alexander Kidd, Jun.....	Otanabee and Dummer.
*Robert Neill.....	.....	Seymour.
*William Reid.....	.....	Coborne and Grafton.
†James Rogers.....	.....	Demorestville.
†James Douglas.....	.....	Cavan.

The Rev. James Ketchan, Presbytery Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*William Rintoul.....	*John Embleton.....	Streetsville.
*Andrew Bell.....	*George Miller.....	Toronto Township.
*Peter Ferguson.....	David Henderson.....	Esquesing.
*William Ritchie.....	.....	Newmarket.
*James George.....	*William Clark.....	Scarborough.
*Peter M'Naughton.....	Donald Cameron.....	Vaughan.
*William T. Leach.....	*Peter M'Arthur.....	Toronto.
*Robert Murray.....	*James Hopkirk.....	Oakville.
*John Tawse.....	William Tinline.....	King.
*George Galloway.....	.....	Markham.
†Thomas Johnson.....	.....	Chinguacousy.
†Samuel Porter.....	.....	Trafalgar.
†Alexander Lewis.....	.....	Mono.
.....	.....	Caledon.
.....	.....	West Gwillimbury.
.....	.....	Mono.
.....	.....	Nassagaweya.

The Rev. Andrew Bell, Presbytery Clerk.

The Synod proceeded to the Election of a Moderator for the ensuing year, when the Reverend Hugh Urquhart, of Cornwall, was unanimously chosen, and, at the Synod's desire, took the chair. Moderator chosen.

The Minutes of last Session were read. Minutes of last Session read.

The Minutes of Commission were read. Minutes of Commission read.

On a motion—the Rev. Mr. David Rintoul, ordained Missionary; and the Rev. Mr. Simon Fraser, a Minister of the Church of Scotland, from New Brunswick, were invited to take seats in the Synod.

† The names to which this mark is prefixed were added to the Synod Roll during the second Diet of this Session—See Minutes of that day.

Devotional Exercises.

It was agreed that the same order as was followed at last Session, in regard to devotional exercises, be adopted during the present Session—and a Committee was named to arrange these exercises.

Com'tee for bills &c. named.

A Committee for Bills, Overtures, &c., was named.

Documents given in by late Moderator.

The following Documents were given in by the late Moderator, viz. :—I. Answer of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to the Address of Synod at last Session. II. Letter from the Moderator of the General Synod of Ulster, acknowledging receipt of the Act of this Synod, at a former Session, respecting the admission of Ministers and probationers from Ireland, by the Presbyteries of this Synod. III. Letter and Extracts from the United Synod of Upper Canada, respecting union with this Synod. IV. Copy of Suggestions agreed to by Committee of Commission, in regard to the incorporation of the Ministers and Congregations of the United Synod with this Synod. V. Reports from Presbyteries of Glengary, Hamilton, Bathurst, Kingston, and Toronto, respecting said suggestions. VI. Letter from the Rev. Dr. Welsh, of Edinburgh, respecting College, &c. VII. Copy of Act of Provincial Legislature incorporating Trustees of College.—VIII. Letter from Government Office, in reply to a Memorial by the Commission in behalf of unendowed Ministers, with copy of said Memorial. IX. Statement of distribution of General Assembly's Donation of £500 sterling, and of vacant Government allowances, among unendowed Ministers.—These documents, except No. 1, were referred to the Committee for Bills and Overtures, for arrangement, in connexion with the other business that may come before the Synod.

Adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock, A.M.

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DIET II.

TORONTO, *Friday, 3rd July, 1840.*

The Synod met and was constituted.

The Reverend John Fairbairn conducted the devotional exercises. Devotional Exercises.

The Minutes of last Diet were read.

A letter from John Mowat, Esq., Synod Treasurer, was read, tendering the resignation of his office, which, together with the Synod accounts, was referred to a Committee. Committee on Synod accounts named.

Presbytery records were called for and given in, and Committees were named for revising them. Records of Presbyteries called for.

The Clerk reported the state of the records of Synod, stating also the causes which had prevented the publication of a uniform Edition of the whole Minutes of Synod, from its first organization; and recommending a farther postponement of that Publication, which was agreed to. Report of Clerk on Synod Records.

Various reports were called for and given in, viz. ; I. Report by Presbytery of Toronto, on a scheme of ordinary Presbyterial Visitations. II. Report on the Census of Religious Denominations in Upper Canada, as taken last year. III. Report by Presbytery of Hamilton, respecting a more adequate supply of Missionaries from the Parent Church. IV. Report on Synod Library. V. Report on Psalmody. VI. Report on Printing Establishment and Book Depository in connexion with the Synod. VII. Report on Rules for the ordering of business in Synod, and the keeping of Records. Reports called for.

Verbal reports were made by the Conveners of other Committees, and explanations why they had been unable to report fully on the subjects committed to them at last Session.

The reports given in were ordered to be arranged by the Committee for Bills and Overtures.

Report of committee for bills and overtures. Correspondence with other churches.

A report of the Committee for Bills and Overtures was read, and, on the recommendation thereof, the Synod took up the subject of correspondence with other Churches; and had read the Letter from the Moderator of the General Synod of Ulster.

Various letters to be drafted.

After reasoning, the Synod appointed drafts of letters to be prepared, as follows, viz. :

I. Draft of Letter to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland by the Rev. Mr. McGill.

II. Draft of Letter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, by the Rev. Mr. Campbell.

III. Draft of Letter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, by the Rev. Mr. Bayne.

IV. Draft of Letter to the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church in the United States, by the Rev. Mr. George.

The Synod also appointed Mr. McGill to draw up an account of the progress of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, to be transmitted to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, after having been submitted to the Commission of Synod.

Incorporation of United Synod.

The Synod next proceeded to the consideration of the Documents respecting the incorporation with this Synod of the Ministers and Congregations of the United Synod of Upper Canada, and had read,

Documents read.

I. Report of Commission respecting a conference with the Committee of the United Synod, including certain suggestions, mutually agreed upon, for the guidance of Presbyteries in carrying said incorporation into effect in accordance with the resolution of this Synod at last Session. II. Reports of Presbyteries on said suggestions, as submitted for their consideration by the Commission, unanimously expressing approbation of the measure. III. Documents transmitted to this Synod by the United

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To the Rev.
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Synod at their recent Session, holden at Demorestville, viz. ; a Letter, Extract of Minutes and Synod Roll, as follows :

DEMORESTVILLE, June 29th, 1840.

REV. AND DEAR SIR :

You will see by the documents handed to you by Messrs. King, M'Clatchey, and Johnson, that we have again considered the subject of the union, and it is with pleasure we inform you that the resolutions on this subject have passed unanimously.

The formula, which you sent to us some years ago, was read, in order that the subject might be fully understood. No unwillingness was expressed to sign this document, on the ground that it referred to the internal affairs of the Church, and not to patronage. The Deputation will further explain this if necessary.

With regard to the fourth resolution, it is to be understood that it was introduced not with the design to throw any obstacle in the way of the union, but as the Presbyterian Church of Ireland is in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and these Ministers are already admissible into your Synod, we can see no difficulty in the way of its introduction.

We would also further state, that so far as we know, our sessions and congregations will fall in with the measure.

We would further observe, that in the event of the union taking place, and should the Synod of Canada at any future time require the records of the United Synod and Presbyteries, there will be no objection to their being delivered up.

We cannot but think, that the terms now proposed, will be received by your Synod and appreciated in the spirit of mutual and christian love. We do assure you, dear Sir, that we desire this union, from a conviction that it will promote the cause of piety in general, and the extension and establishment of the Presbyterian cause in particular.

We sincerely hope, that if the terms now forwarded, be agreed to, and a union happily formed, it will remove at least some of the barriers in the way to brotherly love, the exercise of christian intercourse, ministerial usefulness, and general co-operation in objects of public utility.

With sentiments of christian esteem, and hoping the Lord will direct and bless all your deliberations and endeavors to promote his glory

We are yours in the bonds of christian love,

(Signed) JOSEPH ANDERSON, *Moderator.*
WILLIAM SMART, *Stated Clerk.*

To the Rev. ROBERT M'GILL,
Moderator of the Synod of Canada.

After mature deliberation on the subject of a union with the Synod of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, the Synod being deeply impressed with the sense of the importance and beneficial effects that would arise from the said union, in promoting the peace and prosperity of the Redeemer's Kingdom in this colony, were unanimous in adopting the following as the basis of a union:—

I. That a certified copy of the Roll of the United Synod be presented to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, exhibiting the order in which the members entered into the Synod.

II. That the Ministers of the United Synod before taking their seat, either in the Synod of Canada, or Presbyteries, will sign the usual formula for ministers of the Church of Scotland.

III. That the Synod of Canada will in no manner interfere with the government allowance, as now and heretofore received by the members of the United Synod, until other arrangements are made by the government for the whole Synod.

IV. That Ministers coming from the Presbyterian church of Ireland, and having received a Collegiate education, and otherwise qualified, will be admissible into said Synod.

V. That after the Roll of the United Synod is added to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, the Synod as thus constituted, will attach the members of the United Synod to their respective Presbyteries.

We hereby certify that the above is a true copy.

(Signed) JOSEPH ANDERSON, *Moderator.*
WILLIAM SMART, *Stated Clerk.*

Demorestville, June 29, 1840.

Roll of the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Upper Canada.

WILLIAM SMART,	<i>Brockville.</i>
ROBERT BOYD,	<i>Prescott.</i>
WILLIAM KING,	<i>Nelson.</i>
JOHN GEMMELL,	<i>Lanark.</i>
ROBERT LYLE,	<i>Finch.</i>
JOHN BRYNING,	<i>Mount Pleasant.</i>
GEORGE M'CLATCHEY,	<i>Clinton.</i>
JAMES ROGERS,	<i>Demorestville.</i>
THOMAS JOHNSON,	<i>Chinguacousy.</i>
JOSEPH ANDERSON,	<i>South Gower.</i>
JAMES DOUGLAS,	<i>Cavan.</i>
JAMES CAIRNS,	<i>No Charge.</i>
JOHN DICKEY,	<i>Williamsburgh.</i>
SAMUEL PORTER,	<i>Trafalgar.</i>
ALEXANDER LEWIS,	<i>Mono.</i>
ISAAC PURKIS,	<i>Osnabrock.</i>
DANIEL W. EASTMAN,	<i>Grimsby.</i>
JAMES M'AULEY,	<i>Probationer.</i>

Signed in the name and behalf of the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Upper Canada, this twenty-ninth day of June, 1840.

(Signed) JOSEPH ANDERSON, *Moderator.*
WILLIAM SMART, *Stated Clerk.*

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Mr. JOHN GE
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Mr. JOHN BR
Mr. GEORGE
Mr. JAMES RO
Mr. THOMAS
Mr. JOSEPH A
Mr. JAMES DO
Mr. JAMES CA
Mr. JOHN DI
Mr. SAMUEL
Mr. ALEXAND
Mr. ISAAC PU
Mr. DANIEL V
Mr. JAMES M

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Committee

It was moved by Mr. Stark and seconded by Mr. Murray, that the Synod, feeling deeply, according to their often repeated declarations, the desirableness and importance of union among Presbyterians, with a view to the interests of Religion, and the Church of God in this Province, rejoice at the spirit which has been manifested by the United Synod, in the documents transmitted by them, and, with reference to former and long continued enquiries by this Synod on the subject, resolve to receive the attested roll of the United Synod, now presented, as evidence of the regular ministerial standing and character of the ministers whose names appear thereon, and to add the said names, as they hereby do, to the roll of this Synod, in terms of the first, second, and fifth of the series of resolutions passed by the United Synod, and now presented to this Synod; and further, to add the said names to the rolls of the respective Presbyteries of this Synod, within whose bounds they severally reside, according to the following arrangement, and enjoin said Presbyteries to receive said ministers respectively upon their signing the usual formula for ministers of the Church of Scotland, viz:—

Mr. WILLIAM SMART, *Brockville*, to the Presbytery of Bathurst.
 Mr. ROBERT BOYD, *Prescott*, to the Presbytery of Bathurst.
 Mr. WILLIAM KING, *Nelson*, to the Presbytery of Hamilton.
 Mr. JOHN GEMMELL, *Lanark*, to the Presbytery of Bathurst.
 Mr. ROBERT LYLE, *Finch*, to the Presbytery of Glengarry.
 Mr. JOHN BRYNING, *Mount Pleasant*, to the Presbytery of Hamilton.
 Mr. GEORGE M'CLATCHEY, *Clinton*, to the Presbytery of Hamilton.
 Mr. JAMES ROGERS, *Demorestville*, to the Presbytery of Kingston.
 Mr. THOMAS JOHNSON, *Chinguacousy*, to the Presbytery of Toronto.
 Mr. JOSEPH ANDERSON, *South Gower*, to the Presbytery of Bathurst.
 Mr. JAMES DOUGLAS, *Cavan*, to the Presbytery of Kingston.
 Mr. JAMES CAIRNS, *no charge*.
 Mr. JOHN DICKEY, *Williamsburgh*, to the Presbytery of Glengarry.
 Mr. SAMUEL PORTER, *Trafalgar*, to the Presbytery of Toronto.
 Mr. ALEXANDER LEWIS, *Mono*, to the Presbytery of Toronto.
 Mr. ISAAC PURKIS, *Osnabruck*, to the Presbytery of Glengarry.
 Mr. DANIEL W. EASTMAN, *Grimsbey*, to the Presbytery of Hamilton.
 Mr. JAMES M'AULEY, *Probationer*.

It was moved in amendment by Dr. Mathieson, seconded by Mr. Alexander, That after the word "resolve," in Mr. Stark's motion, all the rest be struck out, and the following substituted:—That a Committee be appointed by this Synod to confer

with the United Synod, or a Committee of that body, and to report on the evidence that may be laid before them of the Ministerial character of those proposed to be received into Union with this Synod. 2. Of the course of study they have required of their Licentiates. 3. Of their willingness, and that of their Congregations, to acknowledge the Doctrines and Discipline of the Church of Scotland, and submit to the jurisdiction of this Synod; and that, upon a favourable report on these subjects, the Commission of this Synod be instructed to lay the Report of the Committee, along with a deliverance of their own upon the subject, before the Committee of the General Assembly for Colonial Churches, and crave advice as to the manner in which they shall be best able, constitutionally, to effect this contemplated union; and, provided this advice prove favourable to the Union, that the Commission be instructed to carry it into effect.

Vote.

After long reasoning, the vote was taken, first on the Amendment, and the Roll having been called, and the yeas and nays marked, the yeas were three and the nays thirty-five; the Amendment was accordingly declared to be lost. Thereafter, on the Motion, the yeas were thirty-five and the nays three; the Motion was accordingly declared to be carried, and the Synod resolved and enjoined in terms thereof.

Motion carried.

Dissents.

Dr. Mathieson entered his dissent against this deliverance in his own name, and in the name of all who should adhere to him, for reasons then given in, and for other reasons which he may give in, in due time. To this dissent two other Members adhered.

A Committee was named to answer the reasons of dissent given in by Dr. Mathieson.

3rd and 4th resolutions of United Synod, agreed to.

It was then moved, seconded and agreed to, that the third resolution of the series of resolutions passed and now presented by the United Synod to this Synod, be agreed to, and that in regard to the fourth resolution, it be declared that the Ministers of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, having received a collegiate education and otherwise qualified, are already admissible to this Synod in the usual manner.

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It was further moved and agreed, that Presbyteries do meet during the Session of Synod, and appoint a time for meeting within their respective bounds, within two months from this date, and intimate such meeting to the several members respectively added to them, by the foregoing deliverance.

Presbyteries to meet within two months, to receive new members.

It was then agreed, that the Synod recommend that the books of the United Synod, and the several Presbyteries thereof be deposited for the time being, with the Clerk of this Synod, and that this recommendation be communicated to the Rev. Joseph Anderson by the Moderator.

Records of United Synod.

On motion, it was unanimously agreed, that the Synod engage in prayer for the Divine Blessing on the measure now taken; and on the call of the Moderator, the Rev. William Rintoul offered up prayer to that effect.

Prayer for Divine blessing on measure.

Agreed, that the Moderator write a respectful letter to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor intimating the deliverance of the Synod in this matter.

Communication to Lt. Governor.

Agreed also, that an extract of the Minutes of Synod on the subject of the union of the United Synod with this Synod, be printed under the direction of the Clerk of Synod, without delay, and transmitted to all the members now on the Roll.

The thanks of the Synod were given to Mr. McGill for his Sermon at the opening of the Synod, with a request that he would publish the Sermon.

Mr. McGill's Synod Sermon.

Adjourned till half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

Adjournment.

The Synod met at half-past seven o'clock, P. M., and after Sermon by the Rev. William Reid, from 1 Cor. v. 20, proceeded to business.

Sermon by Rev'd Mr. Reid.

The papers connected with the establishment of Queen's College, were called for and read. Agreed that this subject be taken up as the first business to-morrow.

Queen's College.

Adjourned till to-morrow at half-past nine o'clock.

Adjournment.

DIET III.

TORONTO, *Saturday, 4th July, 1840.*

The Synod met and was constituted.

Devotional Exercises.

The Reverend William Bell conducted the devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last Diet were read.

Addresses to Queen, Governor General, Lieutenant Governor.

Committees were named to draft Addresses to Her Majesty the Queen, and to their Excellencies the Governor General and Lieutenant Governor.

Queen's College resumed.

The Synod resumed the consideration of the papers connected with the establishment of Queen's College.

Motion.

It was moved by Mr. McKillican, and seconded by Mr. McMillan, Ruling Elder, that the proceedings of the Commission in regard to the College be approved of, and that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Commission for their exertions in this important undertaking.

Carried.

After long reasoning, the vote was taken on this Motion, and the Roll having been called, and the yeas and nays marked, there were twenty-three yeas and one nay; the Members of Commission declining to vote.

Instructions to Presbyteries respecting collections for college.

It was thereafter moved, seconded and unanimously agreed to, that the Synod approving of the measures for collecting for the University of Queen's College, adopted by the commission at their meeting at Hamilton in October last, enjoin Presbyteries to appoint committees within their several bounds, for making collections for the same object, in all places where collections have not yet been made, as well as those places already visited by Presbyterial deputations, where it may appear necessary; such committees to organize local committees for obtaining subscriptions and collections; and farther instruct Presbyteries to

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report their diligence in this respect from time to time to the commission.

With reference to the communications from the committee of the General Assembly, respecting the curriculum of study to be established in the University, the Synod resolved that it was inexpedient to enter on the consideration of this important matter, until they should have the benefit of the counsel of the Principal about to be appointed by said committee, and appointed the Moderator to communicate this to the convener of the committee, and to intimate at the same time that the Synod will receive with gratitude and deference the advice of the committee, on this and on all other matters connected with the constitution and management of the University, and that it is their determination in no respect to lower the standard of ministerial education.

Consideration of curriculum of study in College deferred.

And Moderator appointed to communicate this to Gen. Ass. Committee.

A draft of a formula to be subscribed by the Literary professors and Trustees of Queen's College and University was then read, amended and adopted, as follows:

Formula for Professors and Trustees of College.

FORMULA FOR THE LITERARY PROFESSORS AND TRUSTEES OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

I ——— do sincerely own and declare the Confession of Faith, agreed upon by the Assembly of Divines at Westminster to be the Confession of my faith; and that I own the doctrine therein contained to be the true doctrine, which I will constantly adhere to: as likewise, that I own and acknowledge Presbyterian Church Government of this church, by Kirk Sessions, Presbyteries, provincial Synods, and General Assemblies, to be the only government of this Church, and that I will submit thereto, concur therewith, and never endeavor, directly or indirectly, the prejudice or subversion thereof.

The Synod agreed that the evening sederunt be set apart for devotional exercises, and appointed the Rev'd Messrs. Stark and Bayne, to conduct the same.

Devotional Exercises.

Adjourned till Monday at half past 9 o'clock, A. M. Adjournment.

DIET IV.

TORONTO, *Monday, 6th July, 1840.*

The Synod met and was constituted.

Devotional Exercises.

The Rev. Duncan McMillan conducted the devotional exercises.

The minutes of last diet were read.

It was ordered that the reports of committees for revising Presbytery records, be given in and considered this evening.

Act anent admission of Ministers and Licentiates of Synod of Ulster, amended.

It was moved, seconded; and after reasoning, unanimously agreed to, that in the act of this Synod Session VIII, Diet II, (See printed minutes for 1838,) relative to the admission of Ministers and Licentiates of the Synod of Ulster into this Synod, the words "Presbyterian Church in Ireland" be substituted for the words "Synod of Ulster."

A report of the committee for bills and overtures was read.

Overtures anent titles of church property, and Registration of Births, &c.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, an overture of the following tenor:—

WHEREAS, there is reason to believe that several of the deeds conveying land to congregations of this church, for building churches and manses, are not correctly drawn, nor recorded in due time, and therefore not good or effectual in law; and whereas it is desirable that all such deeds be drawn as nearly as possible in a uniform manner; it is overtured that blank printed forms of such deeds be issued by authority of the Synod, after being inspected and approved by counsel learned in the law; that a sufficient number of copies of such blanks shall be transmitted to the clerks of the several Presbyteries, and that the trustees of congregations be instructed to apply for such printed forms: also, that a copy of the act of the Provincial Parliament, in accordance with which such deeds must be drawn, be printed along with the blank forms; as also the form of a memorial for registration, and such directions as may seem necessary to prevent mistakes: also, that the Synod recommend to the trustees of churches, in all cases in which they are not quite satisfied of the correctness of their deeds, to have the same inspected by counsel, and if found incorrect or not recorded within the time prescribed by law, to endeavour to procure new deeds and have them recorded without delay.

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As also an overture of the following tenor :—

It is respectfully overtured that the Synod do represent to the Civil Authorities the importance of a general provincial registration of births, marriages, baptisms, and deaths, and urge the speedy adoption of such measures as may effect the establishment of the same.

After reasoning, the Synod referred these overtures to a committee, with instructions to make all necessary inquiries regarding the subjects thereof, and especially to call for the reports of Presbyteries on the draft of a constitution for churches formerly transmitted by the Synod, and to report at next Session. The following members were appointed a committee for these purposes, viz., Mr. McGill, convener, Mr. Gale, Mr. Stark, Mr. Rintoul, Mr. Leach, Mr. George, Mr. Gordon, Dr. Craigie, and Mr. Embleton.

Referred to a committee.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, an overture for the division of the Presbytery of Quebec into two or three presbyteries, as should seem meet.

Overture anent division of Presbytery of Quebec.

The Synod agreed to remit the overture to the Presbytery of Quebec, authorizing them to make a division into two or three Presbyteries as they may see meet, provided that a motion for such division having been made at an ordinary meeting of said Presbytery holden in the City of Montreal, shall lie on the table until next ordinary meeting, to be holden also in the said city, due intimation being given in the meantime by the Presbytery clerk to all the members, of the Presbytery's intention to proceed at such meeting, to the consideration of such motion.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, an overture respecting the practice of unauthorized individuals soliciting contributions from the public for the building of churches, the abuses to which this practice is liable, and the propriety of subjecting it, so far as this church is concerned, to suitable regulations.

Overture anent contributions for church building.

The Synod having considered this overture, enjoined that all ministers and members of the congrega-

Act respecting the same.

tions under their jurisdiction, before proceeding to collect contributions from the public for building churches, shall first have obtained the permission of their respective Presbyteries to that effect, and that accounts of all monies so collected, together with statements of the application of the same, be laid before their respective Presbyteries for their audit, and that attested subscription lists be furnished by Presbyteries, to such applicants as they shall permit to make such contributions.—
The Synod further ordered, that this act be read from the pulpit in all the congregations.

To be read in all congregations.

Report on Synod Library.

The Synod had read the report of the committee for the management of the Synod library, and in connection therewith, a letter from the Rev. John Machar, intimating a donation to the library of fourteen Hebrew Bibles, and fourteen Greek New Testaments, of the best editions, from the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Vote of thanks to B. and F. Bible Society for donation.

A vote of thanks to the British and Foreign Bible Society for this valuable donation, was unanimously agreed to, and Mr. Machar was appointed to communicate the same.

Committee re-appointed.

The Synod approved of the report, re-appointed the committee, recommended to the ministers and members of the church, to make exertions for the enlargement of the Library, and instructed the committee to transfer the Library to Kingston, as soon as the Trustees of Queen's College make suitable arrangements for its reception.

Petition of James Fergusson.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, petition of James Fergusson, of the township of Bathurst, against a sentence of the Kirk Session of St. Andrew's Church Perth.

Referred to Presbytery of Bathurst

The Synod referred the petition of James Fergusson to the Presbytery of Bathurst, with instructions to inquire into the case and proceed therein according to the laws of the church.

Appeal by Mrs. Paton.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures an appeal by Mrs.

Paton against confirming privileges pro Andrew's and no appointed connected

The S committee complaint of Charles M. of Bathurst of St. Andrew Miller from macy.

Partie as complain Mr. Fairbairn been heard

It was Synod disa of Bathurst sanction to Andrew's C ler for cont Session to c ing said act merits of th thurst, with their own b of the Synod enjoin them the Synod f to take up t they find th with the re cipline, in r of the Elde grant the c February, 1 declared, th

Paton against a sentence of the Presbytery of Bathurst, confirming a sentence of suspension from church privileges pronounced against her, by the Session of St. Andrew's Church Perth. Parties having been called and no appearance made for the appellant, the Synod appointed a committee to examine the documents connected with the case and report at next diet.

Referred to a committee.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, a dissent and complaint of the Rev. William Bell, and a petition of Charles Miller, against a sentence of the Presbytery of Bathurst, confirming a sentence of the Kirk Session of St. Andrew's Church Perth, suspending Charles Miller from church privileges on a charge of contumacy.

Dissent and complaint of Rev'd Wm. Bell against suspension of Charles Miller.

Parties being called, appeared Mr. William Bell as complainer, and for the Presbytery of Bathurst, Mr. Fairbairn and Mr. Campbell. Parties having been heard were removed.

Deliverance thereon.

It was moved, seconded and agreed to, that the Synod disapprove of the conduct of the Presbytery of Bathurst, inasmuch as they have given their sanction to an illegal act of the Kirk Session of St. Andrew's Church, Perth, in suspending Charles Miller for contumacy, it not being competent for a Kirk Session to decide in such an offence, and for continuing said act of suspension without inquiring into the merits of the case; remit to the Presbytery of Bathurst, with injunctions to expunge the sentence from their own books, and expressing the disapprobation of the Synod, with the Kirk Session for said act, to enjoin them to expunge it from their books, and that the Synod further instruct the Presbytery of Bathurst, to take up the case on the original grounds, and if they find that Charles Miller has already complied with the requirements of a tender and discreet discipline, in making confession to the minister and one of the Elders, that they enjoin the Kirk Session to grant the certificate he prays for, up to the 10th February, 1835; it being understood, as is hereby declared, that nothing in this deliverance is to be

construed to imply, that any member of the church may lawfully refuse compliance with a citation of any judicatory of the church, when the same has been regularly served.

Report of committee on Psalmody read.

The Synod had read the report of the committee appointed at last Session, to inquire whether any and what additions may be made to the Psalmody in use in this church.

Deliverance thereon.

The report was received, and after reasoning the Synod resolved, that before taking any farther steps in this matter, a respectful application be made to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, to ascertain whether it be the intention of the Assembly to make any addition to the Psalmody, and appointed the Moderator to make enquiry accordingly.

Overture anent conversion of heathen.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, an overture of the following tenor; that the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, do appoint a diet at an early period of their present session, for deliberation and prayer in reference to the condition of the heathen world, and the best means of combining our efforts with those of the parent church, for the extension of the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Diet for prayer, &c. appointed.

The Synod resolved, that a portion of this evening's sederunt be set apart for prayer, for the spread of the Gospel throughout the world, and the success of Missionary enterprise; and for hearing addresses on the subject. Mr. William Rintoul, Mr. John M. Roger, Mr. Peter C. Campbell and Mr. James George, were appointed to conduct these exercises. The Synod agreed, that the subject of this overture be farther considered at next diet.

Adjourned till half past seven o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met at half past seven o'clock, and engaged in the exercises previously arranged. Addresses on the subject of Missions were delivered by Messrs. Roger and Campbell.

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Thereafter the Synod proceeded to business and received an interim report from the committee on the Synod fund. Mr. M'Gill, also reported the division of the donation from the General Assembly, and the vacant government allowances among the undowered ministers, in accordance with the arrangement of the Synod on this subject, at a former Session.

Interim report on Synod fund, and division of Gen. Ass. donation.

The Synod called for the reports of committees appointed to revise the Records of Presbyteries. Reports on the Records of the Presbyteries of Glengary, Hamilton, Quebec, Bathurst, Kingston and Toronto, were given in, read and approved of; and the Clerk was ordered to attest these Records, in terms of the reports respectively.

Reports on records of Presbyteries.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at half past 9 o'clock, A.M.

Adjournment.

DIET V.

TORONTO, Tuesday, 7th July, 1840.

The Synod met and was constituted.

The Rev. James C. Muir conducted the devotional exercises.

Devotional Exercises.

The minutes of last diet were read.

Draft of letter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland was given in, read and approved of, and ordered to be engrossed for the signature of the moderator.

Letter to Presbyterian church in Ireland.

Draft of address to Her Majesty the Queen, was given in, read and approved of, and ordered to be engrossed for the signature of the moderator.—(1)*

Address to Queen

* See Appendix.

Addresses to Governor General and Lieut Governor.

Drafts of addresses to their Excellencies the Governor General and Lieutenant Governor, were given in, read and approved of, and ordered to be engrossed for the signature of the moderator.—(II. and III.)

Letter to General Ass. Ch. of Scotland.

Draft of letter to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, was given in, read and approved of, and ordered to be engrossed for the signature of the moderator. (IV.)

Letter to Gen. Synod Ref. Dutch church and to Gen. Ass. Presbyterian church, U. S.

Draft of Letter to the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church in the United States, as also draft of letter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, (V.) were given in, read and approved of, and ordered to be engrossed for the signature of the moderator.

Report of committee on Mrs. Paton's appeal adopted.

The Synod called for the report of the committee to examine the documents connected with appeal by Mrs. Paton, which was given in, read and adopted, as follows:

The Committee having carefully considered the papers in the appeal of Mrs. Paton, from a sentence of the Presbytery of Bathurst, confirming a sentence of suspension from church privileges, pronounced against her by the session of St. Andrew's Church, Perth, find that they cannot recommend the Synod to enter on the consideration of this appeal in the absence of the appellant, or any person commissioned in her behalf; it being highly inexpedient that, in ordinary circumstances, a decision of an inferior court in a case of discipline, which may have been passed after full and patient investigation, should be reviewed by the superior court on a simple letter from the person who may profess to be aggrieved by such decision.

In respect to the merits of the case, the Committee after a careful consideration of the same, are of opinion that the Presbytery of Bathurst were fully warranted in confirming the sentence of the session of St. Andrews Church, Perth, that has been appealed from.

The Committee do not see from the records of the Session of Perth, that either the Moderator or any member of that session, had met with Mrs. Paton and conferred with her in regard to the alleged scandal, before the formal investigation of the case, a procedure which the committee think should be adopted by all sessions, before entering on cases of discipline.

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The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, several overtures respecting a deputation to Great Britain, and especially to the Parent Church, with the view of directing public attention to the claims of Queen's College, and obtaining a more adequate supply of missionaries for this country. In connection with these overtures, the Synod had read the report of the committee on missions, appointed at last session.

Overtures respecting deputation to Great Britain.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to, that the Synod feeling a deep interest in the furtherance of the views of the trustees of Queen's College, in requesting the Rev. Dr. Cook of Quebec, and the Rev. Mr. William Rintoul of Streetsville, to visit Great Britain and Ireland, for the purpose of representing and urging the claims of that institution on the liberality of the christian public, as fully and effectually as possible, and of obtaining contributions towards the endowment of professorships, and the formation of a suitable library and philosophical apparatus therein; and moreover, highly approving of the individuals nominated by said trustees for these important duties, do hereby cordially and earnestly recommend the aforementioned brethren and the object of their mission, to the parent Church, and to all who wish well to this branch thereof, and desire to promote the best interests of this colony.

Deputation approved and recommended.

The Synod farther ordered that the returns from Presbyteries, and other documents in their possession, exhibiting the religious destitution of this colony, and especially of the Presbyterian population thereof, be committed to the aforementioned brethren, in the hope that they may have it in their power, consistently with the special duties of their mission, to use endeavours for securing a more regular and adequate supply of missionaries for this country.

The Synod ordered that an extract of this minute be furnished to Dr. Cook and Mr. Rintoul.

It was moved, seconded and agreed to, that in the event of any other ministers of the Synod intending to visit Scotland this season, the commission be authorized to give them such instructions as may seem

necessary, in regard to obtaining Missionaries for this country.

Overture respecting conversion of heathen.

Approved.

The Synod next resumed consideration of the overture respecting the conversion of the Heathen. It was moved, seconded, and after reasoning, unanimously agreed to, that the Synod highly approve of the object of this overture, and recommend to all sessions to appoint meetings at stated periods, for bringing the subject of missions into the view of congregations, and for united prayer in behalf thereof; and at such meetings or otherwise, to make collections in aid of the General Assembly's mission to India, or to the Jews, or for any other missionary object that may be approved of by Kirk Sessions.

Overture respecting intemperance.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, an overture respecting the prevalent and increasing evil of intemperance in this colony and the means of abating the same, especially by subjecting the issue of Tavern licenses to salutary and efficient restrictions.

Referred to Commission.

The Synod referred this overture to the commission, with instructions to institute such inquiries on the subject thereof, as may enable them to report fully at next session, in regard to the extent and progress of the evil in question, and the best means of remedying it; and farther instructed Presbyteries to use their best endeavours with the Civil Authorities, for securing the exercise of suitable caution and vigilance on their part, in the matter specially referred to in the overture.

Presbyteries instructed on the subject.

Overture on the withdrawing of church members and their reception into other churches without certificate.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, an overture of the following tenor:—

WHEREAS, the due exercise and proper effect of church discipline is greatly hindered by members of the church, when under censure or suspension, joining other bodies of professing Christians, and being received without inquiry; it is overtured—that a communication be opened by this Synod, with the principal denominations of Christians in this country, for the prevention of this serious evil; and especially with a view to the enacting of a regulation, that no person shall be received from one church into another, without a regular certificate of charac-

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ter and good standing, from the proper authorities of the church he intends to leave, or with which he was last in communion.

The Synod having considered this overture, resolved that they regard the subject thereof as of the greatest importance, and referred it to the Presbytery of Bathurst to make farther enquiry, and report at next session.

Referred to Presbytery of Bathurst

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, a reference from the Presbytery of Hamilton, relative to an application by the Rev. Mr. Allan of Stratford to that Presbytery, for their certification of answers prepared by him, to queries issued by the committee of the General Assembly on Colonial Churches,—such certification being necessary for obtaining pecuniary aid from the funds of said committee, for the erection of two places of worship for the use of his congregation; and the Presbytery declining to grant the certification required, on the ground that they regard such application of said funds as generally inexpedient.

Reference respecting aid from Colonial Committee for building churches.

Parties having been fully heard, were removed, and after reasoning, the Synod instructed the Presbytery of Hamilton to certify the answers prepared by Mr. Allan, in so far as they are acquainted with the facts of the case.

Deliverance thereon.

Adjourned till seven o'clock, this evening.

The Synod met at seven o'clock, P. M.

The Synod called for the report of the committee on the Synod accounts, which was given in by Mr. Stark, the convener, read and approved of.

Report on Synod accounts approv'd of.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed to, that the thanks of the Synod be given to the convener and to the committee, for the pains they have bestowed on the matters committed to them, and to John Mowat, Esq. for his valuable services as Synod Treasurer, with a request that he will withdraw his resignation, and continue to discharge the duties of that office.

Thanks voted to the convener and committee and treasurer.

Report on Presbyterial visitations.

The Synod had read the report of the Presbytery of Toronto, appointed at last Session to prepare a scheme for conducting ordinary Presbyterial visitations. (VI.)

Transmitted to Presbyteries.

After reasoning, it was moved, seconded and agreed to, that this report be transmitted to Presbyteries for their consideration, with instructions to report their opinions thereon at the next Session.

Report on religious census.

The Synod had read the report of the committee appointed at last Session, to investigate the results of the religious census of Upper Canada, taken last year.

Approved.

The Synod approved of the diligence of the committee, ordered the report to be kept *in retentis*, and inasmuch as it appears to the Synod that there is now no intention to legislate on the ecclesiastical affairs of the Colony, with reference to said census, discharged the committee from farther procedure in the matter.

Committee discharged.

Reference by Mr. Leach on allowance to regimental chaplain.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their committee for bills and overtures, a reference by Rev. W. T. Leach, relative to allowance claimed by him for discharging the duties of Chaplain to a regiment.

The Synod approved of the steps taken by Mr. Leach, and referred the matter to the commission for farther consideration.

Committee to prepare rules and regulations re-appointed.

The Synod re-appointed the committee to prepare rules and regulations for the ordering of business in Synod, and for securing uniformity and correctness in the manner of keeping the records of the several church courts viz : Mr. Andrew Bell convener, Mr. William Rintoul, Mr. John Tawse, Dr. Cook and Mr. John Clugston.

Com'tee on correspondence with Presbyterian church, Lower Provinces, re-appointed.

The Synod also re-appointed the committee of correspondence with the Presbyterian Church in the Lower provinces viz : Doctor Cook, and Mr. Clugston.

Com. on printing establishment and book depository re-appointed.

The Synod also re-appointed the committee on printing establishment and book depository, under the superintendance of the Synod ; viz : the Moderator,

Mr. William McKenzie, John Cruickshank, Mr. John Clugston.

The Synod appointed Mr. Mathieson, the matter

The Commission with a relative measure in adopted.

It was special instruction every means College, for of King's College department

The Synod their Commission of the Church been devolved session, named Mr. Alexander Presbytery Alexander John Dickson M'Lean, and others ;—from M'Gill, Mr. Alexander William King and James Ruling Elder Henry Esson Cook, Mr. J. Thomson, of Bathurst,

Mr. William Rintoul, Mr. Andrew Bell, Mr. Donald McKenzie, Mr. Alexander Gale, Mr. John Bayne, Mr. John Cruickshank, Mr. William Bell, Mr. James Ketchan, Mr. John Machar, Doctor Mathieson, and Mr. John Clugston.

The Synod called for the report of the committee appointed to answer reasons of dissent given in by Dr. Mathieson, against the deliverance of the Synod in the matter of the Incorporation of the United Synod.

Report of committee to answer Dr. Mathieson's reasons of dissent.

The Committee gave in specific answers, together with a relative statement of the origin and progress of the measure in question; which were read, amended, and adopted.

Adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed to, that it be a special instruction to the Commission to co-operate by every means in their power with the Trustees of Queen's College, for obtaining a suitable provision from the funds of King's College, towards the support of the Theological department in the former institution.

Commission instructed respecting Queen's College.

The Synod appointed the following members as their Commissioners, to watch over the general interests of the Church, and for conducting such business as has been devolved on the Commission during the present session, namely, Mr. Hugh Urquhart, Moderator, and Mr. Alexander Gale, Clerk of Synod; and from the Presbytery of Glengary, Mr. John M'Kenzie, Mr. Alexander M'Naughton, Mr. John M'Isaac, and Mr. John Dickey, Ministers; and the Hon. Mr. Justice M'Lean, and the Hon. John M'Gillivray, Ruling Elders;—from the Presbytery of Hamilton, Mr. Robert M'Gill, Mr. Mark Y. Stark, Mr. John Bayne, Mr. Alexander Gardiner, Mr. William M'Killican, Mr. William King, and Mr. George M'Clatchey, Ministers, and James Lockhart, Esq., and Dr. William Craigie, Ruling Elders;—from the Presbytery of Quebec, Mr. Henry Esson, Dr. Alexander Mathieson, Dr. John Cook, Mr. John Clugston, and Mr. James C. Muir, Ministers; and Thomas Blackwood, Esq., and John Thomson, Esq., Ruling Elders;—from the Presbytery of Bathurst, Mr. John Cruickshank, Mr. Thomas C.

Commission appointed.

Wilson, Mr. John Fairbairn, Mr. George Romanes, Mr. Peter C. Campbell, Mr. William Smart, Mr. Robert Boyd, and Mr. Joseph Anderson, Ministers; and James Morris, Esq., and Mr. John Ferguson, Ruling Elders;—from the Presbytery of Kingston, Mr. John Machar, Mr. John M. Roger, Mr. Henry Gordon, and Mr. James Rogers, Ministers; and Mr. Joseph Bruce, and Mr. Andrew Milne, Ruling Elders, —from the Presbytery of Toronto, Mr. William Rintoul, Mr. James George, Mr. William T. Leach, Mr. Andrew Bell, and Mr. Thomas Johnson, Ministers; and James Hopkirk, Esq., and Mr. John Embleton, Ruling Elders.

Meetings of Commission appointed

The Commission was appointed to meet tomorrow at Toronto, and within St. Andrew's Church there, at ten o'clock A. M.; at Toronto, and within St. Andrew's Church there, on the second Wednesday of February 1841, at six o'clock P. M., and at Kingston and within St. Andrew's Church there, on the day preceding that to be appointed for next meeting of Synod, at six o'clock P. M., and by adjournment or *pro re nata*, at such other times and places as they shall see meet; due intimation of all such meetings being given to the Members of Commission, by advertisement in the newspapers or otherwise.

Next Session of Synod appointed.

The Synod appointed their next session to be holden at Kingston, and within St. Andrew's Church there, on the first Thursday in July, 1841, at 12 o'clock, noon.

As the next session of Synod, according to the ordinary course, ought to have been holden at the city of Montreal, and as Kingston was substituted only for special reasons, it was agreed that this be recorded.

After an address from the moderator, the Synod concluded with prayer, singing of psalms, and pronouncing the blessing.

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NOTE.

It has been found impracticable to introduce into this Appendix, the whole of the Synod's Correspondence, and other interesting documents, without unduly delaying the publication, and extending it too far beyond the usual limit.

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APPENDIX.

[I.]

ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, in Synod assembled, approach your Majesty to offer our heartfelt congratulations on your matrimonial alliance with a Prince, the choice of your heart, illustrious as the descendant of Princes distinguished in the history of Europe for their steadfast attachment to the principles of the Reformation, and adorned no less by exalted mental endowments than by moral worth.

We have individually sympathized with the affectionate congratulations which have been presented to your Majesty on this auspicious occasion; by all classes of your Majesty's faithful subjects, but we gladly avail ourselves of this, the first opportunity which our being assembled in Synod has afforded us, to give expression to the sentiments which we cherish towards your Majesty, and to implore the divine blessing on a union so happily formed.

On looking back to the events of the last few years, we cannot fail to recognize, with sentiments of the liveliest gratitude, the signal interposition of divine providence in preserving against threatened dangers the integrity of the empire, and continuing to us, your Majesty's subjects in Canada, the blessings of the British Constitution and the mild sway of a Sovereign endeared to us by every consideration of duty, of interest, and of affection.

In the auspicious event that brings us before your Majesty at this time, we are cheered with a prospect of the continuance of these blessings, under the gracious sway of a race of Princes who, possessing the virtues of their ancestors, shall emulate their noble exertions, to make their people intelligent, religious, and happy; and we are encouraged to indulge the hope that Almighty God, whose protecting power has been already so signally manifested, will still bless your Majesty with all temporal and spiritual blessings, that he will protect and prosper your Royal House, and that he will render your reign a blessing to all who acknowledge your sway.

We should fail in our duty did we not avail ourselves of this occasion to express our gratitude for the favour which your Majesty has bestowed upon us, and the people of whom we have the spiritual oversight, in giving your gracious countenance to the College for the education of youth in the establishment of which we are engaged,—in permitting us to associate with it your Majesty's name, and in conferring on it privileges which

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cannot fail to increase its efficiency for the promotion of the great objects we have in view—the diffusion of science, the promulgation of Divine Truth, and the inculcation of loyal and religious principles.

And that may it please the Father of Mercies, the Supreme Governor among the nations, to establish your throne in righteousness, to guide, guard and defend you, to enrich you with the treasures of His grace in Jesus Christ our Lord, and when his gracious purposes on earth are served, with your Majesty and your Royal Consort, to grant you a Crown of glory is our earnest prayer.

In name, and by appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and in their presence at Toronto, Upper Canada, this seventh day of July, 1840.

(Signed) **HUGH URQUHART,**
Moderator.

[II.]

ADDRESS TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable CHARLES POULETT THOMSON, one of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Provinces of Lower Canada, Upper Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice Admiral of the same.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Ministers and Elders composing the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, on this the first occasion of our meeting since Your Excellency assumed the Government of these Provinces, beg leave to offer to Your Excellency our respectful congratulations on that event.

We have every reason to believe that changes of great and vital importance in the political condition of these Provinces are in contemplation by the government of our Mother Country, and may possibly ere this have been decided on by Parliament. On the subject of these changes we are not called to express an opinion. In reference to them, however, it will be our duty, as it is our determination, to bring whatever influence we possess, in our several stations, to the aid of the government in maintaining the necessary supremacy of the laws, and in promoting a spirit of order and due subordination in the land, in the humble confidence that the Supreme Ruler of the Universe will continue to guide and direct all events, for the temporal and spiritual prosperity of the people committed to Your Excellency's charge.

We are happy in believing that the measure to which Your Excellency was pleased during the last Session of the Legislature of this Province to give the Royal assent, for the establishment of the University at Kingston, will be soon carried into successful operation; and we trust it will prove greatly instrumental in disseminating useful knowledge and in advancing the cause of religion and morality.

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We feel every day more and more the necessity for the establishment of an efficient system of General Education, based on the Holy Scriptures, and adequate to the wants and circumstances of these Provinces, and we beg leave most respectfully and earnestly to call Your Excellency's immediate attention to such measures as may be necessary for the speedy and effectual accomplishment of this object.

We most sincerely hope and pray that the long-agitated and irritating question relating to the disposal of the Clergy Reserves, may be speedily set at rest on just and constitutional principles, and in a way conducive to the peace and happiness and religious interests of the community.

It is incumbent on us, on this occasion, to bring under the notice of Your Excellency the baneful effects, both spiritual and temporal, arising from intemperance and Sabbath profanation,—practices which unhappily prevail to a great and alarming extent throughout the country. On the propriety of adopting and enforcing such measures as may tend to put a stop to practices alike discreditable to the country and subversive of good order and morality, we believe no difference of opinion exists amongst the influential and respectable members of society, of whatever religious denomination; and the assurance that such measures will receive Your Excellency's early attention, would be particularly gratifying to us, and to all who labor to disseminate the blessings of pure and undefiled religion.

That Your Excellency's administration may, under the blessing of Almighty God, prove the means of restoring peace and good-will in these Provinces, amongst all classes and conditions of men, and of adding to the temporal and spiritual welfare of the people, is our most sincere and fervent prayer.

In name, and by appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and in their presence at Toronto, Upper Canada, this seventh day of July, 1840.

(Signed) HUGH URQUHART,

Moderator.

[III.]

ADDRESS TO THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

To His Excellency SIR GEORGE ARTHUR, Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, Major General Commanding Her Majesty's Forces therein, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, in Synod assembled, embrace this opportunity at our annual meeting, of tendering to Your Excellency this expression of the sentiments of esteem and respect which we entertain for Your Excellency's person and government.

In the discharge of our arduous duties, in divers parts of the Province, it has always been a matter of sincere consolation to us, that Her Majesty had an officer like Your Excellency, at the head of the Government, indefatigable in promoting the developement of the natural resources of this Province, and the advancement of pure and undefiled religion among the people.

Our hearts bear us witness, that it is our earnest desire to preserve and perpetuate among the people committed to our superintendence, the loyal and religious character of their fathers and brethren on the other side of the Atlantic, and we can assure Your Excellency, that we have felt our anxieties on this head, much lightened, by the countenance given by Your Excellency, both in public and private, to all that is excellent and of good report.

That Almighty God, by whom Kings reign and Princes decree justice, may bless Your Excellency's person, family and Government, is our fervent prayer.

In name, and by appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and in their presence at Toronto, Upper Canada, this seventh day of July, 1840.

(Signed) HUGH URQUHART,

Moderator.

[IV.]

LETTER TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S COMMITTEE ON COLONIAL CHURCHES.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland to the Venerable the General Assembly's Committee for corresponding with Scottish Presbyterian Churches in the British Colonies.

REVEREND FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

The minutes of the proceedings of this meeting of Synod, now nearly closed, which will be transmitted to you, as soon as they are published, will suggest the deliberations in which we have been engaged, and will exhibit to you the measures which have been adopted by us, to maintain the order of our Provincial Church, and to extend its boundaries. Actuated with an unextinguishable veneration for the rules and example of the Church of Scotland, we have had recourse to her past history, and have endeavored, according to the best of our judgment, to apply them to the peculiar circumstances in which we are placed. In judging of the wisdom and propriety of our proceedings, your Committee will, no doubt, keep our position and prospects, in this recent colony, in view.

With respect to the legal and constitutional claims of this Synod, as the representative of the Church of Scotland in Canada, for encouragement and support from the Civil Government, we have not thought it expedient, during the present session, to institute any proceedings. The recent decision of the Judges of England, confirming that interpreta-

tion of the law status of every forward, now this decision. which so many of it entirely brought, from to secure for the party for the m Lord God omn bittered contro part of our pro that we have l moderation; th out any undue tensions of tho that charity wh granted us, for be our constant the interests of

We have f admitting the U during our pres occupied the de body referred to and influence. had settled in United Kingdom composed in no most of whom, ples and predik Church. This general interest tion of the loca tained, and tha colony, and als same church, it His Majesty's l Synod, should f accomplished, t spect of pecunia patronage of th up in the way year; but the d cal disturbances influence in has the discussion o both in the Ass in the distribi census of Presb Canada, in] con gislature with th consent sought the members w ous advocates o Presbyterian ca admission of th culty was so far the respective e

tion of the law which we have always advocated, has clearly established the right and status of every branch of the Church of Scotland planted in a British colony. We look forward, now at length, with some confidence, to a faithful and impartial carrying out of this decision. Wearied with the protracted agitation of the Clergy Reserve question, from which so many evils have arisen within the province, we are willing to leave the settlement of it entirely to the Imperial Parliament. To this acquiescence we are the more readily brought, from a persuasion that no exertion will be spared on the part of your Committee to secure for the Presbyterian population of Canada an equitable proportion of this property for the maintenance of religion. It is with deep and unfeigned thankfulness to the Lord God omnipotent, who reigneth over all, that we view this long continued and embittered controversy as now at last terminated in a manner that leaves no blot on any part of our proceedings. We think we may justly claim for ourselves and for our people, that we have long borne injustice with patience; that we defended our cause with great moderation; that we contemplate our triumph over the opponents of our just rights without any undue exultation, and can now review the unmerited censure and arrogant pretensions of those who sought to place their feet upon our necks, without any failure of that charity which hopeth all things. Looking forward now to the fuller aid that may be granted us, for relieving the mournful spiritual destitution that prevails around us, it will be our constant study to make any aid we receive, return with tenfold advantage upon all the interests of the commonwealth.

We have farther to inform your Committee, that the long pending negotiations for admitting the United Synod of Upper Canada into connexion with us, have been brought during our present session to a successful termination. This measure has in various forms occupied the deliberations of our Church courts since their first formation in 1832. The body referred to had existed for many years previously, and was increasing in numbers and influence. At a time, when only one or two ministers from the Church of Scotland had settled in Upper Canada, several Presbyterian ministers from other bodies in the United Kingdom had emigrated hither, and had gathered under their care congregations, composed in no small proportion of persons who originally belonged to our communion; most of whom, though attached to their present pastors, held fast all their former principles and predilections, and still sought to be regarded as in fellowship with the Mother Church. This body of ministers, whose services to the Presbyterian cause and to the general interests of religion, we cordially acknowledge, had risen so much in the estimation of the local government, that their application for pecuniary aid was favorably entertained, and that it might be granted in such a manner as to promote the quiet of the colony, and also that the government might not have to provide for two divisions of the same church, it was recommended in a despatch from Sir George Murray, then one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the Colonies, that we, with the United Synod, should form ourselves into one church, and in the faith that this would be speedily accomplished, the ministers of the United Synod were placed upon the same footing in respect of pecuniary aid, as the ministers in connexion with the Church of Scotland. After the patronage of the government had thus been extended to them, various difficulties started up in the way of the proposed union, varying in their aspects during every successive year; but the desired consummation still appeared to be brought nearer. The late political disturbances, and the changes now contemplated in the civil government have had their influence in hastening the settlement of this measure. During last winter, and pending the discussion on the Clergy Reserve bill in the Legislature, the friends of the church, both in the Assembly and in the Council, in order to secure for Presbyterians a fair share in the distribution of the property, favored a proposition that in so far as regarded the census of Presbyterians, the United Synod should be held as included in the Synod of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and the bill passed the Colonial Legislature with this provision. This comprehension indeed was made without any formal consent sought or obtained from our people, or any of our Church courts. But the members who proposed it had long been distinguished as the most able and zealous advocates of the rights of the Church of Scotland, and the warmest friends of the Presbyterian cause; they were well acquainted with the state of the negotiations for the admission of the United Synod into our body, and were fully persuaded that every difficulty was so far obviated, that nothing remained but the formal completion of the act by the respective ecclesiastical judicatures. At this, our first meeting, since these proceed-

ings took place in the Legislature, circumstances have so harmoniously combined, that the act of admission has been concluded with an almost perfect unanimity. By this step we have brought within our pale *seventeen* ministers, exercising a pastoral superintendence over flocks that have been collectively estimated at 10,000, all professing adherence to our standards of faith and worship. In this measure, while we have carefully maintained every one of our distinctive principles, we have set an example of fraternal coalescence, in a community, presenting a scene of division in religious matters of which those accustomed only to the state of the church in Scotland, can scarcely form an idea; and, as we firmly trust, we have removed causes of disunion for the future, the consequences of which, had the two bodies continued apart, could not have been contemplated without dismay, we may now indulge more agreeable anticipations. It is now within the power of the government to make a more economical distribution of the funds appropriated for the support of religion; and it will now be more within our power to unite congregations that have hitherto been divided, to carry out more fully our spiritual discipline, and to combine more effectually for the organization and supply of vacant congregations. When we reflect on the healing spirit that has of late fallen upon the National Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, we are inspired with the greater solicitude to follow their example, so far as the diversity of our circumstances will admit; and we feel assured that you will be gratified with the issue, and approve of the principles by which we have been guided.

With the most sincere and heartfelt gratitude we have received intelligence of the kind and liberal spirit with which you have regarded our scheme for the establishment of a college for general education and theology. We are gratified to perceive that you acquiesce in the judgment that we have formed of its indispensable necessity, and that you are disposed to lend us such aid as the christian public may put it in your power to give. That there are multitudes in the United Kingdom who will respond liberally to your call, in our behalf, we do not entertain a doubt. Are not we, who in our great need look to you for assistance in this great undertaking, your brethren according to the flesh, and fellow-heirs of the same hope? The experience of the last few years has demonstrated that you cannot, except in the most sparing and insufficient measure, send among us, ministers educated in your Universities. How then can you better evince your regard for us than by assisting us in founding a University among ourselves, at which the native-born youth may be trained up for the service of the sanctuary? The progress that we have made in this undertaking, considering that our efforts have as yet only been very partial, is in a high degree encouraging. Subscriptions have been reported amounting to upwards of £15,000, and of these about £5000 have already been paid into the hands of the Treasurer. We have commenced this work in a season of great depression in temporal things. If it shall please God again to send us prosperity we may reap a liberality exceeding that which our most sanguine friends have anticipated.

As you have been pleased to promise us your countenance in this undertaking, and to require from us a declaration of our views in regard to the principles on which it is to be conducted, we are happy to have it in our power to make such statements, as we believe will afford you the most complete satisfaction. It is our object to afford the means of a liberal education, such as may be obtained at a Scottish University. All the predilections of the trustees are in favor of the Scottish system, and that it may be transplanted here, the appointment of the Principal and one Professor has been devolved upon your Committee. The Synod have entered upon no details of regulation; this duty belongs by statute to the trustees. But as they are all members of the church, and most of them members of the Synod, we feel warranted in saying, that it will afford them, as a body, the highest gratification to receive from you, through the Principal, or through any other channel, such suggestions as you may deem important. In reference to the curriculum of study for theological students, the Synod has deferred all proceedings, until the arrival of the Principal, under whose care the students of divinity will for a time be placed. But we beg to assure your Committee, that the Synod entertain the deepest conviction of the necessity of a competent education in candidates for the holy ministry; that we are resolved not to lower the standard of ministerial qualification established by the Church of Scotland; and that so far as it shall be in our power, we shall endeavor to make this Colonial Church worthy of that from which we have sprung. For this purpose we

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crave, not only your pecuniary aid, but the benefit of your counsel and experience; and were this communicated to us by a deputation from you to this country, it might at once strengthen our hands and greatly increase your interest in our affairs. We have recorded our approbation of the conduct of the trustees of Queen's College in appointing the Rev. Dr. Cook of Quebec and the Rev. Wm. Rintoul of Stroetsville to represent the claims of this institution; and while we have entire confidence in the wisdom and ability with which these brethren will fulfil the task assigned them, we would, with most respectful earnestness, impress upon your Committee, that a deputation from the General Assembly to examine and report on the state of religion and education in this province, and to advocate our cause in Scotland, would in our judgment be of essential service to the interests of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

It is with feelings of sincere gratification and humble thankfulness to God, that we inform you of the subordination and harmony prevailing among the different judicatories of the church. You will the more readily attribute this to a right cause when you consider their recent formation, the inexperience of most of their members in the rules and forms of ecclesiastical proceedings, and the many new and difficult questions that have been forced upon our deliberations. Cases of ordinary discipline we have reason to believe are wisely and faithfully managed by our Kirk Sessions. References to the higher courts have been few. Since we were constituted into a Synod we have been under the painful necessity of deposing one minister and suspending two, one of whom has been restored; and in several instances we have had to employ strong measures to prevent ministers deposed in Scotland from intruding themselves upon the people, as if they were still entitled to discharge the duties of the ministry. The submission that is yielded to ecclesiastical authority, and a discreet moderation in its exercise, have hitherto rendered it unnecessary for us to have frequent recourse to you for counsel and advice. We advert to these circumstances, being assured of your congratulations, that by the grace of God, we are enabled, in peace and quietness, to maintain the order of his house.

We have felt it to be our duty to enter into fraternal correspondence with the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, of whose members a very considerable number are found mixed up in our congregations. The object of this correspondence is to draw more closely the bonds of union between us and that church; not only because of its communion with the Church of Scotland, but because we have received and will doubtless continue to receive large accessions from it, and are desirous to obtain from it some ministerial laborers to aid us in this extensive field. We have also exchanged letters of fraternal regard with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, and with the Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church, in the United States: the former has lately, with a spirit worthy of the primitive age, borne its testimony against some dangerous errors that had insidiously crept into it, and has asserted the pure doctrine and discipline of the Presbyterian standards—the latter, though existing among a people proverbially given to change, has maintained with remarkable constancy the good order and scriptural faith of their fathers. We have been induced to enter into this correspondence from a variety of circumstances which need not here be adverted to; but above all, that we may cultivate friendly relations with those who, on this continent, not only hold the truth as it is Jesus, but who acknowledge those symbols, and bear that distinctive name by which we are known as a branch of the Catholic Church.

Regarding, as we always do, with intense and affectionate interest, our native land and the national church in which we have been blessed, we cannot refrain from expressing our deep sympathy for your beloved Zion in her present state of perplexity and trial. For our brethren and companions sakes, we can never cease to say, "peace be within thee." Our hope and prayer is, that she shall be brought out of the furnace as gold purified by the fire. With an affection undiminished by distance and long separation, we bear her up in our remembrance before a throne of grace. We can look calmly on her dangers, free from those fears and distractions incident to a nearer position, and we think we can see through the dissolving cloud, the promise of a brighter day. Even on this side of the Atlantic, we feel the impulse of that more vigorous life to which, by the reviving influences of the Holy Spirit, she has been raised. We look around for the outcasts of Israel, and we behold her embracing them. We turn to the benighted millions of Asia, and we discern her energetic Missionaries preparing in their schools, instruments which God

may employ for the regeneration of their country. We have seen what munificence she has displayed in carrying the Gospel to the poor and desolate places in her own territory. We have witnessed her stand nobly forth in the defence of truth, and offer the right hand of fellowship to all who love it—and we firmly believe that the tree bearing such fruit, though much shaken by the winds, will not be blasted or overthrown in the displeasure of God.

On our part, we may be permitted to declare, that, as a church, we are deep sensible of the solemn responsibilities of that position in which we have been placed by that Gracious Redeemer, who determines the bounds of our habitation, and apportions to his servants their sphere of labour. The population of this colony has increased, and doubtless will continue to increase, with great rapidity, and such is the fertility of our soil and the extent of our territory, that, within much less than a century, it will probably be reckoned by millions. Forecasting what the character of future settlers shall be, we are fearful lest it should too nearly resemble what we already witnessed, in those crowds of human beings, drawn for the most part from the poorer classes in our native land, many of them indifferently instructed in the great principles of religion, and not a few of them of depraved habits, who seek a home here, and are more intent on the conveniences of a present world, than thoughtful of the well-being of their immortal nature, and consequently in danger of sinking into that state of spiritual ignorance and unconcern which surely leads to the laxity of morals and civil disorder. We have around us, every where, the most melancholy evidence of the tendency of our emigrant population, and especially of their descendants in the first and second degree, to assume a character mournfully different from that which distinguished their original kindred. With what pain do we often witness persons bearing the Scottish name, yet defaced of all the peculiar excellencies of their progenitors; religion cast aside by them altogether, or held in some one of its most fanatical and corrupted forms! Popery also, you are aware, has an extensive foothold among the settlers of French origin, and is continually gaining fresh accessions from Ireland; and this, with the irreligion that is borne hither on the tide of emigration, afflicts our spirits and fills us with alarm. Our only hope is in God, and in the sure belief that his word will prevail. And we trust that all our ministers are faithful in declaring it and in watching over their flocks with vigilance and prayer. Amidst the many difficulties that beset us, we presume to say that we are sincerely desirous of raising up a church, on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone, that shall be preserved to diffuse its blessings on all coming generations.

In this work, venerable fathers and brethren, we ask your counsel, assistance, and prayers. And in particular we crave your attention to those who are about to emigrate from our native land to this Province. With earnestness do we entreat you to admonish them to constancy in the faith, and to furnish them, on their departure, with the requisite testimonials, enjoining them to seek, immediately on their arrival in this country, the fellowship of the church.

With fervent prayers for the divine blessing upon your many and faithful labours, we remain, Reverend Fathers and Brethren, your unworthy fellow-labourers in the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

In name, and by appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and in their presence at Toronto, Upper Canada, this seventh day of July, 1840.

(Signed) HUGH URQUHART,
Moderator.

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[V.]

LETTER TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.*The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with
the Church of Scotland, to the General Assembly of the Presby-
terian Church in the United States.*

ESTEEMED AND BELOVED BROTHERS IN CHRIST,

In continuing the fraternal correspondence, which, with a view to our mutual advantage, we have agreed to hold, we greatly rejoice that we are now able to congratulate you, not only on the vindication, in the supreme civil court, of the important measure, which, in purging your church from error and irregularity, you were compelled to adopt, and the legal sanction which, at the same time, you have obtained, to the great principle of religious liberty, that the awards of pure ecclesiastical discipline are beyond the control or interference of the civil tribunals; but also on the many happy results which have since followed, and the comparative peace and prosperity which, as a church, you now enjoy. We trust and pray that this peace and prosperity may long prevail, and that your church, freed from the shackles which error and irregularity had imposed upon her, may continue and extend, with growing energy and success, her labours of love for the advancement of pure religion within your own borders, and for the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom in heathen lands.

We sympathize with you, at the present moment, in the happy results of that noble stand for the cause of evangelical religion, which, in the face of many difficulties, you have been enabled to make, the more deeply, that the Church of Scotland, which we are delighted to recognize with you as "our common mother," and which is bound to us by ties of peculiar tenderness and strength, is now involved in difficulties not dissimilar in some respects to those with which you have had to contend, and which at least have called her to stand forth, as the assertor of the same spiritual independence of the church of Christ, which you have been honoured to maintain, and that in consequence she now awakens not a little of the same interest and sympathy which of late we extended to you. In recalling the struggle which you have had to make, and in congratulating you on its happy results, we are led to cherish more confidently the hope, that good to the church of our fathers will eventually be brought out of present evil, and that the Great Head of the church will overrule the troubles in which she is involved, for the advancement of religion, pure and undefiled. Indeed you will rejoice to learn, that God seems to be refreshing that church with many expressions of his favour, and that while a spirit of Missionary enterprise has been poured out upon her, not a few genuine revivals at home have at the same time been repairing her desolations; and although you may differ from us as to some of the features of her present struggle, we doubt not that you will unite with us in the hope which we have expressed concerning her, and feel its influence to be a new bond of fraternal sympathy and love.

With regard to our own peculiar interest, we are happy to inform you that, although the number of labourers in the wide field which we cultivate, is still far, very far from being adequate to the removal of the religious destitution which prevails around us, our prospects for the future, are far more favorable than when we last had the honour of addressing you.

In our last communication we informed you, that we had it in contemplation "to establish a Theological Seminary for training pious youths from among ourselves for the work of the Holy Ministry." And it gratified and cheered us not a little to learn of your sympathy with us in this important undertaking. Since that time, our scheme has been commenced on a scale far more extensive than we could then venture to believe practicable. Our people have been appealed to for assistance, and most nobly have they responded to the call: our beloved mother church of Scotland, still amidst her own en-

grossing troubles, extending to us her maternal care, has warmly encouraged and liberally aided the undertaking; a Bill for the establishment of a Literary, Scientific, and Theological Institution, to be called Queen's College, and to be erected at Kingston, has passed the Provincial Legislature, and obtained the sanction of the Crown; and we are not without hopes that the Institution may be in operation by the ensuing winter, and may, on a scale adapted to the present wants and capabilities of the Province, be pouring forth that stream of knowledge, human and divine, which, we trust, in its increasing flow, is yet to purify, and enrich, and gladden the land.

At the same time, we have been enabled, during our present session of Synod, to bring successfully to a close long pending negotiations respecting the incorporation with us of the ministers and congregations of a body of Presbyterians in these Provinces, known by the name of the United Synod, and holding the same standards of doctrine and discipline with ourselves—a measure which will add not a little to our numbers, and which will contribute still more, by promoting unity among Presbyterians, to our influence, efficiency, and strength.

We are also happy in being able to inform you, that we have now been relieved from the embarrassment of a long and painfully agitated question—the question of the Clergy Reserves—with the details of which it is unnecessary to trouble you, but which produced and kept alive an evil spirit of jealousy and rivalry between our Church and the sister Church of England; and that, by the unanimous decision of the judges of England, the right of our Church to important privileges and advantages, in this and other colonial dependencies of the British Crown, has been determined.

These occurrences have added in the mean time to our present opportunities of usefulness, and are specially cheering, as encouraging us to anticipate the time when a body of pious labourers somewhat proportioned in number to the extent of our wants, and fitted by local attachment and early habits for the work they have to do, may be raised up under our own eye, and may go forth to cultivate the waste places of our vineyard, and to hasten on amongst us the coming of the time, when, instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the briar shall come up the myrtle tree, and when the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.

But while we tell you of our favourable progress, and cheering prospects, we are very far from believing that our time of difficulty and trial is past. Infidelity, heresy, disorder, vice, still extensively prevail around us, and aggravated by the civil troubles which have now for some time harassed us, present a more determined front than ever to the progress of the gospel. Coldness, worldliness, formality, at the same time, still too often characterize even those who are called by our name, or who profess, under other names, to be the followers of the Lord Jesus. And when we reflect on these things and compare the smallness of our resources with the vast and formidable field of labour in which we are engaged, we feel that much difficulty and trial are yet before us, and even amidst our brightening prospects we are oft ready to despond.

Our trust is in the help of God, (for vain is the help of man,) and in that sure word of promise which has given this, as all the nations of the earth, to Christ for a possession. We are longing and praying and waiting for the out pouring of the Spirit from on high, to revive the work of grace in our own hearts, and to breathe upon the dry bones around us that they may live—and we affectionately and earnestly crave, esteemed and beloved Brethren in Christ, an interest in your prayers.

The effectual fervent prayer of the righteous availeth much. Our own prayers shall not fail to ascend on your behalf, and our warmest desire is that we may not be forgotten in yours.

In name, and by appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and in their presence at Toronto, Upper Canada, this seventh day of July, 1840.

(Signed) HUGH URQUHART, Moderator.

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[VI.]

REPORT ON PRESBYTERIAL VISITATIONS.

The Presbytery of Toronto having been appointed by the last Synod, to prepare a scheme of Presbyterial Visitation, beg leave respectfully to submit the following to the consideration of the Synod, as the scheme which the Presbytery has unanimously approved of.

Besides visitations that may be made on emergent occasions, the whole of the congregations are to be visited in order.

When a visitation is appointed for a particular congregation, the minister of that congregation is to intimate it from the pulpit, at least two calendar months previously to its taking place, and is to cite the elders and all the members of the church in full communion to attend, that they may acquaint the Presbytery with the state of the congregation in every point, and that if any of them have certain knowledge of any thing amiss in their minister and elders they do then also acquaint the Presbytery therewith; provided always that in the event of personal offences, real or supposed, the party offended shall have first attempted a reconciliation according to our Lord's injunction in *Matth. xviii.*, and failed in obtaining it. And that in the event of public offences or matters of complaint, the session shall have been notified of the same at least two weeks before the visitation.

When the Presbytery have met they shall confer with the minister and elders in private to inquire into the state of the congregation and ascertain what matters are likely to be brought out in the course of the visitation. After sermon by one of the Presbytery, the records of the session shall be examined. A committee shall confer with the minister in a brotherly way, concerning his culture of personal religion and his ministerial work—as to his preparation for it—his occupation in it—and the fruits of it. The elders too shall be faithfully and affectionately counselled and admonished in regard to personal and domestic religion and as to their conduct before the church and the world. They are then to be interrogated;

First.—Concerning the personal deportment of the minister before his people and the world, and the nature and kind of his intercourse with them.

Secondly.—Concerning his ministry of the word, as to its faithfulness, soundness, plainness and adaptation to the people.

Thirdly.—Concerning his private labors—such as the stated visitation of the flock, and the visitation of the sick.

Fourthly.—Concerning his administration of the sacramental ordinances—the measures adopted towards those who live in the neglect of them—and his method of training catechumens.

Fifthly.—Concerning the number of elders—the frequency of the meetings of session—whether they are held for prayer—and if so, how often. The faithfulness and diligence with which discipline is exercised—the extent of co-operation in this, between minister and elders—the instrumentality employed for promoting the cause of Christ in the neighborhood or throughout the world—by Sabbath schools, bible classes, prayer-meetings, and contributions for missionary and other kindred objects.

The Presbytery shall first call in the members of the church who are in full communion, and interrogate them concerning the minister and elders—allowing them to

speaking on any matter of complaint, only when they have acted according to the method above mentioned for obtaining satisfaction, or have lodged a complaint with the session, and have failed in obtaining satisfaction.

After this the Presbytery shall call in the minister, and interrogate him concerning the elders as respects their subscribing the Confession of Faith—the consistency of their deportment towards their families—the church—and the world—and as respects their having distinct districts—their fidelity and diligence in attending to their duties, and especially of attending the higher judicatories when appointed.

The Presbytery shall thereafter examine the minister and elders, concerning the people's attendance on divine ordinances and their profiting by them and the respect they manifest for the discipline of the church—their diligence in the education of their children—their observance of the Lord's Day—of family worship,—and the indications generally of piety amongst them.

The Presbytery shall interrogate, lastly, minister, elders, trustees or deacons, and the members of the church, concerning the state of the church—manse and glebe (if any)—the amount of funds raised and the appropriation of the same, as for the minister's stipend—his expenses—and the expenses of the elders in attending judicatories—for the relief of the poor and the extension of the gospel, and also concerning the cultivation of sacred music in the congregation.

The interrogations having been made, all parties are to be encouraged or admonished severally, or such other procedure is to be adopted as the case may seem to require. And the Moderator may close the whole with an address to the congregation and prayer.

(Signed)

ROBERT MURRAY,

Moderator.