

THE
MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Canada,

AT ITS SESSIONS AT HAMILTON, C. W.,

JUNE 15-22, 1858.

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GEO. BROWNLEE, MANAGER.

1858.

OFFICERS OF SYNOD, 1858-9

REV. THOMAS WARDROPE, Ottawa, Moderator.
REV. WILLIAM REID, A. M., Toronto, Clerk of Synod, and General Agent for the
Schemes of the Church.
JOHN REDPATH, Esq., Montreal, Treasurer for Foreign Mission Fund.

CONVENERS OF COMMITTEES.

- Home Mission Committee—Rev. W. REID, Toronto,
Committee on State of Religion—Rev. J. SCOTT, London.
College Committee—Rev. W. GREGG,
Widows' Fund—J. OSBORNE, Esq., Hamilton.
Agency Committee—Dr. BURNS.
Board of Publication, &c.—Rev. D. INGLIS, Hamilton.
Committee on Foreign Missions—Rev. D. FRASER, Montreal, and Rev. T. LOWRY,
Joint Conveners,
“ on Sabbath Observance—Rev. P. GRAY, Kingston.
“ on Sabbath Schools—Rev. R. F. BURNS, St. Catherines, and Rev. J. GRAY,
Orillia, Joint Conveners.
“ on Statistics—T. DALLAS, Esq., Orillia.
“ on Union with U. P. Church—Rev. R. URE, Streetsville.
“ on the Present Relation of Baptised children to the Church—Mr. D. FRASER,
Montreal.
“ on Fund for aged and infirm Ministers.—Rev. W. GREGG, Toronto.

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1858

MEETING OF SYNOD.

FIRST SESSION.

At Hamilton, and within McNab Street Church there, the fifteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, the which day the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada met, and, after sermon by the Rev. George Smellie, Moderator for the past year, from ISAIAH, xxvi. chap, 1-3 verses, was constituted with prayer.

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

(The names of Members in attendance are marked with an asterisk.)

I. PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.	POST OFFICES.
*Donald McKenzie.....	.....	Zorra.....	Embro.
*Daniel Allan.....	.....	North Easthope..	Stratford.
*Thomas McPherson ...	*Moses Douglas.....	Stratford.....	Stratford.
Duncan McMillan.....	.....	Aldborough.....	Aldborough.
*William Meldrum.....	.....	Harrington.....	Harrington.
*William Graham.....	*Andrew McAa.....	Egmondville.....	Egmondville.
James Findlay.....	.....	Mitchell.....	Mitchell.
*Robert Wallace.....	*Joseph Barker.....	Ingersoll.....	Ingersoll.
William R. Sutherland.....	.....	Ekfrid and Mosa..	Strathburn.
Angus McColl.....	.....	Chatham.....	Chatham.
*Lachlan McPherson ...	*Donald Fraser.....	Williams.....	Williams.
*William S. Ball.....	William Burgess.....	Woodstock, K. Ch.	Woodstock.
*John Scott.....	*William Clark.....	London.....	London.
*David Walker.....	*Fr. Blaikie.....	Sarnia.....	Sarnia.
*William King.....	*Robert Vanvrn.....	Buxton.....	Buxton.
*John Ross.....	George Walker.....	Brucefield.....	Brucefield.
*Duncan McDiarmid ...	Donald McPherson..	Woodstock, C. Ch.	Woodstock.
Andrew Tolmie.....	.....	Blandford.....	Innerkip.
*William Troup.....	.....	Plympton.....	Plympton.
*William Doak, B.A. ...	.....	Port Stanley.....	Port Stanley.
James H. McNaughton.....	.....	Saugeen.....	Saugeen.
*James Ferguson.....	William Colvin.....	Lobo.....	Lobo.
*John Gauld, A.M.	*John Brown.....	Moore.....	Moore.
*William J. McMullen..	*Mathew Reid.....	Mornington.....	Millbank.
*Alexander Young.....	.....	St. Thomas.....	St. Thomas.
*John McMillan.....	William Sutherland..	Fingal.....	Fingal.
*John Straith.....	*James Boyd.....	Tilbury.....	Tilbury East.
*William Forrest.....	John McKenzie.....	Ridgetown.....	Ridgetown.
*John Rennie.....	.....	Beachville.....	Beachville.
*David Beattie.....	*P. Dewar.....	St. Mary's.....	St. Marys.
*James Blount.....	.....	Bosanquet.....	Bosanquet.
.....	.....	Thamesford.....	Thamesford.
.....	Duncan Campbell.....	Belmont & Yar'th.	Belmont.
.....	.....	Amherstburgh...	Amherstburgh.

WILLIAM DOAK, Pres. Clerk, Port Stanley.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.	POST OFFICES.
*George Cheyne.....	*William Brown.....	Saltfleet & Binb'k.	Tapleystown.
*M. Y. Stark	*Thomas Mair.	Dundas.....	Dundas.
*John Bayne, D.D.	*James Cowan.....	Galt.....	Galt.
*George Smellie	*James Ross.....	Fergus.	Fergus.
*Alexander McLean... ..	*John Sanderson.....	Cumins'vle & Nairn	Kilbride.
*John Alexander	*James Woods.....	Brantford	Brantford.
*Duncan McRuar	*George Cuthbertson..	Ayr	Ayr.
*Samuel Young.....	.....	Guelph.	Guelph.
*James Black	*Alexander Mitchell..	Caledonia.....	Seneca.
*Andrew J. McAuley ..	*William Carr.....	Nassagaweya	Nassagaweya.
*Robert Irvine, D.D. ...	.....	Hamilton (Kx's Ch)	Hamilton.
*David Inglis	*Robert Ewen... ..	" McNab St. Ch.	"
*Andrew Steven.....	.....	Paris	Paris.
*Robert F. Burns.....	*James Dougan.....	St. Catherines.....	St. Catherines.
John Gillespie	*Thomas McKenzie.....	Blenheim	Princeton.
*Alexander McLean... ..	*A. McKenzie	East Puslinch ...	Aberfoyle.
*William McIndoe, ...	Myron Dunning	W. Sq. & Wr'down	Waterdown.
*James Middlemiss	Charles Allan	Elora.	Elora.
*William Craigie.....	Robert Lawrie.	P. Dover & Simcoe	Port Dover.
*Thomas J. Hodg-kin. .	*Peter Idington	Doon & New Hope	Doon.
*Robert Jamieson	*Salmon Minor	Dunnville	Dunnville.
*A. C. Geikie	*George Davidson.....	Berlin	Berlin.
*Andrew McLean .....	.....	West Puslinch ...	Puslinch.
*John Irvine	*George Halley.....	Allansville.	Allansville.
*George Cuthbertson ..	.....	Woolwich.....	Woolwich.
*John McRobie.....	*Joseph Abraham.....	Walpole & Jarvis.	Jarvis.
Vacant	*Peter Christie	Niagara	Niagara.
Vacant	*John Blair.....	Port Dalhousie... .	Port Dalhousie.

JAMES MIDDLEMISS, *Presbytery Clerk, Elora.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.	POST OFFICES.
*Robert Burns, D.D. ...	Professor Church Hist'y	Knox's College...	Toronto.
Michael Willis, D.D. ...	Prin. and Prof. Divinity	Knox's College... ..	"
*Geo. Paxton Young ...	Prof. Exegetical Theol'y	Knox's College... ..	"
*William Reid, A.M. ...	General Agent of the Church	.....	"
*James Harris .....	.....	.....	.....
*Thomas Lowry	*William Heron	Whitby	Whitby.
A. T. Holmes .....	.....	Chingacousy.	Chingacousy.
*Thomas Wightman... ..	*Thomas Reive	Innisfil, Barrie, &c.	Lefroy,
*John McTavish	*Alexander Calder	Thorah & Eldon... ..	Beaverton.
*John McLachlan.....	*Duncan Kennedy	Acton.	Acton.
*William Gregg, A.M. ...	*John Rogers	Cookes' Ch To'rnto	Toronto.
*James Nisbet.....	*James Macdonald	Oakville	Oakville.
*Robert Ure	*William Leslie.....	Streetsville... ..	Streetsville.
*R. C. Swinton... ..	*R. Hopkin	Markham.	Buttonville.
*John Gray	*Daniel McCallum	Orillia and Oro ..	Orillia.
*Jos. Alexander, A.M. .	James Frazer	Union and Norval.	Norval.
*James Adams.....	.....	King.	Nobleton.
*John Laing	*William Ferguson... ..	Scarboro'	Agincourt.
*James Mitchell	*James Riach	Milton & Boston..	Milton.
John Black.	Thomas Dallas.....	Red River... ..	Red River.
Thomas Sharp.....	.....	Ashburn & Utica.	Ashburn.
Daniel Anderson.....	.....	Brock & Reach... ..	Wick.
.....	*Alexander Wallace....	Knox's Ch, Toronto	Toronto.

WILLIAM GREGG, *Pres. Clerk, Toronto.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.	POST OFFICES.
James Douglass.....	Robert Byers	S. Cavan & Mill'brk	Millbrook.
*Donald McLeod.....	*Andrew Jeffrey	Cobourg	Cobourg.
*John M. Roger	*James Hamilton	Peterboro'.....	Peterboro'.
*John W. Smith	*James Carruthers	Grafton.....	Grafton.
*William J. McKenzie.....	*Allan McIntosh	Balt. & Coldspr'gs.	Baltimore.
Francis Andrews.....	Duncan McIntyre	Otonabee	Otonabee.
*John Smith	*John McGlaughlin	Darlington.....	Darlington.
*William Blain.....	.....	Springville.....	Springville.
*James Bowie	John McLean	Norwood	Norwood.
William C. Windell.....	.....	Crt'right & Man'rs	Ballyduff.
*Peter Duncan	*George Inglis	Colborn & Brighton	Colborne.
*Thomas Alexander.....	James Gilmour.....	Percy & Seymour.	Norham.

JAMES BOWIE, *Presbytery Clerk, Norwood.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.	POST OFFICES.
*Henry Gordon.....	*G. W. Lindsay.....	Gananoque.....	Gananoque.
*Peter Gray	*John Honeyman	Kingston, Chal. Ch.	Kingston.
*Andrew Wilson.....	*James McLaughlin	" Brock St "	Kingston.
*William F. White	*Dr. Rufus Holden.....	Belleville.....	Belleville.
.....	Samuel Anderson	Picton.....	Picton.
James Hume	James Fargey	Melrose & Roslin.	Melrose.
*David Wishart	*Robert Cooper	Madoc	Madoc.
*James A. Thomson	*James Thomson.....	Trenton & Consecn	Trenton.

JAMES A. THOMSON, *Pres. Clerk, Trenton.*

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE AND OTTAWA.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.	POST OFFICES.
William Smart.....	.....	Without charge.	.....
*Robert Boyd, D.D....	*Joseph Reid.....	Prescott.....	Prescott.
William Lohead.....	.....	Gloc'str & N Gow'r	Kars.
James Geggie .....	.....	Dalhousie	Watson's Corner.
*Thomas Wardrope....	*Donald Robertson....	Ottawa.....	Ottawa.
*Andrew Mellville....	William Elliot.....	Edwardsburg.....	Edwardsburgh.
*John Corbett.....	.....	Wakefield.....	Wakefield.
*James B. Duncan....	*Thomas Nicol	Perth.....	Perth.
John C. Quin.....	.....	Kemptville.....	Kemptville.
*John L. Gourlay.....	Hugh Gourlay	Aylmer & Nepean.	Aylmer.
*James Smith, A.M....	A. Sherwood.....	Brockville	Brockville.
*David Wardrope....	.....	Bristol.....	Bristol.
*Henry McMeekin....	David Bell.....	Pembroke.....	Pembroke.
Archibald Crawford..	Peter Ewing.....	West Port.....	West Port.
*Donald E. Montgomery	*James Allan.....	S. Gower & Mount'n	S. Gower.
Vacant .....	.....	Osgoode & Russell.	Osgoode.
Vacant .....	.....	Ramsay	Ramsay.
Vacant .....	.....	Beckwith.....	Beckwith.
Vacant .....	.....	McNab.....	McNab.
Vacant .....	.....	Renfrew.....	Renfrew.
Vacant	William Lough.....	Cumberland.....	Cumberland.

(This Presbytery is now divided into the Presbytery of Brockville, and the Presbytery of Ottawa. See page 17.)

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.	POST OFFICES.
William McAlister		Metis	Metis.
*William B. Clark	*O. Richardson	Quebec	Quebec.
Thomas Henry		Lachute	Lachute.
*Daniel Gordon		Indian Lands, &c.	Athol.
		Osnabruck, &c.	Osnabruck.
*Donald Fraser. A. M.	John Redpath	Cote St., Montreal.	Montreal.
*Alexander F. Kemp	W. McBean	St. Gabriel St., do.	"
*William Scott		St. Sylvester	St. Sylvester.
Ewen McLean		Winslow	Gould.
*Duncan Cameron	*Archibald McNab	Lochiel	Kenyon.
*James McConechy		Leeds	Leeds.
*Hugh Campbell	*R. Craig	Cornwall	Cornwall.
*John Anderson	*H. Campbell	Lancaster	Lancaster.
*Robert McArthur	*James Brodie	St. L. de G'gue, &c.	St. Louis de G'gue.
*John Milne	*D. Cattnach	English River	Howick.
*John Crombie	*James Gibb	Inverness	Inverness.
*Peter Currie		Vankleek Hill	Vankleekhill.
*William McLaren		Boston, U. S.	Boston, U. S.
Alexander Allan		St. Eustache, &c.	St. Eustache.

Election of Moderator. The Synod then proceeded to elect a Moderator, when Mr. T. Wardrope of Ottawa was unanimously elected, and took the chair.

Committee on Bills and Overtures. The Synod appointed the following Committee on Bills and Overtures, namely:—the Moderator, and Clerk of Synod, Messrs. D. Fraser, Kemp, Crombie, T. McPherson, J. Scott, King, Ross, Straith, S. Young, Dr. Bayne, Messrs. Inglis, Geikie, Dr. Boyd, Messrs. J. B. Duncan, Gourlay, Montgomery, Ross, Professor Young, Messrs. Lowry, Gregg, Ure, Roger, Blain, Bowie, Alexander, Gordon, Thomson, Wilson, Ministers; and Messrs. McNab, Campbell, J. Brown, James Boyd, Cowan, Idington, James Ross, Joseph Reid, D. Robertson, Heron, Rogers, Wallace, Byers, Carruthers, and Dr. Holden, Elder; Mr. Smellie to be Chairman, and Mr. Kemp, Clerk.

Arrangements for daily sessions. The Synod agreed to observe the same order in regard to the daily sessions, as last year, viz:—To meet at Ten o'clock, a.m., continuing in session until One; to meet at Three, p. m., continuing in session until Six; and to meet at Seven, continuing in Session, generally, until Ten.

The Synod further agreed to meet to-morrow, at 11, a. m., the first part of the diet to be spent in devotional exercises.

Leave granted to Presbyteries to meet. The Synod granted leave to Presbyteries, to meet in Hamilton, for competent business, during the intervals of the Sessions of Synod.

On motion made and seconded, it was resolved to convey the thanks of the Synod to the late Moderator, Mr. Smellie, for his suitable and excellent sermon; thanks were accordingly tendered to Mr. Smellie, by the Moderator.

Thanks to the late Moderator for sermon.

The Synod appointed the following Committee to report as to the supply of pulpits on Sabbath, 20th, viz:—Messrs. McTavish, Kemp, and Gregg, together with the Ministers of Knox's Church, and McNab Street Church; Mr. Inglis, Convener.

Committee for supply of pulpits on Sabbath 20th.

The Diet was closed with prayer.

SECOND SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 16th June, 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The Synod, according to previous resolution, spent the first part of the Diet in devotional exercises, which were conducted by the Moderator, Messrs. A. Wilson, D. McKenzie, and Professor Young.

Devotional exercises.

The minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures gave in a report, which was received and sustained.

On motion made and seconded, Dr. Cairns, and Mr. Chambers, ordained ministers, were asked to sit with the Synod, and took their seats accordingly.

Dr. Cairns & Mr. Chambers, asked to sit with Synod

The Synod appointed the following Committees for examining Presbytery Records, viz:—

For Presbytery of London—Messrs. Gregg, James Smith and T. Nicol.

Committees on Presbytery Records.

For Presbytery of Hamilton—Messrs. Kemp, Scott and D. Robertson.

For Presbytery of Toronto—Messrs. McRuar, Gourlay, and Joseph Reid.

For Presbytery of Cobourg—Messrs. S. Young, Anderson, and Cattanaach.

For Presbytery of Kingston—Messrs. W. J. McKenzie, Ball, and Clark.

For Presbytery of Brockville—Messrs. Cheyne, Lowry, and McNab.

For Presbytery of Montreal—Messrs. T. McPherson, J. B. Duncan, and Mr. Campbell.

The Synod also appointed Messrs. Smellie, McLaren, John Smith and J. Cowan, to examine the Synod Record.

Committee on Synod Record.

Committee on
Statistics

The Synod appointed the following Committee to examine and report on the Statistical Returns, viz:—J. Laing, Convener, Messrs. A. Wilson, T. S. Hodgskin and Dr. Holden.

Committee to examine and classify Returns of Presbyteries to overtures.

The Synod appointed the following Committee, to examine and classify the Returns of Presbyteries to the overtures sent down by last Synod, viz:—Messrs R. F. Burns, J. McLachlan, S. Young, and J. Cowan; Mr Burns, Convener.

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

THIRD SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 17th June, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The Minutes of last diet were read, and sustained.

Students to be taken on trials for license.

Application having been duly made, and the necessary extracts and certificates having been read, the Synod granted leave to Presbyteries to receive on public probationary trials, viz: Mr. A. D. McDonald, Mr. Archibald McDiarmid, Mr. Donald McLean, and Mr. Adam McQueen.

The Rev. Messrs. Thornton, Aitken, and Ormiston, Ministers of the United Presbyterian Church, being present, were invited to sit with the Synod, as corresponding members.

Report of Committee on Incorporation of Knox College.

The Synod then called for the report of the Committee appointed on the Act of Incorporation for Knox College. The report was given in by Mr. Kemp, Convener, who detailed the proceedings of the Committee, and the various steps taken for having the proposed Act of Incorporation passed into law. After full discussion, the following motion was agreed to:

“The Synod receive the report of the Committee, tender their thanks for the diligence they have shown in the matter committed to their care; re-appoint said Committee with the addition of Mr. M. Y. Stark, Minister, and Messrs. A. Jeffrey, A. Fraser, and A. Mitchell, Elders; and with reference to the points they have submitted to the Synod for consideration, approve of the alterations which they have made in the Act, and instruct them to endeavour to get said Act passed into law without delay.”

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

FOURTH SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 16th June, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod again met, and were constituted with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

Messrs. Aitken and Thornton, deputies of Synod

Mr. Scott of London introduced to the Synod Messrs. Aitken and Thornton, deputies appointed by the Synod of the United

Presbyterian Church, to wait upon this Synod, their Commission of U. P. Church having previously been given in to the Clerk, and read. After a few address Synod. words of welcome from the Moderator, these brethren proceeded to address the Synod, and laid before the Synod the resolutions recently adopted by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church on the subject of Union. Thereafter the following motion was unanimously adopted viz:—

“That the thanks of this Court be given to the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, for the appointment of a deputation to this Synod, to convey an expression of their hearty good will towards our Church and its members, and to state their earnest and sincere desire to bring about such a union, as may best give efficiency under the divine blessing, to their united efforts for promoting the glory of God, and the interests of the Redeemer’s Kingdom.

“That moreover, the Synod thank the members of the deputation most heartily for the manner in which they have discharged their commission, and for the sentiments which they have evinced. The Synod sincerely reciprocate the feelings of respect and brotherly love expressed by them, alike towards the members of the deputation individually, and to the Church with which they are connected; and indulge the fond hope that the efforts of the two Churches to come to a satisfactory ground of union, and to a full unity of principle and of spirit may, by the blessing of God, be speedily crowned with success.”

On motion made and seconded, the Synod engaged in devotional exercises, which were conducted by Mr. Kemp, after the singing of the 133rd, Psalm.

The Synod then took up a letter from Rev. Dr. Hatfield, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (N. S.) proposing fraternal intercourse between the two churches. Letter from Rev. Dr. Hatfield

The matter was referred to the following Committee, viz: Mr. Lowry, (Convener) Dr. Burns, Messrs. Stark, Scott, D. Fraser, King, and McLaren, with instructions to them also to consider and report as to the expediency of correspondence with the United Presbyterian Church of America. referred to Committee

The Synod afterwards proceeded to consider an overture from the Presbytery of Montreal on the subject of the relation of Baptized Children to the Church. The overture was in the following terms, viz:— Overtures on subject of relation of Baptized Children to the Church.

“Whereas there is reason to believe that a confusion of sentiment widely prevails regarding the connection of baptised children and youth with the Church; it is respectfully overtured by the Presbytery of Montreal, to the Reverend the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, to take into its serious consideration, the best mode, or modes, of practically recognizing that connection, and securing the benefits that may accompany or flow from it, as respects alike the Church’s maternal duty to her children, and their filial obligation to her.”

After discussion, the following motion was unanimously adopted, viz— approved and referred to Committee.

“That the Overture be received, and the object of it cordially approved, and a Committee appointed to take into consideration the

best means of attaining the ends contemplated therein, and report; the Committee to consist of Mr. D. Fraser, Convener, Dr. Bayne, Dr. Boyd, Mr. H. Campbell, Mr. McLaren and Mr. Burns."

The diet was then closed with prayer.

FIFTH SESSION.

THURSDAY, 17th June, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented a Report, which was sustained.

Dr. Thomson of New York invited to sit with Synod.

Baptism of converts from Popery.

Mr. Wilson's motion

On motion made and seconded, Dr. J. Thomson of Grand Street Church, New York, was invited to take a seat with the Synod.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the question of baptism of converts from Popery. The returns from Presbyteries, to the overture sent down by last Synod, were read. The following motions were duly made and seconded:

1. It was moved by Mr. A. Wilson, and seconded by Mr. W. McLaren:

"That the Synod having considered the report of the Committee appointed to classify returns from Presbyteries on the question of Romish Baptism, appoint a Committee to prepare an overture to be sent down to Presbyteries on the subject of the Baptism of converts from the Church of Rome, and to report at a subsequent diet; the Committee to consist of Mr. McLaren, (Convener,) Messrs. McPherson, A. Wilson, Dr. Bayne, Ministers; and Messrs. McLaughlin, Joseph Reid, J. Rogers, and Dr. Holden, Elders.

Dr. Bayne's motion.

2. It was moved in amendment by Dr. Bayne, and duly seconded:

"That the Synod having considered the returns from Presbyteries on the overture anent Romish Baptism find, that, in view of the diversity of opinion which obtains on the subject of the validity of said Baptism, and the difficulties with which the whole subject is confessedly surrounded, it would be unsafe in present circumstances to come to a final decision regarding it; at the same time they recommend the question to the thorough and prayerful investigation of office-bearers, and others, and to such deliberation and discussion on the part of Presbyteries, as may seem to them best fitted for eliciting the truth, and promoting harmony of opinion regarding it; and in the meantime, declare that the practice of our Church with reference to converts from Popery shall remain unchanged, and, further, in view of the importance of securing unity and weight to the testimony borne by Protestants against the errors of Popery, and of obviating the confusion that might result from a diversity of practice in the treatment of converts from Rome, among the Protestant Churches, the Synod record their opinion that, in the event of any movement being at a future time made within this Synod for declaring Romish baptism to be invalid, it is highly desirable that steps should be

taken, before a final decision is come to, for bringing the subject before the Protestant Churches, and especially those with which we are in friendly communion, and securing, as far as possible, consentaneous and harmonious action regarding it."

3. It was moved, as another amendment, by Mr. T. McPherson, ^{Mr. McPherson's motion.} and seconded by Mr. J. McLachlan :

"That while this Synod willingly admits, that in spite of the Popish system itself, individuals connected therewith may be converted and saved by the Spirit of God, who worketh when and where He pleaseth, and in this sense a portion of Christ's people may be found in its pale, yet this Synod cannot but consider the Church of Rome as having now so far, and amidst so much light, departed from the truth as it is in Christ, and became so corrupt, that she ought, as an organized body, no longer, whatever she may have been in former time, to be regarded as a section of Christ's visible Church. Holding these views, and considering the corrupt and superstitious manner in which this ordinance is administered, as well as the erroneous views held regarding it, they are of opinion, that, when converts from Romanism are admitted into the communion of this Church, they ought to be baptised."

After full discussion a division was called for. Dr. Bayne's amendment, and Mr. McPherson's were first put against each other, when 79 voted for Dr. Bayne's, and 48 for Mr. McPherson's. Dr. Bayne's amendment was then put against the original motion, when the motion was carried by a large majority. ^{Mr. Wilson's motion carried.}

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

SIXTH SESSION.

THURSDAY, 17th June, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The Minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod proceeded to take up the question of union with the United Presbyterian Church. The report of the Committee was given in and read by Mr. Ure, Convener. ^{Union with U. P Church.}

It was unanimously agreed to receive the report of the Committee, and tender to them the thanks of the Synod for their diligence, and proceed to consider at length the substance of the report. The resolutions of the United Presbyterian Church on the subject were also read, and several memorials from Congregations on the subject of union.

The following are the resolutions of the United Presbyterian Church:— ^{Resolutions of U P. Synod.}

1. That this Synod is sincerely and earnestly desirous of union with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and is fully persuaded of the practicability of such union, on grounds, that will compromise the principles of neither Church, and secure the harmonious action of both.

2. That this Synod regard the action of the Joint-Committees as having served a most important purpose in preparing the way for the formation of a basis, on which the union so much to be desired, may be speedily and happily consummated.

3. That the Committee be instructed to draw up such basis, and that that basis shall consist of the great leading principles on which the two Churches are agreed, and shall provide that a full and unfettered forbearance shall be exercised by both Churches on the one point, viz., the Magistrate's power in matters of religion, on which there is confessedly a difference of opinion between the two Churches, although as the minutes of the Joint-Committees show, not a difference so great as to require, or warrant their prolonged separation.

4. That the basis of union when prepared, and agreed upon by the Joint-Committees, shall be sent down for the consideration of Presbyteries and Sessions of this Church, with instructions to report on the same by the month of October, when a special meeting of Synod may be called for their consideration, with a view to an immediate union.

5. That the deputation of this Synod, appointed to attend the approaching meeting of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in this city, be instructed to express the fraternal regards of this Synod towards that Church, and to lay these resolutions before them, and request the re-appointment of the Committee to co-operate with ours, in framing the basis of the contemplated union.

Extracted from the minutes of Synod by

WM. FRASER, *Synod Clerk.*

Prof. Young's
motion.

The following motion were then proposed, viz:—1. It was moved by Professor Young, seconded by Mr. McMeekin:—

That the Synod approve of the Articles drawn up by the Joint Committees, and rejoice in the prospect of a union with the United Presbyterian Church on a basis which shall recognize the principles expressed in the said Articles. Further, having learned from the Deputies of the United Presbyterian Church who yesterday addressed this Synod, and from the documents which they handed in, that the United Presbyterian Synod, regarding the action of the Joint Committees as having served a most important purpose in preparing the way for the formation of a basis of union between the Churches, have re-appointed their Committee to draw up, in conjunction with any Committee which this Church may nominate, a basis of union, the Synod appoint a Committee to meet with the Committee of the United Presbyterian Church for this purpose, instructing the Committee so named to be careful that the basis to be framed, be in harmony with the principles set forth in the Articles agreed upon by the Joint Committees.

Dr. Bayne's mo-
tion.

2 It was moved by Dr. Bayne, seconded by Mr. McRuar:

I. That the Synod having heard the report of the Committee on union with the United Presbyterian Church, and considered the Articles agreed on by said Committee in conjunction with the Committee of the United Presbyterian Church, as embodying the opinions of both Committees, on the points about which differences between the respective Synods have been supposed to exist, approve generally of said Articles as embodying substantially the views which this Synod are anxious to uphold, with this exception, that in the *second* Article of the last series of articles agreed upon, there is a reference to "differences of opinion which confessedly exist between the two bodies, particularly on the power of the Civil Magistrate with regard to religion," which is so expressed that it

seems to qualify, if not to set aside, the whole of the *third* Article of the first series—record their satisfaction that so much harmony of opinion on the questions to which these Articles relate, appears to have obtained among the members of the respective Committees—and express their opinion, that if these Articles, especially those in the first series, had been explicitly sanctioned and approved by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, a basis of union might in all probability have been framed from them, on which a union of the two Churches might have been consummated.

II. But the Synod having also considered the deliverance of the Synod of United Presbyterian Church, on the report of their committee containing the aforesaid articles, find that no explicit intimation has been given by said Synod, how far they are prepared to approve of said articles, or to make the principles embodied in them a basis of union, and that it is at the same time proposed that a basis of union shall provide that a full and unfettered forbearance shall be shown towards differences of opinion, which are not specified, on the point of the magistrate's power in matters of religion—a point which from its obvious and far-reaching relations, and especially the connection between the power and the duty of the magistrate, embraces the whole question of the duties which the civil magistrate owes to Christ as governor among the nations; and the Synod in these circumstances feel that the proposal to draw up such a basis of union is premature, inasmuch as they are still left in uncertainty as to what is the nature, or the amount, or the importance of the differences of opinion, to which they are asked to show forbearance.

III. The Synod, at the same time, still deeply feeling the desirableness of union between the respective churches, provided such union can be effected without a compromise of important principles, and anxious, if possible, to remove obstacles to such union out of the way, deem it due to themselves, and to their brethren of the United Presbyterian Church, to state explicitly the position in which the respective Synods appear to them to stand with reference to the points at issue between them, and the principles they are anxious to uphold unimpaired, in agreeing to terms of union.

IV. With this view, the Synod re-appoint the Committee on Union, with instructions to bring in such form and with such explanations as they may deem fit, the following statement before the Committee of the United Presbyterian Church, and to request that it may be submitted to the Synod of said Church, and made the ground of such an explanatory reply as this Synod earnestly and affectionately crave.

1st. With regard to the position in which the respective Synods stand, the following facts are submitted:—

(1) That this Synod still holds unchanged, the principles, on the whole subject of the duty, which men in their civil relations owe to Christ as Governor among the nations, which have been held by them from their first formation.

(2) That the Synod, or at least some of the members of the Synod, of the United Presbyterian Church, frankly and explicitly avow, that they hold, to some extent, views of the aforesaid principles different from those held by this Synod, and which they believe to be more in accordance with the proper meaning of the Word of God."

(3.) That the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church have never defined or declared the principles actually held, or allowed to be held, by them on the aforesaid subject.

(4.) That in these circumstances this Synod is plainly not in a position to say to what views or principles, differing from our own, they are asked to show forbearance in order to union; and cannot be otherwise, till an authoritative intimation is given by the United Presbyterian Synod of the views held or tolerated by them on the aforesaid subject.

2nd. With regard again to the principles on which this Synod are prepared to enter into union with the United Presbyterian Church, the Synod would also submit the following explanation:

(1.) That as to one point, a difference of opinion with regard to which has been often erroneously represented as the main, if not the sole, hindrance to union, viz.: the question of the endowment of the Church by the State, this Synod are prepared to exercise the fullest forbearance as to any difference of opinion which may prevail between them and the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, or to leave the whole subject, in other words, an open question.

(2.) That while the question of endowments need not present any hindrance to an immediate union of the Churches, the principles which this Synod in contemplating union are anxious to uphold, and their hereditary testimony for which they seek to be at liberty still to offer unimpaired, are the following, all of them comprehended under the general subject of the duty which men in their civil relations—including what is for brevity usually termed the magistrate, but by which is properly intended all, who directly or indirectly, determine the legislative or administrative action of a state, owe to Christ.

1. That it is the duty of the Magistrate, publicly and officially, to acknowledge and guide himself by the relation which God has been pleased to give of His will.

2. To confess and bow to the authority of Christ, whom that revelation proclaims to be the Governor among the nations, seeing to it that the constitution, legislation, and administration of the State are based on Christianity.

3. To discriminate between truth and error in making public provision for the education of the young, and to provide that, as far as possible, education shall be based upon, and leavened with sound principles of morality and religion, yet, so as to do no violence to the consciences of any.

4. To recognise in particular the Sabbath, not only as a day of rest, man's need for which may be inferred from natural principles, but as a divine institute, which is to be kept from desecration, on the ground that it is so, whatever may be thought of man's natural right to a day of rest.

V. That the Committee be empowered, if they shall see cause, to call by requisition to the Moderator, a meeting of this Synod at any time before next ordinary meeting, that they may deem desirable, and, if they do not deem this necessary, they shall then report to the Synod at next ordinary meeting.

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

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SEVENTH SESSION.

THURSDAY, 16th June, 7 o'clock P. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod took up a memorial from the Congregation of Walpole, with reference to the Synodical collections. On motion made and seconded the Synod remitted the memorial to the Presbytery of Hamilton instructing them to deal with the Congregation of Walpole by deputation or otherwise, to instruct them as to their duty to carry out Synodical appointments, at the same time to deal with them in a tender and judicious spirit, with the view of removing any existing difficulties.

memorial from Walpole.

The Synod, on the report of the Committee previously appointed for the purpose, appointed the following Ministers to preach on Sabbath the 20th viz:—

Ministers appointed to preach on Sabbath.

McNab Street Church—Mr. P. Gray, in the morning; Mr. Wilson in the afternoon; and Mr. Fraser in the evening.

Knox's Church.—Mr. Kemp in the morning; and Mr. James Smith in the evening.

The Synod who appointed Mr. Anderson to conduct a Gaelic Service in McNab Street Church at 9 A. M.

The Synod proceeded to the further consideration of the question of union with the United Presbyterian Church.

Union with U. P. Church.

Several members, having addressed the Synod, the diet was closed with prayer.

EIGHTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, 18th June, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, presented a Report which was sustained.

The Synod resumed consideration of the question of Union.

Union with U. P. Church.

In addition to the motions previously submitted, Mr. D. Fraser, seconded by Mr. J. Ross, moved the following viz:

Mr. Fraser's motion.

The Synod approve of the Articles drawn up by the Joint Committees of the two Churches, as embodying the views, on the important questions therein treated of, which this Church has always been anxious to uphold.

Further, the Synod, although embarrassed by the circumstance that the United Presbyterian Synod have *not*, in their resolutions recently laid upon table, expressed any opinion regarding the said articles; yet, being assured that they regard the action of the Joint Committees as having served a most important purpose, in preparing the way for the formation of a basis of Union, and that they desire the re-appointment of the Committee of this Church to co-operate with theirs in forming said basis, now re-appoint the committee for that purpose, instructing them to take heed that the basis of Union be in harmony with the principles set forth in the articles already framed by the Joint Committees, and now approved by this Synod; and also to give it frankly to be understood, that this Church cannot, in consistency with its views of truth and duty, treat with unfettered forbearance, all varieties of opinion on the relations of the Magistrate, or of Civil Government to revealed Religion. But, finally, instruct the Committee to assure the Committee of the United Presbyterian Synod, that this Church is not only willing, but sincerely desirous, to form, without any needless delay, a union with them on a basis, which, allowing forbearance on minor relations or applications of the question, shall distinctly assert the Headship of the Lord Jesus over the nations of the earth, and the duty of the Civil Magistrate to acknowledge and obey the revelation of God's authority in His inspired Word.

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

NINTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, 18th June, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last sederunt were read and sustained.

Dr. Wilkes invited to sit with Synod.

On motion made and seconded. Dr. Wilkes of the Congregational Church, Montreal, being present, was invited to take a seat with the Synod.

Union with U. P. Church.

The Synod resumed consideration of the motions previously submitted on the question of Union.

Mr. Fraser's motion carried.

After full discussion, a division was called for, when on Dr. Baynes motion, and Dr. Fraser's being put to the house, 18 voted for Dr. Bayne's and 126 for Mr. Fraser's. Mr. Young's motion and Mr. Fraser's were next put to the house, when 14 voted for Mr. Young's motion, and 116 for Mr. Fraser's, 15 declining to vote.

Mr. Fraser's motion was accordingly declared to be the decision of the house.

Dr. Bayne requested his name to be withdrawn from the Committee on Union.

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

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TENTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, 18th June, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod took up an Overture from the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa for a division of said Presbytery. The Synod granted the application of the Presbytery, and agreed to a division according to the request of the Presbytery, viz:

Overture for division of Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa.

1. The Presbytery of Brockville, comprising the following ministers, congregations, and stations, viz., R. Boyd, D.D., Prescott; W. Lothead, Gloucester, and N. Gower; J. Smith, A. M. Brockville; A. Melville, Edwardsburgh; A. Crawford, Westport; J. C. Quin, Kemptville; D. E. Montgomery, S. Gower and Mountain; together with Yonge, and Bellamyville.

2. The other to be called the Presbytery of Ottawa, to comprise the following ministers, congregations, and Mission stations, viz.: J. Geggie, Dalhousie; Thomas Wardrope, Ottawa; J. Corbett, Wakefield; J. B. Duncan, Perth; J. L. Gourlay, Aylmer, and Nepean; D. Wardrope, Bristol; H. McMeekin, Pembroke; together with the following vacant congregations and stations, viz., Ramsay, McNab, Renfrew, Beekwith, Osgoode and Russell, Cumberland and Thurso.

The Synod further appointed the Presbytery of Brockville to meet at Brockville on the last Tuesday of July, at 7½ p.m., Mr. James Smith, Moderator; and the Presbytery of Ottawa to meet at Ottawa on the first Tuesday of August at 7½ p.m., Mr. D. Wardrope, Moderator.

The minutes of the joint Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa shall be placed in charge of the Presbytery of Brockville, and shall at any time be open for reference to the Presbytery of Ottawa.

The joint Presbytery shall meet at Hamilton on Tuesday 22nd inst., at 2½ o'clock, p.m., to transmit any business that may be necessary, and specially to agree to a geographical boundary between the two Presbyteries, and, at the first meeting of the separate Presbyteries, the same shall be inserted in their respective minutes, together with an extract of the minute of Synod sanctioning the division.

The Synod then proceeded to call for the Report of the College Committee. The same was given in by Mr. Gregg, Convener.

Report of College Committee called for.

After discussion, the following deliverance was agreed to, viz.

Deliverance Synod.

"That the Report be received and sustained, and in view of the paramount importance of the Theological Seminary to the welfare of our church and country, adopt its recommendation for the appointment of a day of special prayer on its behalf; and further, that the thanks of the Synod be tendered to the Rev. Dr. Burns and the Rev. D. Fraser, for their energetic and successful efforts in Great Britain and Ireland on behalf of the College Building Fund, and to the Colonial Committees of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and of the Free Church of Scotland, as well as to Christian friends in these countries, and in England, for their liberal donations to this institution. The Synod also would express their thanks to the Convener and members of the Committee for their diligence, and regret to find

that the income of the College has not yet met the necessary expenditure, and again urge upon Presbyteries and office-bearers of the Church the necessity of increased contributions, and remit to the College Committee to be appointed the consideration of any special measures that may be required to liquidate the present arrears on the ordinary College Fund. The Synod further appoint the first Sabbath of November as a day of special prayer throughout the Church in behalf of the College.

The College Committee was appointed as follows, viz :

College Committee.

From Presbytery of London,—Messrs. Scott, Ross, D. McKenzie, Ball, T. McPherson, D. McDiarmid, R. Wallace, ministers; Messrs. Clark, Smith, Gunn, and Douglas, elders.

From Presbytery of Hamilton,—Dr. Bayne, Dr. Irvine, Messrs. Inglis, McRuar, S. Young, J. Alexander, ministers, and Messrs. Dickerman, Hopkin, Davidson and Cowan, elders.

From the Presbytery of Toronto,—Dr. Willis, Dr. Burns, Professor Young, Messrs. Reid, Lowry, Gregg, McTavish, Ure, and Laing ministers, and Messrs. McMurrich, Henning, C. S. Patterson, and J. Laidlaw.

From the Presbytery of Cobourg,—Messrs McLeod, Roger, J. Smith, ministers, and Messrs Riddell, and Fraser, elders.

From Presbytery of Kingston, Messrs. Wilson, Gordon, and Gray, ministers; Dr. Holden Messrs. McLaughlin, and Stewart, elders.

From the Presbytery of Brockville,—Dr. Boyd and Mr. Smith, ministers; Messrs. Sherwood, and Joseph Reid, elders.

From the Presbytery of Ottawa,—Messrs. T. Wardrope, Duncan, and Gourlay, ministers, and Messrs. Robertson and Nicoll, elders.

From the Presbytery of Montreal,—Messrs. Clark, Fraser, Kemp, Anderson, ministers, and Messrs. Richardson, Gibb, Court, Redpath, F. W. Torrance, elders; Mr. Gregg, Convener.

The Synod appointed also Messrs. Gregg, Reid, Ure, Stark, and Inglis, ministers, with Messrs. McMurrich, Jeffrey, and Dr. Holden, as assessors to the Professors' Court, or College Senate.

The Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, and the diet was closed with prayer.

ELEVENTH SESSION.

SATURDAY, 19th June, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

Next meeting of Synod appointed.

The Synod appointed the next ordinary meeting of the Synod to be held at Toronto, within Cooke's Church, on the second Tuesday of June 1859 at half past seven o'clock P. M.

Report on Colportage.

The Synod thereafter called for the Report of the Committee on Colportage. The same was given in by Mr. Inglis, Convener. After reasoning it was resolved, on motion made and seconded, "That the Synod receive the report; the Synod, while still impressed with a sense of the importance of Colportage, resolve to

wind up the present scheme, and instruct the Board to dispose of the stock on hand as soon as possible, and to adopt such means as they may think best for the liquidation of the debt now due, and report at next meeting of Synod. The Board was re-appointed.

The Synod called for the Report of the Presbytery of Cobourg, on the petition of Dr. Mair, of Kingston, remitted to that Presbytery by last Synod, on the subject of the use of intoxicating wine at the Lord's table. The report was given in and read. On motion made and seconded, the Synod agreed to receive and adopt the report, in so far as it states that the agitation of this question does not tend to edification, and further recommends to the office-bearers of the Church to endeavour to procure for sacramental use the purest wine within their reach.

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

TWELFTH SESSION.

SATURDAY, 19th June, 3 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to invite Mr. Balfour, a Minister of the Free Church of Scotland to take a seat with the Synod.

On application duly made in accordance with the rules of the Church, the Synod granted leave to the Presbytery of Toronto to receive as a minister of this church Mr. White, and to the Presbytery of Kingston to receive Mr. S. B. Shaw.

The Synod thereafter proceeded to take up an overture from a number of members of Synod on the subject of the ordination of ministers from Foreign Churches. The overture was in the following terms, viz:—

“Whereas it is contrary to the principles and usage of Presbyterian Churches to ordain, except to the cure of souls, unless when sending missionaries where the Gospel is not preached, and its ordinances cannot be otherwise administered according to the practice of the church sending them;

“And whereas the Presbyterian Church in Ireland does invariably ordain probationers coming from that body to this church;

“And whereas the circumstances of this Province are not such as to call for such procedure.

It is hereby respectfully overtured to the Synod, that a communication be addressed to that sister church, directing attention to the practice complained of, and earnestly recommending its discontinuance

JOHN MCTAVISH,
J. BAYNE,
JAMES MIDDLEMISS,
WILLIAM GREGG,
JOHN LAING,
GEORGE P. YOUNG,
W. McLAREN,
DAVID INGLIS,
JOHN M. ROGER.

Report on Petition to Dr. Mair.

Mr. Balfour invited to sit with Synod.

Leave given to receive Messrs. White and Shaw.

Overture on ordination of Ministers from Foreign Churches.

The Synod approved of the overture and appointed a Committee to carry out its recommendations.

Report on Mission to American Indians.

The Synod called for the report of the Presbytery of Toronto on the subject of a mission to the American Indians. The report was resolved and sustained, and the subject again remitted to the Presbytery of Toronto, to collect further information, and report at next meeting of Synod.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.

The Synod called for the report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools. The same was given in by Mr. Gregg, Convener. It was agreed to receive and sustain the report, and return the thanks of the Synod to the Convener, who begged to be relieved from the duties devolved upon him. The Synod re-appointed the Committee, Mr. John Gray, of Orillia, Convener, instructing them to collect statistical information on the subject of Sabbath School operations.

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

THIRTEENTH SESSION.

MONDAY, 21st June, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

Report of Committee on returns to Overtures

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented a report, which was sustained.

The Synod called for the report of the Committee appointed to classify and report on the returns of Presbyteries to overtures sent down by last Synod. The same was given in by Mr. Burns, Convener.

Overture on Barrier Act approv'd

1. It appeared from the report that a majority of Presbyteries approved of the Barrier Act. It was moved, seconded and agreed, that the Barrier Act having received the consent of a majority of Presbyteries be passed into a standing law of the church, in the following terms, viz:—

“Whereas it is of importance that all laws proposed, relative to matters of Doctrine, Discipline, Government, or Worship, should, before they are finally enacted, receive the patient and prayerful consideration of the Church,

“And whereas it is manifestly impossible that such consideration can be given during the Session of one meeting of Synod; it is therefore enacted:

1. “That no standing law, or rule shall be made, by overture or otherwise, relative to matters of Doctrine, Discipline, Government, or Worship, until first such shall be submitted to all the Presbyteries of the Church for their approbation; that such approbation be

given by each Presbytery at an ordinary meeting thereof; and that the decision of Presbyteries be recorded in the minutes, and an extract of the same be sent to the Clerk of Synod before its next meeting.

2. "That the Synod, if it see cause, may, by a majority of two-thirds of those present, pass such proposed law or rule into an Interim Act, which shall possess the force of a law, aye and until the Presbyteries have, as herein required, expressed their judgment upon it.

3. "That when a majority of Presbyteries have expressed their approbation, the Synod may pass such proposed law, or rule into a standing law of the church.

4. "That when a majority of the Presbyteries have expressed disapprobation, then the Synod shall reject such proposed law, or rule, or again remit to Presbyteries."

2. It appeared that the Overture relative to the formation of a Central Home Mission Fund, was disapproved of by a majority of Presbyteries, and it was agreed that no further action be taken at present in regard to this matter. Overture on Central Home Mission Fund disapproved.

3. It appeared from the returns of Presbyteries to the Overture on the employment of Probationers, that great diversity of opinion prevailed, and it was accordingly agreed that no action should be taken in the matter. No action taken in regard to Overture on employment of Probationers.

The Synod then took up a reference from the Presbytery of Montreal, involving the question, whether it is competent for a Session to refuse to receive on certificate an individual, on the ground of his being engaged in the indiscriminate sale of intoxicating liquors.—The papers in the case were read, and Mr. Kemp was heard on the part of the Presbytery of Montreal in explanation of the reference. Reference from Presbytery of Montreal.

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

FOURTEENTH SESSION.

MONDAY, 21st June, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted, with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

A Report was given in by the Committee appointed to examine the Synod Record. The Report was received and sustained, and the Record ordered to be attested. Report on Synod Record.

Reports were given in on the Records of the several Presbyteries, which were sustained, and the Records ordered to be attested in terms of the several Reports. Reports on Presbytery Records.

The Synod resumed consideration of the reference from the Presbytery of Montreal. Mr. Fraser was heard for the Session. Further consideration of reference from Montreal.

of Cote Street Church, Montreal. Several motions were brought forward. A Committee was appointed to consider the various motions, and to frame a resolution to submit to the Synod at a subsequent diet.

Report on Wid-
ows' Fund scheme

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on the Widows and Orphans' Fund. The Report was given in and read. It appeared from the Report that the Fund was in a prosperous state, amounting now to \$23968,73, an increase of upwards of \$2400 during the year.

It was agreed to receive and sustain the Report, tender the thanks of the Synod to the Committee, and re-appoint.

It was agreed that Mr. T. Alexander, for many years a Minister of this Church, should be admitted to the benefits of the fund on paying the amount of past rates.

An application of Mr. McMurray of Brockville, for continued connexion with the Fund, was not granted, a similar course having been followed previously.

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

FIFTEENTH SESSION.

MONDAY, 21st June, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted, with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

Report on Fund
for Aged and In-
firm Ministers.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on a Fund for aged and infirm Ministers. The report was given in by Mr. Gregg, Convener. It was agreed to defer the further consideration of this matter until to-morrow morning.

Report on state
of Religion.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on the State of Religion. The same was given in by Mr. Scott, Convener, and read.

On motion made and seconded it was agreed.

"That the Report be received and its recommendations cordially adopted; that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Convener; that the Report be printed in the *Record*, and in the appendix to the minutes of Synod, and the attention of Presbyteries and Sessions affectionately directed to its recommendations."

The Committee was re-appointed.

Report on Statis-
tics.

The Report of the Committee on Statistics was called for, and was given in by Mr. Laing, Convener. On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to receive and sustain the report and tender thanks to the Convener for the diligence and care he has shown in discharging the duty devolved upon him; the Synod further agreed to the suggestions contained in the Report, and

ordered the statistical schedule with the Report to be printed in the *Record*, and appended to the minutes of Synod; the Synod further re-appoint the Committee, instructing them to prepare the statistical return in time to be laid before next Synod at the commencement of its Session. The Committee consists of the following individuals, viz., Mr. T. Dallas, Convener, Messrs. J. Gray, J. Laing, W. Reid, and W. Gregg.

The Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, and the diet was closed with prayer.

SIXTEENTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, 22nd June, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The Minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

On motion made and seconded it was agreed that the following additional clause should be added, to the deliverance of Synod on Union viz :

Deliverance on
Union—additional
Clause.

That the Committee be empowered if they shall see cause to call, by requisition to the Moderator, a meeting of this Synod at any time before next ordinary meeting, that they may deem desirable, and, if they do not deem this necessary, they shall then report to the Synod at next ordinary meeting.

The Committee on Union is re-appointed as follows viz: Mr. Ure, Convener, Dr. Willis, Dr. Burns, Messrs. Laing, Lowry, Inglis, T. Wardrope, Fraser, Scott, Gregg, Ross, Ministers, and Messrs. Heron, Jeffrey, and A. McKenzie Elders.

The Committee appointed at a previous diet to draft a motion on the reference from the Presbytery of Montreal, with reference to the sale of intoxicating drinks, reported the following minute :

“The Synod dismiss the reference in so far as the special case is concerned, on the ground that the party especially interested was not cited, but sustain it, so far as it bears on the general question. The Synod affectionately urge upon Sessions the importance of avoiding everything which might have the appearance of an arbitrary and capricious application of general rules in the exercise of discipline, more especially with reference to matters in which difference of opinion may exist, even among Christians, as to the line of distinction between what is lawful and what is unlawful, and enjoin upon Sessions to ground the rejection of applicants for admission to the privileges of the Church on the evidence of actual vice in connexion with the sale, or use of intoxicating liquors.

Deliverance on
reference from
Montreal.

“While the Synod cannot give sanction to the principle that the sale of spirituous liquors is in all cases sinful, and therefore a valid ground of exclusion from the privileges of the Church, nevertheless the Synod feel that the evils of the traffic, in some of its most common forms, are so great and manifest that it is difficult to realize how a true Christian can feel at liberty to engage in such forms, or being en-

gaged, can continue in them, and that, at all events, it is scarcely possible for a Christian to be connected with them, without serious detriment to his spiritual welfare and to the interests of the cause of Christ, and under this feeling the Synod urge upon Ministers and Sessions to use renewed diligence and faithfulness, and urgency in endeavoring to prevent any to whom their influence may extend, from having anything to do with such forms of a traffic, which is spreading misery and death through the land, and which presents one of the most formidable obstacles to the progress of the Gospel with which they have to contend."

Amendment proposed by Mr. Ure. It was moved by Mr. Ross and duly seconded, that the minute be adopted as reported by the Committee.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Ure and duly seconded that all after the word 'liquors' at the close of the first paragraph be omitted.

The question being put to the House, a majority were in favor of the motion by Mr. Ross, and the minute was accordingly adopted by the Synod.

The diet was then closed with prayer.

SEVENTEENTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, 22nd June, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

Dissent and complaint of Mr. Dow against Pres. of Brockville and Ottawa. The same held as fallen from.

The Synod took up a dissent and complaint of Mr. Dow against a finding of the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa. Parties being called, no appearance was entered for the complainant, when the Synod agreed that the complaint should be regarded as fallen from.

Report of Committee on correspondence with churches in United States.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the letter of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. The same was given in and read. It was in the following terms, viz :

"The Committee to whom was referred the letter of the Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and the instruction of the Synod to consider whether a correspondence should be held with the "United Presbyterian Church of America," recommend to the Synod to instruct the Clerk to give a courteous answer to the letter referred to. The Committee cannot recommend the appointment of a delegate to the next meeting of the Assembly of that Church, although in their opinion the Synod should throw no obstacle in the way of that Assembly's giving this Synod, the fullest information respecting the principles held by that Church.

"The Committee likewise recommend that a letter, signed by the Moderator and Clerk of this Synod, be transmitted to the Moderator of "the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church of America," congratulating that Synod on the union which has lately taken place among them, and expressing the Synod's interest in their welfare, and desire to maintain a fraternal correspondence with them."

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to receive and sustain the Report, and adopt its recommendations.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to draft an Overture on the subject of the baptism of converts from the Church of Rome. Mr. McLaren, Convener, presented a Report embodying the following overture :

"Whereas doubts as to the validity of the Romish Baptism are known to prevail largely among the members of this Church, and especially among that class of them who have been delivered from the errors of Antichrist;

Overture anent
baptising
converts from
Church of Rome

"And whereas, there is known to be a variety of practice among the Sessions of this Church in respect to the manner in which such baptism should be treated; and whereas it is highly important for the interests of truth, and for the consistency of our testimony against the Romish Church, that that organization should be recognized in no other character than that which accords with its own nature, and the declaration of the word of God; and whereas the Church of Rome has so far concealed and distorted the cardinal truths of the Gospel,—has so lapsed into gross idolatry and superstition, and has by the infallibility which she claims, so taken away the liberty of private judgment that her members are in all respects, as far as she is concerned, in the position which our own standards ascribe to those who are out of the visible Church, to whom there is no ordinary possibility of salvation, and, therefore the Church of Rome should not be acknowledged as a branch of the visible Church, nor should those received into her communion be regarded as admitted into the visible Church, nor should her ordinances be accounted as the ordinances of the Church of Christ.

"It is therefore respectfully overtured to the Venerable the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, to declare that Romish Baptism is not to be regarded or treated as Christian baptism, and to instruct Sessions to take action accordingly."

It was agreed that the Overture should be sent down for the consideration of Presbyteries in terms of the Barrier Act.

The Synod afterwards took up the following Overture from the Presbytery of London on the subject of worldly amusements :

Overture
on worldly
amusements,

"Whereas the Church is a spiritual society, in the world, but not of it; and whereas not a few of her members are known frequently to conform to this world in such amusements as dancing, gambling, attendance on theatrical performances and the like, (amusements inconsistent with the Christian character, and detrimental to their spiritual improvement, and their influence upon the godless); and whereas an impression prevails in many quarters that such practices are not contrary to the word of God, or regarded by this Church as deserving of censure, it is, therefore, respectfully overtured by the Presbytery of London to the very Reverend the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, now met in Hamilton, to give such deliverance, or take such

steps in the premises, as may declare the mind of the Church on the subject, prove a guide to the membership, and secure, as far as possible, uniformity of action among her office-bearers."

The Overture was read, and Mr. T. McPherson was heard in support of it. On motion made and seconded, it was agreed:—

"That the Synod, having considered the Overture on the subject of worldly amusements, affectionately and earnestly call the attention of the members of the Church to the necessity of avoiding the appearance of evil, in the way of conformity to the customs of an ungodly world; and the Synod further direct the attention of Sessions to the great importance of acting with caution, affection, and faithfulness, in dealing with any who may, seem to conduct themselves inconsistently in the matter referred to."

Agency Committee's Report.

The Agency Committee presented their Report, which was received. The Committee was re-appointed.

Report on fund for aged and infirm ministers.

The Synod resumed the consideration of the Report on the subject of a Fund for aged and infirm Ministers. After discussion the Synod agreed to receive and sustain the Report, and re-appoint the Committee to consider the matter still further and report at next meeting of Synod.

Overture relating to licensing of students.

The Synod took up an Overture on the licensing of Students. It was agreed to send it down to Presbyteries in terms of the Barrier Act, Presbyteries in the meantime being allowed to follow their present practice.

The Overture is in the following terms:

"Whereas it is of importance to regulate by special enactment of Synod the form of proceeding in the licensing of Students; it is hereby humbly Overtured by the undersigned that the Reverend the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, shall remit the following regulations thereon in terms of the Barrier Act, in order that the same may be passed into a Standing Law of this Church.

I. That no Student shall apply for License until the last session of his theological course is concluded.

II. When a Student applies to any Presbytery to be taken on trial for License, he must produce certificates from the Professors of the College: (1.) That he has completed the theological curriculum—(2.) That he has delivered the five discourses prescribed to him in the course of his studies.—(3.) That his character and conduct during his attendance at College were suitable to his views of life.

III. That the Presbytery shall then examine said Student in Latin, Greek, Philosophy, Theology, and Practical Religion. If the examination be sustained, the Clerk shall be directed to make application to the next Synod for leave to take said Student on trial for License certifying at the same time that the requisite certificates had been produced, and the examination had been sustained.

IV. Leave having been obtained from the Synod, the Student shall then undergo his public probationary trials. These are examinations: (1.) On Biblical Hebrew and Greek. (2.) On Theology, Church, History, and Government. (3.) A homily. (4.) A popular lecture. (5.) A popular sermon.

The Presbytery may reject any or all of these trials, and may examine the Student on his various discourses if they see cause.

V. That the trials being finished, the Presbytery shall take a conjunct view of the whole, and record their opinion. If not satisfied therewith, the licensing shall be deferred, and the Presbytery shall act in the matter as they shall see for edification; if the trials be sustained, the Court shall proceed to license said Student to preach the Gospel. This shall be done in the following manner:—

VI. (1.) He shall give his assent to the questions required by the Synod to be put in such cases, and shall either sign the formula or agree to sign it when required. (2.) The Moderator shall then give him a suitable address, and after prayer for the divine blessing shall in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the authority of the Presbytery, license him to preach the Gospel wherever he may be orderly called. The Clerk shall be instructed to grant an Extract of License when asked, and on a probationer removing from one Presbytery to another, he shall produce a Presbyterian certificate in common form to the Presbytery within whose bounds he shall be appointed to labour.

This latter rule shall apply to ordained Ministers without fixed charges.

The Synod agreed to send down the overture for the consideration of Presbyteries in terms of the Barrier Act.

The Synod also took up an Overture on the calling and induction of Probationers. The Overture was in the following terms: Overture on Calling and Induction of Ministers.

“Whereas a diversity of practice exists in the Presbyteries of this Church in reference to the calling and ordination of Probationers, regarding which it is desirable that there should be uniformity; it is therefore, hereby humbly Overtured by the undersigned that the Reverend the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada shall send down the following regulations to Presbyteries in terms of the Barrier Act, in order that they may be passed into a Standing Law of the Church.

I. That when a Probationer is called to a charge and does not reside within the bounds of the Presbytery calling, said call shall be sent directly to the Probationer with all convenient speed, and he shall intimate his acceptance or declinature thereof within two months after the receipt of the same.

II. That no Presbytery shall ordain a Probationer without first having obtained from him an extract of his License and a Presbyterian certificate, which document Presbyteries are enjoined to grant, unless cause can be shown to the contrary, within two months after application for the same shall have been made.

I was agreed to send the Overture down to Presbyteries in terms of the Barrier Act.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on the laws of the Church. The Report was given in by Mr. Kemp, Convener. It was agreed to receive and sustain the Report, and record thanks to the Convener.

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

EIGHTEENTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, 22nd June, 7 o'clock P. M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

On motion made and seconded, the Synod appointed Messrs. J. M. Roger, and J. B. Duncan to be a deputation to attend the next meeting of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, and to reciprocate the fraternal greetings of that Church.

The Synod called for the Report of the Foreign Mission Committee. The same was given in and read by Mr. D. Fraser. It was agreed to receive and sustain the Report and record the thanks of the Synod to the Committee. The Synod re-appointed the Committee

Report of Home Mission Committee.

The Synod called for Report of Home Mission Committee. The same was given in and read. A special Report was given in by Mr. King with reference to the Buxton Mission, and a supplementary statement was made by Dr. Burns with reference to the Red River Mission.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to receive the Report, adopt its recommendations and in particular to depute and appoint Mr. McTavish to proceed to the Red River settlement without delay, with a view to encourage Mr. Black in his important work, and also to obtain information respecting other fields of missionary labour; re-appoint the Committee, and instruct them to secure suitable supplies for Mr. McTavish's congregation in his absence.

Legacy from late Mr. Thompson.

It was moved by Mr. Gregg and duly seconded, with reference to a legacy of upwards of a thousand dollars left by the late Mr. J. Thompson of Beverley, for missionary objects, in connexion with the Church, that the amount be devoted to the Buxton Mission.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Kemp, and seconded that the amount be apportioned as follows, viz, \$400 to the Buxton Mission; \$100 to Foreign Mission; \$100 to Home Mission Fund of Presbytery of London; \$100 to Home Mission Fund of Presbytery of Hamilton; \$100 to Home Mission Fund of Presbytery of Toronto, and \$200 to be divided among the other Presbyteries.

The motion being put to the House, a majority voted for Mr. Gregg's motion.

The Home Mission Committee was re-appointed.

Mr. King and Dr. Burns were appointed a Committee to consider the best means of obtaining funds for the erection of new buildings in connection with the Mission at Buxton.

Report of the Sabbath Observance Committee.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on Sabbath Observance. The same was given in and read.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Synod receive the Report and adopt its recommendations, and re-appoint the Committee, directing their special attention to the present state of the law respecting Sabbath observance. The following members compose the Sabbath Observance Committee, viz: Mr. P. Gray, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Wilson, Mr. R. F. Burns, Mr. Hodgskin, Ministers, and Dr. Holden, Messrs. J. McLaughlin, and Stewart, Elders; Messrs. Burns and Gray, Joint-Conveners.

The Rev. D. Fraser presented to the Synod a commission from the French Canadian Missionary Society, requesting and authorizing him to address the Synod on the subject of the Society. Mr. Fraser accordingly addressed the House on the present position of the French Canadian Missionary Society.

French Canadian
Missionary Soc.

The Synod appointed the Presbytery of Montreal, together with Dr. Burns, Mr. Ross, Mr. Scott, Mr. Laing, and the Moderator, to consider and Report at next meeting of Synod as to the best means of discharging the duty which the Church owes to the French Canadians in Lower Canada.

Pres. of Mon-
treal, &c. ap-
pointed to con-
sider and report
as to the duty of
Church to French
Canadians.

The quarterly collections were appointed as last year, viz:—

Quarterly Collec-
tions appointed.

1. For the French Canadian Missionary Society, on 3rd Sabbath of July.
2. For Buxton Mission and Synod Fund, on 3rd Sabbath of October.
3. For Foreign Mission, on 2nd Sabbath of January.
4. For Widows' and Orphans' Fund, on 3rd Sabbath of March.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed:—

"That the thanks of the Synod be given to the office-bearers of the McNab Street Church, for the comfortable accommodation afforded to the Synod during its session; also to the accommodation Committee, and the friends in Hamilton, generally, for the hospitable manner in which they have received the Ministers and Elders of the Synod; and to the authorities of the Grand Trunk Railway for their liberality in granting return tickets to the members of the Synod."

Thanks to Office-
bearers of McNab
Street Church, to
friends in Hamil-
ton: & to Grand
Trunk Railway
Company.

The business of Synod being now concluded, after singing part of the 22nd Psalm, and prayer, the Moderator addressed the Synod in appropriate terms; appointed next ordinary meeting of Synod to take place in Toronto, on the second Tuesday of June, 1859, at half-past seven p.m., and dismissed the Synod with the Apostolic benediction.

Synod Closed.

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.

Your Committee, in bringing forward this Report, feel no little measure of embarrassment. They are sensible that the Report will not be found as interesting, nor probably as accurate, as those which have been, from time to time, submitted by the former Convener, who had a rare skill in these matters. They have, however, endeavoured to accomplish the work entrusted to them as well as time would permit, and the reports given into their hands enabled them.

The Synod's roll now contains 131 settled charges. From 107 of these reports have been received—leaving 24 that have not given in returns; and in the case of some the returns were so late of being made that they could not be included in this Report. Of those who have not reported, some are newly-settled charges, from which a report could hardly be expected. Still there are at least 15 charges and 12 vacancies which should have reported and have failed to do so. The delinquents are:—

- In the Presbytery of Montreal—Indian Lands, English River, and Winslow. 3
- In the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa—Dalhousie, McNab and Horton, Beckwith, Pembroke, Osgoode 5
- In the Presbytery of Kingston—none; and here the Committee would express their great satisfaction with the admirably-prepared return from that Presbytery.
- In the Presbytery of Cobourg—Percy, and Seymour, Bethesda, Colborne and Brighton, 3
- In the Presbytery of Toronto—Vaughan, Chinguacousy, Streetsville, Caledon, St. Vincent, Collingwood, Brock 7
- In the Presbytery of Hamilton—Guelph, Paris, Wellesley, Walpole, Allansville 6
- In the Presbytery of London, Woodstock, Knox's Church, Blanford 2
- In all, 26.

It may be of use to press upon Presbyteries the propriety of reporting vacant charges as well as settled charges, year by year.

In the following table a few of the principal items in the Statistics will be seen at a glance:

PRESBYTERIES.		
Montreal	18	No. of Ministers.
Brockville and Ottawa	15	
Kingston	7	
Cobourg	12	
Toronto	22	
Hamilton	26	
London	31	
Total	131	
Last Year	124	
Difference-increase	7	
		No. of Members.
	2326	
	1788	
	813	
	1954	
	2383	
	3527	
	3166	
	15957	
	14901	
	1056	
		Diminution.
	89	
	56	
	59	
	75	
	92	
	229	
	149	
	759	
	1105	
	1095	
		Received on Examination.
	144	
	121	
	47	
	152	
	155	
	225	
	261	
		Received on Certificate.
	107	
	105	
	56	
	105	
		Value of Churches.
	70848	
	83550	
	44120	
	26100	
	5800	
	10450	
	88600	
	10880	
	365262	
	323624	
	41528	
		Value of Manses
	75810	
	65492	
		Prayer Meeting.
	3832	
	9128	
		Scholars in Sabbath School.
	1517	
	790	
	771	
	191	
	305	
	748	
	1848	
	2323	
	2131	

It thus appears that the increase in the number of ministers is 7; and it is gratifying to find a similar increase in attendance at this Synod. There were in session last year 85 ministers and 44 elders; this year there are 99 ministers and 61 elders—making a total sedentary of 160 members, or an increase of 31. The reported increase in membership is 1056. But from the columns of admission to Church privileges, we find that 2195 have been added, or more than twice as many—a discrepancy which though modified, is not entirely removed by adding the loss, from death and removal, to the

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first number. The addition to the Church membership by examination is considerable, but still below what the Church should desire and may reasonably expect. The column shewing the attendance at Prayer Meetings, as also that showing the number of the youth of the church under instruction, seemed called for peculiarly, considering the attention lately given to these subjects. The Property held in connection with our Church has also been steadily increasing—being in excess of last year \$41,538 on Churches, and \$10,318 on Manses. The entire value amounts now in all to \$441,072.

The Committee, in speaking of the Finances as reported, regret exceedingly to have to say, that they cannot pretend to lay a full statement before the Synod, and that their Report will be found to differ to a great extent from the Report of the Agent. Still, in the subjoined table will be found a condensed view of the Returns as they are:—

PRESBYTERIES.	
Montreal	7235
Brock and Ottawa ..	5588
Kingston	4138
Cobourg	4022
Toronto	6837
Hamilton	12523
London	13089
Total	55434
	1878
	1090
	1305
	830
	1997
	128868

This grand total includes, besides the table, the following sums:—

Miscellaneous	£12,310
Church purposes	22,830
College Buildings	956
Bursaries	123
Supply of Vacancies and Libraries,	2,179

The Presbytery which has made the largest contribution is that of Hamilton, viz., \$34,237, being \$7,296 above that of Toronto, which comes next in order. There are several congregations the contributions of which reached a more than ordinary sum, viz., Hamilton, Knox's Church; Cooke's Church, Toronto; McNab Street Church, Hamilton; Lancaster, and Vankleek Hill. All these congregations have contributed largely for congregational building purposes. Of these the highest is Cooke's Church, Toronto—\$12,813; the next, McNab Street, Hamilton—\$11,125. But after deducting the extraordinary contributions for building, the highest contribution for ordinary purposes is from Cote Street, Montreal—\$5,091; the next, Knox's Church, Hamilton—\$4,343; the third, McNab Street Church, Hamilton—\$3,212.

The Committee have been given to understand that in some instances reports are returned shewing the amount *promised*, not the amount *paid* to ministers, an error which of course prevents the possibility of making an accurate statement as to the sums raised for ministerial support, still it appears that 16 ministers have received less than \$400 of stipend. The Committee have thought it better not to specify the names, but to mention generally that there are cases of this kind in the Presbytery of Montreal 4; Brockville and Ottawa 1; Kingston 3; Cobourg 1; Toronto 2; Hamilton 1; London 3; in all 15.

There are ministers receiving less than \$600, fifty-eight, or considerably more than one-third of the Synod, and it is not improbable that full returns would increase these numbers.

The average amount of stipend paid is, in Montreal \$842; Brockville and Ottawa 429; Kingston \$376; Cobourg \$402; Toronto \$427; Hamilton \$596; London \$436; and in the whole Church \$504, or £126.

The average contributions of each member throughout the whole Church is for stipend \$3 50c and for all purposes \$8. Or if computed according to families \$1 75c per family for stipend, and \$4 for all purposes. This is much less than appeared from the statistics last year; and your Committee beg to state their conviction that the discrepancy is to be attributed more to imperfect returns than a lessened liberality; although that and the extraordinary effort made last year for College Buildings must no doubt be taken into account. The statistics also clearly show that it is not those congregations which pay the largest stipends

and contribute most largely to the funds of the Church that are in reality the most liberal, for some of the smaller struggling congregations contribute more than these on an average per member.

The following table shows the comparative contributions of this year and last year for the various schemes:—

YEAR.	College.	College Building	F.C. Mis.	Buxton Synod.	Foreign Mission.	Widows' Fund.	Stipend.	Church Building	Presbyt. H. M.
1858.....	3372	956	1090	1872	1305	830	53434	120352	1997
1857.....	4156	5164	1684	1396	2488	1236	56640	128868	662
Incr'se	.....	.....	.....	476	.....	.....	.....	.....	1335
Decr'se	784	4208	594	.....	1185	406	3206	7516	.....

This shows a total decrease of \$16,088, or £4,022. No doubt full returns would lessen this deficiency considerably. But your Committee was quite prepared to find that in the peculiar circumstances in which the country is placed, there would be a diminished income. And while they would by no means say that all has been done by the Church which should have been done, they think that our gratitude to God should be recorded that matters are not even worse.

The only increase in a Synodic collection is to be found in the Buxton Mission and Synod fund, while a sum three times as great as last year has been contributed for Presbyterial purposes. The decrease sums owing to two facts, 1st. A large number of collections have not been taken up. 2nd. In many cases the sum returned is little better than nominal.

There have failed to contribute for the French Canadian Mission in the Presbytery of Montreal 4, Brockville and Ottawa 3, Kingston 0, Coburg 1, Toronto 3, Hamilton 3, London 4, in all..... 18
 For Buxton and Synod fund, Montreal 2, Brockville and Ottawa 2, Kingston 1, Cobourg 1, Toronto 3, Hamilton 6, London 5..... 20
 For Foreign Missions, Montreal 3, Brockville and Ottawa 4, Kingston 5, Cobourg 1, Toronto 4, Hamilton 8, London 6..... 31
 For Widow's fund, Montreal 6, Brockville and Ottawa 3, Kingston 3, Cobourg 1, Toronto 4, Hamilton 7, London 7..... 31

100

Thus 100 collections have been neglected, or about three-tenths of all that the Synod has enjoined.

The College fund particularly deserves the at-

tention of the Synod. By the returns there appears a decrease, which your Committee are happy to observe from the agent's statement is incorrect. At the same time considering the specific action enjoined at last Synod, and the recommendations made by the College Committee, that all congregations and Mission Stations should be urged to contribute at the rate of 2s. 3d. per family, it is unsatisfactory to find that the amount contributed is only at the rate of 20 cts., or 1s. per member, or 7½d. per family.

The congregations reported, who have not contributed for the ordinary fund of the College, are in the Presbytery of Montreal; Cornwall, Indian Lands, Lachute, St. Eustache, 4 Brockville and Ottawa—Cumberland, Ramsay, Edwardsburg..... 5

Kingston—Madoc 1
 Cobourg—King, and Westwood..... 1
 Toronto—Whitby, and York Mills..... 2
 Hamilton—Port Dover, and Simcoe, Woolwich, Brantford 3
 London—St. Mary's, Saugeen 2
 (Some of these have since remitted.)

In all 18, which added to those who make no return, gives 44 congregations not reported as contributing to this most important scheme, or nearly one-third of those on whom this collection was enjoined.

Without dwelling further on the results of these Synodical returns, your Committee would respectfully make the following suggestions.

1. That in as much as the congregational returns are found to differ widely from the Agency Report, are very imperfect, and in some instances are not given in until it is too late to insert them.

(1.) A Committee be now appointed for next year, who shall prepare the report and lay it before next Synod in a printed form at the beginning of its sessions.

(2.) That Presbyteries be enjoined to make up their returns, summed up and corrected before 15th May, after which they shall be immediately forwarded to the Committee.

(3.) That Books with suitable headings be prepared and made accessible to congregations, so as to secure uniformity in the accounts and statistics of Sessions, Deacons' Courts, or Trustee Boards.

(4.) That a printed form for the Synodic returns be prepared for the use of the Committee.

(5.) That while the statistics proper, and the finance connected with congregational and Presbyterial operations be returned through

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Presbyteries; the returns on the Synodic collections and College fund be made up from the Agents' Books, which will always be found more full and reliable.

2. To prevent ambiguity in the returns, it is suggested that in the headings of the columns the following changes be made:—

- (1.) For number of *members*, say number of Communicants.
- (2.) For Minister's stipend, say Amount paid to Minister.
- (3.) For Miscellaneous Contributions, say Contributions not otherwise reported.
- (4.) That a column be added for Baptisms.
- (5.) That Bible Classes and Sabbath Schools be kept distinct.

3. As it appears that some congregations take up only one annual subscription and divide the sums thus obtained among all the schemes; while others take up two and give half a collection to each object; and others still, neglect one-half the collections altogether; your Committee would recommend an injunction to observe the collection within the quarter for which it is appointed and to make four distinct appeals to the liberality of our Christian people.

In conclusion, your Committee regret that they are not able now to lay the statistical table before the Synod in a printed form, but they hope to have it so arranged that it will appear in the Appendix of the printed Minutes.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN LAING,
Convener.

N.B.—The above report has reference to the returns which were in the hands of the Committee at the opening of the Synod. The Statistical table embraces several returns sent in since.

REPORT OF SABBATH COMMITTEE.

The course of the Sabbath cause is still onward, though like that of the tide, it seems at times temporarily to recede. The defeat recently sustained in the upper branch of the Legislature, when the real circumstances are known, affords no ground of discouragement. The bill introduced there was much more extensive in its range, and particular in its provisions than that which has been repeatedly been before the lower House, including all Government employees, Railway, and other forms of Sabbath desecration, in addition to the Post Office and the Canals. We understand, moreover, that the defeat was largely owing to a

sort of *coup d'état* on the part of certain of its opponents, and the unavoidable absence of certain of its friends. It is encouraging that in spite of these disadvantages, the majority against it was so small, and on last occasion when the subject came up for discussion the sentiments expressed by several of the Honorable Gentlemen were remarkably sound—its advocacy being based not on the low ground of physical advantage and social right, but on the lofty platform of the Commandment which is exceeding broad. There was a time when the introduction of anything sacred into our Legislative Halls, was assailed with sneers, and Scripture was quoted only to point a joke, and furnish a butt for the envenomed shafts of ridicule. It indicates a more healthy state of public sentiment, that in spite of all the wickedness in high places, a solemn subject like this is treated with seriousness and respect.

Mr. Brown's Bill, which is more modified in its character, has not yet come up for discussion again. It is expected, with some measure of confidence, that it will pass this Session. Several memorials have been forwarded in its favor, those from Kingston and Toronto, containing about 700 and 3000 names respectively. Public meetings have been held during the year in both these cities, as well as in other places, at which in the most unmistakable way, the mind of the country has been elicited. The Sabbath Society of Toronto was lately revived, and will co-operate with the energetic Sister Society of Kingston, in systematically carrying on the great moral agitation which has reached its present hopeful stage. The subject of a general Sabbath convention, with special reference to the formation of a Provincial Sabbath alliance came before your Committee. Correspondence was entered into, an appeal in the way of a feeler was published, and conferences were held regarding it—but for reasons which appeared satisfactory by those consulted, it was deemed in present circumstances impracticable. We hope, however, the day is not far distant when a general Sabbath Association may be formed with its branches widely ramified over the land, and that the network of agencies for the defence and protection of the Sabbath may be at least as extensive as the iron network which is doing so much to assail it.

The well known Hespeler case has occupied the attention of your Committee during the year. The decision twice recorded in the inferior Courts against this influential Magistrate

for carrying on harvest operations on the Lord's day, has been reversed in the Court of Queen's Bench. It has long been felt by many that if the existing Sabbath law were put in force, many gross abuses might be at once corrected. The elaborate judgment of Chief Justice Robinson (perhaps the highest legal authority in Canada), in this case brings out the existing law to be all but utterly useless. Evasion being the easiest thing possible, the prevalent indisposition to prosecute, will be greatly increased. The case occurring within the bounds of the Presbytery of Hamilton, a special Committee of the Presbytery was appointed to look after it, which they have done with commendable diligence. The Government were memorialized to remove Mr. Hespeler from the magistracy, but positively refused. The opinion of eminent Counsel has been obtained respecting the finding of the Chief Justice, and entirely confirms it. The Rev. Mr. Hodgskin, who has taken a special interest in this matter, will submit this opinion.

Your Committee gave due publicity to the Synod's recommendation, anent simultaneous preaching on the subject of the Sabbath, and have reason to think it was pretty generally observed. Articles, as on former years, have from time to time appeared in the *Record*, and elsewhere, on different departments of the the general question.

Your Committee would be unfaithful to their trust did they not notice the deep regret and serious apprehensions they feel on account of the gross infringement on the Sabbath in connection with the recent excursion of a large body of our Legislators on the Great Western Railway. What are we to expect when the framers of our laws scruple not to become their violators?

Your Committee would recommend 1. That the momentous subject be again brought under the notice of our congregations on the *third Sabbath in January*.

2. That Sessions be instructed to be more than ordinarily watchful in administering the discipline of the Church in cases of Sabbath desecration.

3. That special pains be taken to disseminate information on the subject by lecturing, holding public meetings, and distributing books and tracts.

4. That particular attention be paid to the state of the present Sabbath law, with the view of its amendment.

Finally, that urgent united supplications be addressed to the Great Lord of the Sabbath, that He would incline the hearts of all, and

especially of those in authority, to keep this law, and to use their influence in its favour.

The present Convener having served for seven years, desires for various reasons to be released, and begs leave to tender his resignation to the Synod.

R. F. BURNS, *Convener*.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE FOREIGN MISSION.

It is already well known to the Church that the Foreign Mission has been suddenly broken up. A disappointment so severe has filled the friends of the Mission with regret; but the stroke has so evidently been from the hand of God, who has been working terrible things in India, that all murmurs are hushed by the thought, "It is the Lord,—let him do what seemeth Him good."

It was by the Synod, in the year 1854, that the resolution to originate and sustain a Foreign Mission was passed, and a Committee on Foreign Missions appointed. For two years the Committee were engaged in correspondence and inquiry, with a view to carry out the resolution of 1854, which was adhered to by the Synod of 1855. On the report of the Committee, the Synod of 1856 called the Rev. John Laing, and Rev. George Stevenson to proceed to India as Foreign Missionaries; and to the following Synod, in June 1857, it was reported that while one of their brethren had been detained by his Presbytery, the other (Mr. Stevenson) had arrived in India, and begun Missionary operations at Bancoorah, in the Province of Bengal.

Mr. Stevenson continued at Bancoorah till the 1st July, 1857, studying the Bengali language, and superintending a Mission School, taught by a native Catechist, obtained from the Free Church Institution in Calcutta. At that time the country had become so unsafe for Europeans, that at the station of Bancoorah, unprotected by British troops, a Missionary was in jeopardy every hour. Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson, and the Catechist already referred to, finding it impossible to pursue their labors of love among the natives, broke up the mission, and repaired to Calcutta. After a short stay in that city, Mr. Stevenson regarded it as improper to expend missionary funds when unable to do missionary duty, and by the advice of Dr. Duff and other friends, returned with Mrs. Stevenson to Scotland, where they arrived in the month of February.

The return of the Missionary took the Com-

mittee by surprise. The failure to send out a Colleague to co-operate with him, as desired and expected, was regarded as no ground for the desertion of the mission, but rather as a matter of thankfulness in the exciting condition of India. The treasury was sufficiently full to meet all demands. And it was hoped that the missionary, though driven for a time from Bancoorah, might have usefully studied the native character and language at Calcutta, so as to be prepared to return to the mission station on the restoration of peace. At the same time, all deference is due to the opinion of christian men on the ground, who recommended the step that has been taken; and no reproach is intended to be cast on the esteemed Missionary himself, who acted under a sense of duty. The Synod will learn with satisfaction, that although Mr. Stevenson resigned his pastoral charge at Tullibody, in order to proceed to India, he has on his return obtained another charge, and is about to be settled at Pultneytown, in Caithness.

It is proper also to state the unselfish manner in which Mr. Stevenson has acted towards this Church. He has insisted on personally defraying all the expenses incurred on the journey from Bancoorah to Calcutta, and on the homeward voyage. A balance also being due to him, on his account, of £46 15s. 0d. sterling, he declines to receive it, and wishes the sum to remain in the treasury as a contribution toward the resumption of the foreign mission.

The balance of money in the hands of the Treasurer amounts to about £600 currency. The disposal of this amount for the ends of foreign missions devolves on the present Synod.

Although it is strictly incumbent on the Committee only to report what is past, it may be right in the present juncture, to invite the grave attention of the Synod to the measures that are now required.

It is not for a moment supposed that the Church will recede from the support of foreign missions. No argument for such a course can be advanced now, which would not have militated against every step taken, and every collection made in the foreign mission cause, since this Synod had an existence. There exists no desire to overstrain the Church by ambitious schemes, or to apply to distant objects resources that are much needed at our own doors. But it cannot reasonably be questioned that an annual Foreign Mission fund can be commanded without injury to the home mission, or the support of the Theological college. Such a fund there always has been since this

Church was organised, and its continuance approved by our most devout and enlightene members, who hold themselves 'debtors to the barbarians' in the love of Christ Jesus, and feel that they can scarcely pray with sincerity for the extension of the Gospel in other land if they neither give nor labor toward the same end.

As to the future direction of the Church offerings, the Committee would avoid the expression of any strong opinion, and only report to the Synod certain suggestions.

The operations contemplated in India have been cut short by the manifest hand of Providence, and an attempt to resume them is open to various strong objections. The state of the Bengal Presidency continues very unsettled, and years may elapse before one or two missionaries could, with any safety or prospect of access to the popular sympathies proceed to such a station as Bancoorah. The difficulty of obtaining suitable laborers for India from this country continues apparently as great as at any former period. And even could they be found, the distance and expensiveness of an India mission may well justify this Church in looking for another field, especially when there is no indication of Divine Providence in favor of our continued connection with India.

It cannot be expected that in this Church, with so much home work, retarded for lack of means, a very large sum can be devoted now to any Foreign Mission; and it is an obvious duty in reconsidering this whole subject to give weight to considerations of economical expenditure. It is true that the Presbyterian Church in England, less numerous than this Church, possesses an extensive mission in so distant a country as China, but a very considerable proportion of the charge is provided by members of the Free Church of Scotland. Unaided and alone, this Synod is bound to expend its small fund with a judicious regard to economy, so as to avoid embarrassment and debt.

It is respectfully recommended, that the amount now in the Treasurer's hands should be invested at interest as a reserve fund to meet contingencies in the support of the foreign mission, when resumed. In regard to a sphere of missionary labor, the attention of the Committee has been called to the claims of the Indian tribes of North America; also to Vancouver's Island, which is likely soon to attract a large population, and is understood to be ill provided with the privileges of the Gospel of Christ; and also to the important openings for

the entrance of the Gospel now presented in the Danubian Principalities, countries to which the eyes of European diplomatists and statesmen are turned, and for which a bright future is hoped—countries, too, peopled by strong, enduring races, favorably disposed towards Protestant christianity, with a language easily acquired by those who already know Latin, and a climate similar to that of Canada. Other fields of labor have also been suggested to the Committee; but they are unable to make any definite recommendation to the Synod, partly from the defective character of the information they have obtained, and partly from the conviction that it is vain to choose a field till some prospect appear of at least one or two missionaries rising up in this Church, prepared, under a solemn sense of personal duty, to go hence to foreign parts preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom. The missionary zeal of the Church is at present discouraged and hindered by the lack of foreign missionaries offering themselves from her own bosom. And nothing appears more needful to the success of the mission with which this Committee is charged, than fervent and persevering prayer, that the Holy Ghost may say—'Separate me this man, and that for the work whereunto I have called them,' and may at the same time so impress and influence their hearts, that one and another may arise and say, "Here am I, send me."

The whole respectfully submitted:

D. FRASER,
Convener.

22nd June, 1858.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

The report now presented is not strictly on the state of religion, but rather on the means employed throughout the Church for maintaining and promoting it. The effect of these means has also been inquired after, but, in ordinary circumstances, this is a subject which cannot be very definitely presented.

For the purpose of obtaining the information necessary for the forming of the report, certain queries were sent to the corresponding members of the several Presbyteries, to which they were requested to furnish replies. These replies were returned from all the Presbyteries with the exception of one.

The *first* query was intended to ascertain the degree of promise given to religious exercises at the ordinary meetings of Presbytery. On the first we have received the following information.

In the case of two Presbyteries, viz., Kingston, and Brockville and Ottawa, sermons are always preached at the opening of the ordinary meetings. In the former Presbytery, the subjects discussed in the sermon are the distinctive doctrines of our Church, in the latter, the ordinary topics of doctrinal and practical religion are those treated of. In the other Presbyteries the opening service has hitherto been confined to the usual devotional exercises, a season being spent in these previous to the commencement of the business duties of the Court, but the Presbytery of Montreal recently resolved to adopt the practice of having sermons preached, and the Presbytery of Hamilton stated that they deeply feel the importance of this practice, and have the propriety of commencing it now under consideration.

The *second* query asked whether any special conferences, or meetings for prayer, in regard to the state of religion, had been held during the past year, and from the replies received to this we find that four Presbyteries,—Toronto, Hamilton, Brockville and Ottawa, and Montreal, have had one or more seasons of conference, which in some instances are reported to have been of a very edifying and refreshing nature. The Presbytery of Kingston had a special prayer-meeting for the Lord's presence and blessing, to which the public were united, and which was well attended, and of an interesting nature,—other Presbyteries have not had either conference or special season of prayer.

The *third question* had relation to periodical Presbyterial visitations and Annual Missionary Meetings—In several Presbyteries presbyterial visitations under special circumstances have been made to certain congregations, which, with one exception, had the happy effect of gaining the ends contemplated by them—but only by the Presbytery of Montreal are regular visitations made to the congregations within the bounds. These visitations are conducted once in two years, missionary meetings being held in their room every alternate year. In all the other Presbyteries, with one exception, annual Missionary Meetings are held in the respective congregations. The exception referred to is the Presbytery of Hamilton, and in this Presbytery such meetings have been held in several congregations, but there is no arrangement for securing their general adoption.

The regular visitations in the single instance in which they are conducted, are reported to be most beneficial in securing the harmonious and efficient working of congregations, and in promoting the interest of vital religion. Two other Presbyteries, those of Hamilton and Brockville and Ottawa, state their conviction of the impor-

tance of this part of Presbyterian duty, and have the propriety of attending to it now under consideration.

Respecting the annual Missionary Meetings, very favorable reports are given by all the Presbyteries within which they are held. Generally the attendance on them, and the interest in them, are increasing; they are the means of awakening a deeper interest in the schemes of our Church generally, and in our Home Mission in particular, and greatly aid in furnishing Presbyteries with the pecuniary means necessary for carrying on Home Missionary work.

The fourth point inquired after was the employment of special efforts, by protracted seasons of divine worship or otherwise, for reviving an interest in the subject of eternal salvation. From the information received, it does not appear that such efforts have to any considerable extent been made by any presbytery or congregation of our Church. The tidings of the religious awakening in the neighboring Republic, as is well known, led to the holding of special meetings in many parts of Canada, and consequently several reports notice the circumstance of union prayer meetings having been held, and the report from the Presbytery of Montreal, in particular, states that daily meetings were held for a season in the cities of Quebec and Montreal, and in a few of the country charges, but it does not say whether these meetings were held in the congregations of our own Church alone, or in conjunction with the other Christian congregations in the community.

In the fifth place, information was sought respecting the efficacy of the means of grace—whether in any instances the power of divine grace had attended the Word in a marked way. On this particular, some Presbyteries report that in certain localities there have been an increased attendance on divine worship, and deeper seriousness in listening to the gospel, while in the case of other Presbyteries more definite language is used in regard to the effects of the means of grace. Many individual instances are spoken of in which souls have been brought under the saving influence of the Gospel, and places are mentioned where the prints of the spirit of God have been very manifest. The correspondent of the Presbytery of Montreal says that individual instances have come under the notice of most of the brethren, and that though there has not been any special or marked outpouring of the Holy Spirit to the general awakening of the ungodly, there has been a refreshing among the people of God. And it is remarked by the correspondent of the Presbytery of Hamilton, that, "Brethren reported some hopeful instances of a special work

of grace within the bounds," and from the Presbytery of Toronto, we are informed that, "There have been special indications of the efficacy of the Gospel in Scarboro, Thorah and Eldon, and some other places," though these indications have not extended to a general awakening in the districts mentioned.

A sixth query was intended to ascertain the amount of attention given to the religious instruction of the young, and the means employed for securing that instruction, and, from the information received on this subject, it may be said that Sabbath Schools are universally taught in connection with the congregations of our Church, and Bible classes very generally conducted, in many instances, also, periodical discourses are given to parents regarding the religious duties they owe to their children.

In regard to the catechising of the grown youth, some Presbyteries report favourably. From what is stated by the correspondents of the Presbyteries of Montreal, Toronto, and London, we infer that the practice of catechising is general. In the Gaelic congregations this is done by assembling the young of a particular district into one house, and in the English communities it is generally performed in the respective families. But the documents received from other Presbyteries intimate that this duty is far from being generally attended to within their bounds. The correspondent of the Presbytery of Kingston says:—"I fear that the Catechising of the grown youth is generally neglected," and regarding this matter, in the Presbytery of Hamilton, the person reporting says:—"The catechising of the grown youth is conducted in connection with a Bible Class and to some extent in connection with Pastoral visitation." In regard to parental catechising, all the reports express the opinion that is not at all common.

The seventh and last subject, in regard to which inquiry was made, relates to the duties of the eldership, and the inquiries intended to furnish evidence of the extent and nature of the intercourse which elders have with the flock over which they have been made overseers, whether they are in the habit of visiting the families within their respective districts, or of conducting district prayer meetings, and especially of visiting the sick, and engaging in worship with them. These interrogations are answered in the affirmative only by one Presbytery of Montreal. "The writer says, "The elders of this Presbytery generally visit their districts, conduct prayer meeting, and attend to the religious instruction of the young." This testimony is not borne respecting the elders, generally, of any other

esbytery. All the other reports represent the duty of visiting by the elder as commonly very virtually attended to, and in very many instances entirely neglected. From Brockville and Ottawa it is stated, that the elders in some cases are in the habit of visiting, especially the sick; from Toronto, that the elders usually visit the sick, but district visitation is not at all practised as it ought to be; from the Presbytery of Hamilton, that, in several instances, the Pastor is attended by the elder in visiting, but systematic visitation by the elders separately, is very little attended to." Such is the information which we have gathered respecting the state of religion, and the means being employed throughout the Church for maintaining and promoting it. The statement submitted to them shows that there is much activity and diligence in the use of means, and in many instances happy results attending the use of these means, for which the Synod has reason to be thankful to God, but shows also that specially in some departments, there is great need for improvements. Your Committee would, therefore, conclude by respectfully submitting the following suggestions.

1. That the Synod again call the special attention of Presbyteries to the importance of exercising a proper supervision over the congregation within their bounds by regular Presbyterial visitations, held at such intervals as may seem to them best.

2. That ministers be recommended to carry out as far as possible, the practice of catechising, not only the children of Sabbath Schools, and the pupils of Bible Classes, but the grown youth in general, who are connected with the Church, and that Sessions be enjoined to use diligence in securing the general practice of parental catechising.

3. That in connection with the Presbyterial conference on the state of religion, there might also be a conference on the subject of preaching, the best method of presenting the truth of the Gospel, in order to its taking hold, by the grace of God, of the conscience and hearts of the hearers.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON UNION WITH THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

When your Committee met the Committee of the United Pre-byterian Committee, on October 1st, 1857, they proceeded to carry out the spirit of the Synod, by inquiring into the practical applications of the principles laid down in the statement made to last Synod, regarding the duty of the civil magistrate, and the following was the result of the conference, which was

also concurred in by the members of the other committee.

On the question of State Endowment of Religion, the Committee agreed to report to their respective Synods in the following terms:

1st. That the Brethren of the Presbyterian Church of Canada hold that there are circumstances in which the State may lawfully accept of them. And that the brethren of the United Presbyterian maintained that the acceptance of endowments is in all cases inconsistent with the spiritual independence of the Church, and the allegiance which she owes to Christ, her Head.

2nd. That no specific declaration of opinion on the above question, or its bearings, is demanded as a term of communion in either of these Churches.

3rd. They, therefore, recommend that in the event of the Churches being united, the same practice, in reference to this question, should still be followed as by the two branches in their separate state, and that the same forbearance should, therefore, continue to be exercised.

The second point, viz., The use of the Bible in the common schools, was then considered, and after mature deliberation, the following resolution was agreed to:

On this point the Committee are unanimous in the opinion, that it is highly important that the Bible should be used in the Common Schools of the Country, and that the Church should constantly aim at this object. And for the accomplishing of this end, that it is the duty of civil rulers to afford every facility for the use of the Bible in the common schools; and while abstaining from the enforcement of the use of it on any who may be opposed thereto, to provide that no obstacle shall be thrown in the way of those who may desire to use it.

The third point, viz., the appointment of a day of Public Humiliation and Thanksgiving by civil authority, was next considered.

After mature deliberation, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—

On this subject the Committee hold that there are times in which days of National Humiliation or Thanksgiving ought to be observed—and that in such cases, in order to secure a general concurrence throughout the nation, the civil magistrate may, with propriety, nominate the day, and recommend the observance of it by all under his rule; at the same time that he has no right to prescribe the religious exercises to be observed.

The Committee then adjourned to meet again in April, 1858. This meeting was accordingly

held on the 14th and 15th days of that month. To meet the wish of the other Committee your Committee proceeded to consider sundry matters of detail. Before doing so, however, the following question was submitted by Dr. Willis, and fully considered: Suppose in the United Church it were agreed by a majority of Synod, or Assembly to memorialise the Government or Legislature, seeking the intervention of civil power in suppressing overt acts of Sabbath profanation, or removing obstacles to the observance of the sacred day, and setting before the civil magistrate, the obligation of the Sabbath law on the community; how far would dissent be allowed to be carried out by a minority in opposition to such Synodic action?

To this question the following answer was unanimously concurred in.

That while it is the duty of the civil magistrate to protect the sacred character and obligation of the Sabbath, it is also the duty of the Church to bear her testimony in favor of God's holy day; which they may do by approaching the Legislature or otherwise, as the majority may determine. And that a minority, while permitted all equitable liberty, would be understood in this, as in other departments of Ecclesiastical government, as bound, in action or dissent, to respect constitutional order, and the received principles of the united body.

Questions, regarding the practice of the Churches in admitting to sealing ordinances, and as to bonds or promises securing the payment of stipends, were considered, and a satisfactory understanding was arrived at, showing that in these respects the practice of the Churches is substantially the same.

The other matters above referred to, are contained in the following questions, to which the answers unanimously concurred in by those present are added,

1. What is the practice of the respective Churches in regard to admission to sealing ordinances, viz: Is or is not, the ordinance of Baptism, dispensed irrespective of attendance on the Lord's Supper? To this question it was answered, the principles and practice of the Churches are substantially the same.

2. What is the practice of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in regard to stipends? Whether is a promise made to the Church courts, or a personal bond given to secure the payments of the stipends? To this, it was answered, That on this point there is no law, and no uniform practice throughout the Church.

3. The following points of practical arrangements were then considered.

1. The relation which the United Church should bear to Presbyterian Churches in the parent countries and elsewhere.

2. The position which the Theological Institutions should assume.

3. The designation by which the united body should be known. The answers to these questions were as follows:—

I. That the relations which the United Church shall bear to the Free Church of Scotland, the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and all other Evangelical Churches, be intimate or otherwise, as the Supreme Court may from time to time determine. That all ministers or preachers applying for admission, shall be received on an equal footing, as by law to be enacted. And that all ministers or preachers at the time of the Union having pecuniary aid for missionary or pastoral work from any Foreign Church or Society, shall continue to receive the same till the term agreed on expires.

II. That the Committees recommend that the two Theological Institutions be amalgamated, and all the Professors retained; and that the Supreme Court determine the special duties of the respective Professors, as well as all other matters of arrangement.

III. That the name of the United Church be "the Canadian Presbyterian Church."

The following article was unanimously adopted, to be laid before both Synods.

IV. In conclusion the Committee would express their conviction that further enquiry into the practical bearing of the principles as enunciated in the minutes of June 4, 1857, is unnecessary, since any differences which confessedly exist between the two bodies, particularly on the power of the civil magistrate with regard to religion, are not, as seems to the committees, so great, nor of such a nature, as to prevent cordial co-operation, and may be made, and should be made matters of mutual christian forbearance. They would therefore recommend to their respective Synods, that the statements contained in the minutes of the Joint Committees be adopted as a basis of Union.

All which is respectfully submitted.

R. URE, *Convener.*

THE EIGHT ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
BUXTON MISSION, PRESENTED AT THE
MEETING OF SYNOD IN HAMILTON,
JUNE 21st, 1858.

In laying before the Synod the Eighth Annual Report of the Buxton Mission, we feel that

There is great cause for gratitude and praise to Almighty God, for the signal favours he hath bestowed upon us in the prosecution of every branch of the mission work.

The year, that has just gone by, was one of severe trial to the settlers. The wheat crop which promised fair for an abundant harvest, was entirely cut off by the weevil and rust.

The corn was late in maturing, and did not mature before frost. When gathered although appearing sound, much of it rotted afterwards. In addition to this, the commercial distress that was swept over the upper land, the derangement of our financial affairs, and the almost total suspension of business of every kind, for a time, on which the settlers mainly depended for support—these causes combined have affected very deeply the temporal interest of the settlers.

But it is pleasing to have to record that while God has thus visited us with temporal suffering, He has also been pleased to pour out on us His Holy Spirit. The Church, the Sabbath School, the day school, and the bible class, have all felt more or less His gracious influence. Two years ago the first convert, from among the youths trained in our Seminary was received into the Church; in last July six more were received into full communion, and in March three more making in all nine, who have been added to our church during the past year, from the Sabbath School and Bible Class. Besides these, several adults have been received on profession of their faith, these are mostly trained in the Bible Class. The whole number received into our communion, since the last annual report is seventeen, five on certificate and twelve by examination.

During the past year the church has been organised. We have now a regular staff of office-bearers, four Elders and four Deacons. One of the Elders, a coloured man is now representing the Buxton Church in this meeting of Synod. The attendance at the bible class and prayer meeting, has been steady and on the increase, greater earnestness and a growing desire for the word and ordinances has been manifested by all. In the Sabbath School, the attendance has been steady both in winter and Summer. The number enrolled is eighty-six, the lessons have been better prepared than formerly, a greater interest felt by the scholars in the mission work, and a satisfactory progress made in the acquisition of Scriptural Knowledge.

The missionary society formed by the scholars a few years ago, is still kept up, and every Sabbath the childrens' offerings are taken up for that purpose.

At the last anniversary of the sabbath school these contributions were voted by the scholars to the Calabar mission on the Coast of Africa.

In the northern part of the settlement there is a day school and Sabbath School conducted by a young man, formerly trained in the Buxton School, the attendance there is from twenty-five to thirty. In the day school the attendance has not been so great as last year in consequence of having no female teacher since July last, this has been a serious drawback to the efficiency of the school, which we hope will be remedied by the Synod this present year. The number enrolled is ninety-eight, and the average attendance fifty-three. Besides the common branches of an English Education, some of the pupils, are learning Latin and Greek, with a view to future usefulness in the Church, some of these will soon be ready to enter College, if the means can only be forthcoming to support them there. In the last report we mentioned that a bursary fund was necessary to support Coloured Students at College, who intended to prepare for the ministry, since that time the late James Thompson, of Beverley, has bequeathed \$1,000 to the missions of this Church, which we hope will be applied by this Synod, as the nucleus of a Bursary Fund. I may also state that another friend of the mission, has written to me to know, how much would be required, to support a student at college, with the view of forming a Bursary Fund for that purpose.

The Buildings used at the mission, are only of a temporary kind, and must soon be replaced by others that will answer the purpose better.

The Church and School cannot be used with comfort during the next winter, unless a considerable sum be expended on them in repairs; every heavy shower that comes, passes through the roof and walls, and the snow drifts through in all directions during winter, while the houses are not worth the repairs that would be required to make them comfortable.

The Synod has spent but little on buildings; a rigid economy has observed in this department.

The first object was to obtain the living material, before going to any great expense, in providing for their accommodation. We have now obtained the living materials; a Church has been organised with fifty-four members, and about two hundred hearers. A day and Sabbath School are now in successful operation, with about one hundred pupils on the roll of each. Our very success calls for increased accommodation.

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taining four acres, will be deeded at any time by the owner to the Synod, for the Mission Buildings. On this grant of land, suitable buildings should be erected immediately for the mission. The money can soon be raised for that purpose.

The difficulty under which we formerly labored by changing the teachers every six months has been removed, by the appointment of Mr. George Thompson, as a permanent Teacher for the male department; he has taught during the last year with success, and given great satisfaction. One great object contemplated by the Mission is to train young men of piety and talents, for future usefulness in the Church, to preach the Gospel, not only here, but to carry it to Africa. One hundred millions are living in that land without God and dying without hope; here and there in that vast Continent, a few missions have been established, and these have been signally blessed.

No portion of the heathen world has yielded richer fruit, in proportion to the amount of missionary labor bestowed. A variety of circumstances conspire at present to prepare that vast continent for the introduction of the Gospel. Recent discoveries have shown that large portions of it are healthy and fertile; the interior, formerly supposed to be a sandy desert, is now ascertained to be filled with large and populous tribes. These people are willing to receive the Gospel from our hands. Our duty is to send it. We trust, with the Divine blessing on our efforts, we shall soon be able to send forth from the school at Buxton, healing waters to refresh that parched land. W. M. KING.

REPORT OF WIDOWS' FUND FOR THE YEAR 1857-8.

It is the pleasing duty of the Committee to report the continued prosperity of this important Fund. During the past year the following have been the receipts, viz :

From Congregational Collections,	\$1220 75
“ Donations &c. - - -	216 52
“ Ministers' Rates, - - -	856 00
Interest, - - -	1462 46
Principal invested falling due,	4380 00
	8135 83
Bal. at beginning of year,	2155 60
	10291 43

Of this amount the sum of \$957 59 has been paid in annuities to widows and children; and the sum of \$6120 00 has been invested in mort-

gages. As all the securities previously belonging to the Committee consisted of Municipal Debentures, it was considered proper to divide the securities and invest part of the fund in Mortgages. These have been transferred jointly to the Convener, James Osborne, Esq., and the General Agent, a suitable form of transfer having been prepared by a competent lawyer. Arrangements are in prospect for the investment of part of the balance now in hand in the same way.

The number of annuitants is the same as last year, viz: 7; the only difference being that the annuity of Mrs. Robb is charged on the fund proper, it having been previously paid through the congregation of Knox's Church, Hamilton.

The Committee have had some conversation as to the expediency of revising the rates payable by Ministers, with the view of making the payments more equitable, and more in accordance with the different ages of the ministers, who may from time to time be added to the roll of the Synod. It was ultimately agreed to recommend the appointment of a small committee to consider the point fully, with the view of making, if necessary, some alteration.

W. REID, *Secretary & Agent.*

Presbyterial Reports of License, &c.

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

The Presbytery of London, during the year, *Licensed*: Mr. James Blount, Student of Knox College, on the twenty-ninth day of July.

Ordained: Mr. James Blount, at Bosanquet, on the tenth day of February.

Translated: The Rev. William McLaren from Amherstburg, on the eleventh day of June, to be inducted into the pastoral charge of Knox Church, Boston, United States.

Inducted: The Rev. William Meldrum, formerly of Vaughan, into the pastoral charge of the congregation at Harrington, on the twenty-second day of July.

WILLIAM DOAK, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

Resignation:

1. The Rev. John McKinnon resigned his charge at Owen Sound, and was loosed therefrom, on the 12th of June, 1857.

2. The Rev. Robert D. McKay resigned his charge at Wellesley, and was loosed therefrom on the 11th of May, 1858.

Induction :

1. The Rev. John Irvine was inducted to the pastoral care of the congregation at Allansville, on the 1st of July, 1857.

Ordination :

1. Mr. George Cuthbertson was ordained and inducted as Pastor of the Woolwich Congregation, on the 7th of October, 1857.
2. Mr. John McRobie was ordained and inducted as Pastor of the United Congregation of Walpole and Jarvis, on the 21st of October, 1857.

JAMES MIDDLEMSIS, *Pres. Clerk*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

I. Inductions and Ordinations :

1. Rev. William Gregg, formerly of Belleville, was inducted to the pastoral charge of Cooke's Church, Toronto, 8th July, 1857.
2. Rev. Thomas Wightman was translated from York Mills and Fisherville to the charge of Innisfil, Barrie and Essa, 20th January, 1858.
3. Mr. Daniel Anderson was ordained to the pastoral charge of Brock and Reach, 23rd December, 1857.

II. Demissions :

1. Rev. Wm. Meldrum was loosed from the charge of Vaughan, 1st July, 1857.
2. Rev. Robert McKenzie was loosed from the charge of Barrie and Innisfil, 8th July, 1857.

III. Licenses :

1. Mr. Jameron was Licensed, 9th June, 1857.
2. Mr. Daniel Anderson was Licensed, 30th July, 1857.
3. Mr. John Murray was Licensed, 15th April, 1858.

IV. Receptions:

1. Rev. John McMechan was received as an ordained Missionary, commissioned by the Colonial Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland.
2. Mr. William Park was received as a Probationer, commissioned by the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland.

WILLIAM GREGG, *Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

License :

1. Mr. Peter Duncan was Licensed to preach the Gospel, on the 29th of Sept., 1857.
2. Mr. James Thom was Licensed to preach the Gospel, on the 29th of Sept., 1857.

Demission :

1. The Rev. J. W. Smith demitted the pastoral charge of Colborne, on the 29th of Sept., 1857.

Inductions :

1. The Rev. William C. Windel was inducted into Cartwright and Manvers, on the 30th of Sept., 1857.
2. The Rev. Thomas Alexander was inducted into Percy and Seymour, on the 1st of June, 1858.

Ordination :

1. The Rev. Peter Duncan was ordained to the pastoral charge of Colborne and Brighton, on the 29th of December, 1857.

JAMES BOWIE, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

Inductions :

1. Rev. W. T. White, as Minister of John Street Church, Belleville, 26th Jan., 1858.
2. Rev. P. Gray, as Minister of Chalmers' Church, Kingston, 9th March, 1858.

Demissions :

1. Rev. J. A. Thomson resigned pastoral charge of Trenton and Consecn.
2. Rev. J. S. Chambers resigned resigned pastoral charge of Congregation of Picton.

Translations :

1. Rev. W. Gregg was translated from Belleville to Cooke's Church, Toronto.

J. A. THOMSON, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE AND OTTAWA.

License :

1. Mr. James White was Licensed to preach the Gospel, on the 8th July, 1857.

Demission :

1. The Rev. S. C. Fraser demitted his charge of McNab and Horton, (owing to ill health) on 7th Oct. 1857.

Taanslation :

1. The Rev. P. Gray was loosed from his charge in Beckwith and translated to Chalmer's Church, Kingston, on 1st March, 1857.

Induction :

1. The Rev. J. C. Quin was inducted into the Church and Congregation of Kemptville, on 8th April, 1858.

Ordination :

1. Mr. Donald E. Montgomery was ordained S. Gower, on the 28th May, 1858.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

The Rev. Mr. McLaren was inducted into the pastoral charge of Knox's Church, Boston, U. S., with consent of the Synod, on 22nd July, '57

The Rev. J. C. Quin resigned the pastoral charge of Osnabruock and Winchester, on the 6th August, 1857.

Mr. Nathaniel Paterson was Licensed to preach the Gospel, on the 6th August, 1857.

The Church at Valleyfield, Beauharnois, was recognised as a Station in connection with this Church, on the 7th October, 1857.

The Rev. Alex. Allan was ordained over the united Congregations of St. Therese de Blainville, St. Eustache, and Grand Freniere, on the 26th February, 1858.

The Church at Alexandria, Glengarry, was recognised as a Station in connection with this Church, on the 12th May, 1858

ALEX. F. KEMP, *Pres. Clerk*

REPORT OF COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee in presenting their Report for the past year, have, in the first place, to record their gratitude to God for permitting both the Professors and Students of Knox College to prosecute their labours during the Session, without any inroads being made on their number by death, or any serious sickness.

The number of regularly matriculated Students in attendance was forty-four, viz: nineteen in the Preparatory, and twenty-five in the Theological classes. Besides these there have been several pre-entrants, making the gross number about fifty.

Of this number, five have completed their curriculum, and are ready to be received on trial for license by Presbyteries. This is a smaller number than usual, but it will probably be more than compensated for at the close

of next Session, when, in the ordinary course, fourteen Students will have completed their curriculum.

The Reports furnished by the different Professors will shew the course of instruction pursued in the different classes.

A regular Tutor having been dispensed with, advantage was taken of the class taught in the University by Mr. Wickson, who very kindly consented to accommodate his instructions, in Greek and Latin, to the acquirements of our Students. Mr. Hirschfelder continued to give instructions in Hebrew, as in former years. A class in Mathematics was efficiently conducted by Mr John Thomson, one of the Students. The expenses connected with all these classes were £42.

As directed by the Synod, the Committee took steps to secure a suitable successor to Mr. Smith, in the boarding department. Their choice fell on Mr. Thomas Willing, of Kingston, who entered upon his duties last October, and under whose management this department has been conducted to the satisfaction of the Committee, to the great comfort of the Students, and without any expense to the College.

It belongs also to this Committee to Report that the debt on the building has been very considerably reduced during the past year. Upwards of £,2000 have been paid on account of building and improvements. The whole amount now due on the original purchase is £2,678, on which interest is payable at the rate of 6 per cent. The principal is payable in January, 1862, or at any time previous, as the Synod may wish. For the reduction made on the debt, the Committee is chiefly indebted to the contributions received in Scotland and Ireland by Dr Burns, and in England, by Mr. Fraser. Among the contributions thus received, the Committee desire to notice as deserving of special gratitude, grants of £200 stg. by the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, and £300 stg. by the Colonial Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland.

Your Committee regret that they cannot present so favourable a Report of the ordinary Financial Fund. In this there has been a growing deficiency for several years. The deficiency in 1856 was £40, In 1857 it was £187. The deficiency in 1858 is £210. The whole balance due the Treasurer on this account at present is £438 10s. 8d., besides about £90 due to the Professors, and sundry small accounts. Nor do the sums specified represent the whole actual deficiency, for since the purchase of the College, the interest has been charged to the

Building Fund, and not, as should be for the future, to the ordinary current expenses. The annual interest on the debt, as it stands at present, is upwards of £160, and as a large amount was paid last year, the actual deficiency for current expenditure was about £400. It is true, that nearly 40 congregations, some of them large and influential, have not sent in their contributions for the present year. The amount, however to be realised from this source next year will not probably, be larger than was realized from a similar source, and included in course of this year.

The chief cause of the deficiency, was probably the fact, that during the last three years the congregations were called on to contribute for both the Building and the Ordinary Fund. As no pressing claims need to be met for the liquidation of the debt on the property, it is to be hoped that the contributions for the ensuing year to the Ordinary Fund will be greatly augmented. Nearly £2000 will be required next year to pay the balance due on the ordinary Fund, and the current expenses, and as only about £1,200 were contributed last year, it will be seen that an increase of 80 per cent will be required. In connection with this point, the Committee desire to call the special attention of the Synod to the fact, that from 30 to 40 congregations annually fail to make any contributions to the College Fund, and they would recommend that Presbyteries be instructed to deal without delay with defaulting congregations, with a view to secure contributions from them for the past year.

The statements now made will very naturally suggest the propriety of adopting measures to secure the endowment of the College. The Committee are not prepared to suggest any definite course to be adopted for this purpose. They advert to the subject as worthy of consideration by the Synod, and also, they feel that it is very important to the efficiency of the College, that its revenue should be placed on a permanent footing, and they are satisfied, that if this were done, the Church would be better able to prosecute other schemes which are dependent on the annual contributions of the congregations.

The Committee have to acknowledge with gratitude, that during the past year they have received a very favorable indication of a disposition to support our College in the liberal bequest of £250, made by the late J. Thompson, Esq., of Beverly, by whom an additional sum of £250 was bequeathed for Missionary purposes. As regards the sum bequeathed to

the College, although no specific object was stated in the will, it was however understood to have been Mr. Thompson's wish, that the sum should be devoted to the Bursary Fund, and to the credit of this fund accordingly, the amount has been for the present placed. It remains with the Synod to determine whether it shall remain thus allocated, or be otherwise disposed of. The Committee are of opinion, that the understood wish of the Testator should be complied with, and the rather as the Bursary Fund stood greatly in need of assistance.

The College Library has received an addition of 300 valuable volumes, from friends in Great Britain and Ireland.

Besides the pecuniary support which is needed for the College, the Committee have felt deeply impressed with the conviction that an Institution, in which such vast interests as the training of our future Ministers are concerned, is specially entitled to the prayers of the Church in its behalf. In addition, therefore, to the supplications which are presented in the ordinary ministrations of the sanctuary, they have agreed to recommend the appointment by the Synod, of a day in which throughout all our congregations special prayer shall be offered up on behalf of our College. In answer to prayer God has hitherto abundantly blessed it, and the whole Province has derived signal benefits from the labours of many who have been trained for the work of the Ministry within its walls; and there is no reason to doubt, but that in answer to still more earnest and special prayer, this most important Institution of our Church would be still more abundantly blessed.

WILLIAM GREGG,

Convener.

DR. WILLIS' DEPARTMENT.

The class of systematic Theology, was conducted by Dr. Willis, as also that of Biblical Criticism, and Pastoral Theology. The great majority of the class being students of the second Theological year, and the *seniors*, or those of the third year, only four in number, they were all assembled together at the same hour, with the exception of a short series of meetings early in the session, which were given to the initiation of the younger, though larger division of the class, in the elements of Hermetics and Criticism, not to the loss, but, it is believed, greatly to the gain of the few seniors. The System was gone through from the commencement, not omitting a useful revision of the former year's course, but supplementing it by fresh dis-

cussions on many of the topics, and yet so as to advance in the latter portion of the session on ulterior heads of doctrine.

The close of the session overtook us, having entered on the Decalogue, and expatiated prettily on the Sacraments. In this class, which met four times each week, the exercises were Lectures and Examinations, with frequent reference to Hill's Theology, also to the Confession of Faith. An occasional hour was given to the reading of Latin Theology, chiefly from Augustine and Calvin.

In the Pastoral Theology, instructions were given in the various parts of the Pastoral Practice, these being alternated with the reading of the Greek Testament, from which the second Epistle to the Corinthians was chosen this year, as peculiarly fraught with matter suggestive of fitting rules for the spirit and conduct of Ministers, in the example of the Apostle Paul.

In the Biblical Criticism Class, which occupied, twice a week, one of the two hours usually employed by Dr. Willis, the text book was, as before, Horne's Introduction. Very considerable portions of that work were brought under view, not only as matter of reading and examination, but in the way of applying the rules of Criticism and interpretation to the solution of more difficult passages of Scripture. The juniors as well as seniors were made acquainted with manuscripts and versions, and took part with equal ability in the Greek and Hebrew reading. A considerable portion of the Gospel of John, and various portions of the Epistles were read critically. The passages of the Hebrew Bible were generally chosen with adaptation to the topics in course of discussion at the time, in the systematic course, and thus the exercises of the two classes were made mutually helpful to, and illustrative of one another.

The discourses of the seniors alone fell to be heard by Dr. Willis, being the popular sermon and Exegesis. Several vacant hours were given to Homiletics, especially the application of logic to the construction of methods on divisions of Texts.

Dr. Willis can report very regular attendance by the most of the students. A few missed not one hour of the session, and in general, excuses for absence were proffered, even before asked. He was pleased with the serious attention given to the devotional exercises, in which the students took part with the Professor, though for the most part the class was opened and closed by himself.

It is not inappropriate to Dr. Willis' Department of the report, to record the monthly spe-

cial devotional meeting, at which all the classes of the College, and the various Professors, were present. It is believed these meetings were found edifying and refreshing.

DR. BURNS' CLASSES.—EVIDENCE CLASS.

The number of students in this, the first class of the Department of Theology, would have been eight, but one was kept back by bad health, and another accepted of a literary appointment, which required him to leave in the end of January. The number in regular and full attendance was six, and their names are entered on a paper apart.

Dr. Burns having been kept longer in Scotland than was expected, Professor Young, in addition to his own duties, taught the class for the first two or three weeks.

During the session, four lectures on so many days weekly were given, and an additional hour each week for examination on the lectures. The examinations proceeded on the notes of each student, and written questions were occasionally given out. The leading particulars of each prelection were usually dictated to the students, and time given for taking them down, after which they were read by each, and corrected or commented on by the Professors.

The course embraced lectures on evidence at large, and that of testimony in particular, the varied modes adopted by Clarke, Des Cartes, and others in proving the existence of God by *a priori* reasoning, the different departments of the proof for the being, attributes, providence, and moral government of God, from evidence of design in the universe; the necessity and antecedent probabilities of a revelation from heaven; evidence for christianity, internal, and experimental; evidence from miracles, Prophecy, rapid and successful propagation, and from monuments which remain; the genuineness, authenticity and inspiration of the Sacred Books, with replies to objections. The text books used were Butler's Analogy, Paley, and the small compends by Bishop Porteous and Archbishop Whately.

The present phases of infidelity were much dwelt on, and various practical suggestions were from time to time given, with reference to books.

The students attended with commendable regularity, and the only bar in the way of higher attainments than that actually made, seemed to be the want of preliminary mental training, and a little more of the habit of English composition. Their attendance for a second Ses-

sion is exceedingly to be wished, and this would not interfere with the more fixed and regular studies in Systematic Theology, and Church History.

Access to the Professor for consultation on books and studies, was largely enjoyed; and the meetings for prayer and conference were very agreeable.

CHURCH HISTORY CLASS.

The class of Church History was attended by sixteen regularly matriculated students of the second year in Theology, together with four of the third, or last year, who voluntarily attended the lectures.

During the first two or three weeks of the Session, Dr. Burns having been detained in Scotland longer than was counted on, Dr. Willis took charge of the class in the way of introductory miscellaneous exercises.

From the beginning of Nov. to the middle of April, four lectures on so many days, were delivered to the students weekly, and in addition, a separate hour was regularly appropriated to examination on the Lectures of the week. Each regular student was required to take notes of the lectures, and on these they were examined; together with occasional written questions dictated by the Professor.

The course embraced three parts.—In the first, miscellaneous lectures were delivered on History in general, ancient and modern, in the form of a chronological chart; on the uses of the study of History in general, and of Ecclesiastical in particular, with practical directions, and a sketch of the chief Ecclesiastical Historians, ancient and modern.

Part Second was devoted to a short retrospect of the Old Testament History, together with the connection between the Old Testament and the New; the preparation made for the setting up of the Gospel Kingdom; the state of the world at Christ's coming; the ministry of John the Baptist; the life and public ministry of the Lord Jesus; and the first planting of the Church, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles.

This department also, contained an examination of modern theories, regarding the origin of the four evangelical narratives, and their supposed mythical character.

Part Third embraced the history of the Christian Church from the destruction of Jerusalem down to the present day. This was the leading part of the course, and its principal features were the rapid progress of the Gospel, with

examination of Gibbon's views on that subject, the constitution and character of the primitive church, the persecutions to which it was subjected; the Gnostic, Arian, and Pelagian controversies; the leading general Councils; the anti-christian apostacy; Mohamedanism; the Crusades; the two witnesses in the wilderness; revival of letters; the Reformation; sketches of the Reformed and Lutheran Churches, with their characteristic differences; as also of the Latin and Greek Churches at various periods; The Council of Trent, and the Popish controversies; the questions agitated in the Protestant Churches; the Synod of Dort, the Westminster Assembly, the headship of Christ over the Church, and over the nations, and the present aspect of the Christian world.

References to books were frequent, and the students were allowed time to enter them in their notes for consultation, as most of the authorities quoted were to be found in the library.

In the course of the Session, twenty lectures and homilies were criticized by the Professor, and delivered with acceptance.

The class exhibited great variety in talent and attainment, but the attendance of all was regular, and the majority gave manifest evidence of great diligence and eminent success.

The private meetings of Professor and Students for conference and prayer were frequent, and most agreeable.

PROFESSOR YOUNG'S CLASS.

The number of students attending the class of Exegetical Theology under the superintendence of Professor Young, last year, was 20. The book of the prophet Micah was read in the original, by the students, and afterwards expounded in order by the Professor. In connection with this part of the course, lectures were delivered, explaining minutely the principles of interpretation applicable to the writings of the Old Testament Prophets. A portion of the Epistle to the Ephesians was also expounded in the class. No special text book was used in the study of the book of Micah, but the students were required to read, and submit to examinations upon Hodge's Commentary on the Ephesians. The number of students attending the senior Philosophy class was 3, and the number attending the junior Philosophy class 5. In the former of these classes, a course of lectures was delivered on

those branches of Mental Philosophy, which had not been overtaken during the previous year, and on Moral Philosophy: Reid's works being used as a text book in Mental Philosophy, and Wayland's Treatise on Ethics as a text book in that department. In the Junior Philosophy class, a course of instruction was delivered in Logic, and the elements of Mental Philosophy, including a full description of the various theories of Perception; the text books used being Whately's logic, and Reid's Lectures, with the notes of Sir. W. Hamilton. In both the Philosophical classes, the students were required, independently of the lectures delivered by the

Professor, to study the text books, and to submit to examinations upon them. In both classes likewise, Essays were from time written by all the students, on subjects prescribed by the Professor. In the Exegetical class, a critical discourse, (commonly called Exercise and Addition,) was delivered by each of the students in the 2nd year of their Theological course, except in one or two instances where the delivery of this exercise was postponed for a year.

The conduct of the students in all the classes was distinguished by invariable propriety.

GEORGE P. YOUNG.

LIST OF STUDENTS 1857-8.

PREPARATORY CLASSES.

1.	2.	3.
John Morrison. Marshal Macklin. William Lundy. Olivier Labelle. Olivier Paquette.	John Davidson. James Wallace. Lachlan Cameron. Stephen Young. John K. Hislop. Ebenezer Bald. James McGregor. Hector McNeil. John Thompson. Kenneth McLennan. David Duff.	Edward Graham. Thomas Kellough. John Eadie.

THEOLOGICAL CLASS.

1.	2.	3.
Walter Coulthard. Alexander Matheson. Finlay McCuaig. N. McKinnon. Robert Kennedy. D. H. Fletcher.	Wm. Millican. Alexander Fraser. Arch'd. Stewart. James Greenfield. Robert Leask. George Crow. Wm. Matheson. James Campbell. Alex. Mackay. John McEwan. Charles Cameron. J. Robertson. D. McVicar. Peter McDiarmid.	Thomas Fenwick. A. D. McDonald. D. McLean. Arch'd. McDiarmid. Adam F. MacQueen.

REPORT OF HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

The chief duty of this Committee is the distribution among the several Presbyteries of the missionaries whose services are available for the supply of destitute congregations, and of the wide mission field waiting for cultivation.

At the meeting in the beginning of October it appeared from the applications of Presbyteries, that 42 missionaries were required, while there were only 18 available for service during the winter. The missionaries available were thus distributed, viz.—to Presbytery of Montreal, 3; Brockville & Ottawa, 1; Kingston, 2; Cobourg, 1; Toronto, 2; Hamilton, 4; London, 5.

In April, the following distribution was made viz.—to Presbytery of Montreal, 6; Brockville & Ottawa, 3; Kingston, 1; Cobourg, 2; Toronto, 10; Hamilton, 7; London, 9. It may be remarked, that on this occasion there were applications for fewer probationers than on some former occasions, owing in a great measure, it is believed, to the circumstance that there was difficulty in raising the amount necessary for support. And as it will be more particularly mentioned to, there were several missionaries not allocated.

During the past year ten pastoral settlements have taken place, viz.—1. In Presbytery of London, 1, Rev. W. Blount at Bosanquet; 2. Hamilton, 3, Mr. McRobie, at Jarvis, Mr. McRobie at Walpole, and Mr. Cuthbertson at Woolwich; 3. Toronto 1, Mr. Anderson at Brock; 4. Cobourg 1, Mr. Alexander at Percy and Seymour; 5. Kingston, 1, Mr. White at Belleville; 6. Brockville & Ottawa 3, viz., Mr. Crawford at Westport, Mr. Quin at Kemptville and Mr. Montgomery, at South Gower and Mountain; 7. Montreal 1, Mr. McLaren at Boston, Mass.

The following is a brief statement of the vacancies and mission stations in the several Presbyteries, viz.—1. In Presbytery of London, there are 24 vacant congregations and stations, of which, one half would require Gaelic. Fifteen are ready for settlement, 10 requiring Gaelic and English, and 5 English alone. The following are the Stations in this extensive Presbytery, viz:—1. Clinton and Colborne Mills; 2. Paisley and Tara; 3. Elma and Mornington; 4. Westminster and Frampton; 5. Wardsville; 6. Thamesville; 7. Amherstburgh; 8. Maidstone and Mersea; 9. Wallaceburgh; 10. West Plympton and Inniskillen; 11. Vienna and Port Burwell; 12. Komoka. The above require English only. The following require English and Gaelic, viz:—1.

Thamesford; 2. Belmont and Yarmouth; 3. Wallacetown and Currie Road; Chalmer's Church, Dunwich; 5. Bruce; 6. Kincairdine; 7. Huron; 8. Ashfield; 9. Wawanosh and Kinloss; 10. Culross and Carrick; 11. Blyth; and Manchester; 12. Grey and Wallace.

2. In Presbytery of Hamilton there are three vacant congregations; 7. mission stations requiring English alone; and 9. requiring Gaelic and English. The vacant congregations are 1. Niagara; 2. Owen Sound; 3. Wellesley. The stations requiring English alone are:—1. Garafra; 2. Arthur; 3. Maryborough; 4. Walsingham; 5. Cayuga; 6. Durham; 7. Grimsby. The stations requiring both Gaelic and English are:—1. Upper Arthur; 2. Mount Forest; 3. Hendrie Station; 4. Swanston Station; 5. East Durham; 6. Rocky Saugeen; 7. Glenelg; 8. Derby and Sullivan; 9. Tenth Line Sydenham. Of these stations and congregations four have calls pending and will likely have pastors soon settled. Six others are self-sustaining, and are ready for settlement.

3. In Presbytery of Toronto, there are 5 pastoral charges fit for settlement, and 13 mission districts, including 9 organized congregations. The following are the charges referred to, viz:—1. Erin and Caledon; 2. York Mills and Fisherville; 3. Cedar Grove &c.; 4. Collingwood Harbour; 5. West Gwillimbury and Bradford. The following are the mission districts referred to, some more and some less extensive viz:—at. Vincent; 2. Artemisia; 3. Osprey; 4. Nottawasaga and Sunnidale; 5. Mono, (centre and west); 6. Mono East and Adjala; 7. Mono Mills and Caledon East; 8. Medonte and Flos; 9. Oro. (Gaelic); 10. Vaughan, (Gaelic); 11. Weston; 12. Georgetown; 13. Brampton.

4. In Presbytery of Cobourg there are two mission fields; 1, Alnwick & Bethesda Church, and 2, Smith, supplied for a length of time by Mr. Rogers.

5. In Presbytery of Kingston, there are three vacant congregations, viz: 1, Picton, 2, Trenton and Corsecon, 3, Demorestville; and besides these the mission stations of Ballinahinch and Storrington.

6. In Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa, there are 6 organized congregations vacant, viz: 1, Ramsay; 2, Beckwith and Goulburn; 3, Cumberland and Lochaber, 4, Renfrew; 5, White-Lake and Burnstown; 6, Osgoode. There are also two mission stations, viz: Merrickville and Westmeath.

7. In Presbytery of Montreal, there are ten vacant congregations and missions, viz: 1, Kenyon; 2, Martintown; 3, Winchester; 4, La-

guerre; 5, Finch; 6, Richmond; 7, Osnabruck; 8, Valleyfield; 9, Harrington; 10, Lingwick. In a large proportion of these, perhaps, we might say a majority, gaelic would be indispensable.

For the supply of these vacant Congregations and Stations, the following missionaries and catechists are at present employed, viz:—Presbytery of London, 9; Hamilton, 7; Toronto, 10; Cobourg, 1; Kingston, 1; Brockville & Ottawa, 3; Montreal, 6.

The supply of missionaries from the old country during the past year has been very limited, viz., from Scotland, Mr. Park, Probationer, and Messrs. Craw, and McKerracher, Students; and from Ireland, Mr. McMechan. Mr. White, now settled at Belleville, also came from Ireland through New Brunswick. Mr. Shaw and Mr. White have also come with Presbyterial and other certificates, the former from Ireland, and the other more immediately from England. Mr McKenzie, who laboured in Montreal in connexion with the Cote Street Church, is also officiating at present in the bounds of the Presbytery of Toronto. We trust that from time to time accessions to our staff of our labours may be received from the churches on the other side of the Atlantic. But it is evident that it is mainly to our own young men, that we must look for our future missionaries and ministers. This consideration should lead Presbyteries and Sessions, as well as individual ministers and office-bearers to be more and more diligent in looking out and encouraging young men as candidates for the ministry.

In the report of last year, the following clause occurs:—

“Another question which may require ere long to be considered, is the question as to the claims which Probationers, once in the service of the Home Mission Committee have on its continued employment. In other words, is the Home Mission Committee, or the Presbyteries of Church bound to give appointment to all who are received as Probationers of this Church? And if there is any obligation, how long does it continue? It is right to state to the Synod that no case has occurred as yet, where this question has become necessary. But it is a question which may, in our circumstances, force itself upon our consideration.”

What was then hinted at as a possibility has become an actual question. At a meeting of the Home Committee in April last, there were four Probationers to whom no appointments were given, from the simple circumstance that no Presbytery would undertake to provide em-

ployment for them. This may have been felt as a grievance by the parties alluded to, in regard to whose moral character and standing as Probationers, it is but right to say, that not the slightest objection was alleged, and it becomes now the duty of the Synod to lay down some regulation for the guidance of the Home Mission Committee.

In regard to Buxton Mission a special report will be presented by Mr. King, on the state of the Buxton Mission. It was remitted to a sub-committee to report as to the financial position of Buxton Mission, and the amount of pecuniary responsibility that should be assumed by the Synod. The substance of the report of this committee is, that in the present state of things the Synod should pay Mr. King's salary as missionary; and \$300 towards the salary of Mr. Thomson, Teacher, his salary being (including allowance for house,) \$530. The state of the buildings also required attention. The appointment of a Committee consisting of Messrs. Scott, Doak, Straith, Clark and McKellar, Mr. Scott Convener, to act with Mr. King in carrying out the object of the mission, is recommended.

RED RIVER.—At the last meeting of the Home Mission a sub-committee was appointed to look out for a Minister to visit the Red River for the double purpose of encouraging our excellent brother there, and gaining information as to the state of the aborigines, and the practicability of Missionary operations among them. On the report of this sub-committee, the Home Missionary Committee are now prepared to recommend the appointment of the Rev. Mr. MacTavish.

The Committee would, in conclusion, bring before the Synod, the fact that in addition to the sum already mentioned as being paid by the Executors of the late Mr. Thomson, of Beverley, for the Bursary Fund, and in terms of his will, a like sum (\$10141) has been paid for the missions of the Church. Mr. Thomson's will does not specify any particular object, but his representatives have stated, that in his lifetime he felt special interest in the Buxton Mission. No specific application has of course been made of the funds. But the Committee would take the liberty of stating to the Synod, that the Buxton Mission, at present needs assistance, and they would consider the application of at least a considerable portion of the sum referred to, to this object, as legitimate and proper.

Submitted in name of Committee, by
W. REID, Convener

REPORT ON MISSION TO NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS.

The Committee appointed on the subject of a mission to the North American Indians, have to report, after due enquiry, that, according to the information they have obtained, this mission field may be divided into two sections: the one extending from Lakes Huron and Superior to Hudson's Bay, and comprising within its limits the large part of the widely scattered settlements of the Chippeway tribes. The other reaching from Lake Superior to Vancouver's Island. This latter field presents three distinct points, in any one of which a mission might be commenced with advantage. The first, in the valley of the Red River, where the work might be begun among a section of the Chippeways, and in co-operation with the congregation of the Rev. J. Black. The second

in the valley of the Saskatchewan among the Blackfeet. The third in Vancouver's Island, among the tribes found there, in connection with Presbyterian population already settled there, and soon likely to be largely increased.

The Committee with their necessarily imperfect information, feel great difficulty in deciding which field should be first occupied, (though some of the members, for obvious reasons, give a preference to Vancouver's Island,) and they agree to recommend that the Synod send some suitable minister to the Red River, in order to consult and advise with Mr. Black and others, about this matter, and that on his return, the Foreign Mission Committee, or a Committee appointed for the object, be authorized to take such steps as they may deem necessary to the establishment of such a mission.

JOHN MACTAVISH,
Convener.

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Abstract of Accounts of various Schemes of the Church, for the Year 1857-8, AS EXAMINED AND AUDITED.

ABSTRACT of *College Account (Ordinary Fund,) for Financial year
1857-8.*

R E C E I P T S.

To amount from Presbytery of London	\$ 851 76
“ “ “ Hamilton	1356 97
“ “ “ Toronto	1052 04
“ “ “ Cobourg	256 35
“ “ “ Brockville and Ottawa	251 33
“ “ “ Kingston	153 18
“ “ “ Montreal	751 57
“ “ Ladies' Association, Galt	60 00
“ “ Sabbath Schools	16 22
To balance due the Fund	\$4749 42
	1754 13
	\$6503 55
Amount now against the Fund	1754 13
“ “ of balances now due the Professors	230 00

D I S B U R S E M E N T S.

By amount paid balance due Professors, previous year	\$ 324 75
“ “ for Stipend, Dr. Willis	1550 00
“ “ “ Professor Young	1420 00
“ “ “ Dr. Burns	1600 00
“ “ Mr. Willing for Fuel, Light and Attendance	200 00
“ “ Mr. Thomson, for Tuition	40 00
“ “ proportion of General Agent's Salary	250 00
“ “ “ expenses for Office Rent, Fuel, Taxes, Postage, Stationery and other incidental charges	66 00
“ “ sundry accounts, Insurance on Library, Advertis- ing, Printing, &c.	82 05
“ “ interest charged and credited to Widows' Fund ..	60 00
“ “ balance due last year	910 75
	\$6503 55

The following congregations have omitted, this year ; to remit for the Col-
lege Fund, up to 1st June, viz:

In Presbytery of London—Blandford, London, Moore, St. Marys, Saugeen.
In Presbytery of Hamilton—Brantford, Niagara, Port Dover and Sim-
coe, Paris. In Presbytery of Toronto—Barrie, Innisfil and Essa, Caledon
West and Erin, King, Oro, (Gaelic,) Whitby, West Gwillimbury & Bradford,
York Mills and Fisherville. In Presbytery of Cobourg—Baltimore, Cobourg-
Percey and Seymour. In Presbytery of Kingston—Madoc. In Presbytery
of Brockville and Ottawa—Beckwith, Dalhousie, McNab and Horton,

Wakefield, Kemptville, Yonge and Augusta, Spencerville and Port Elgin.
In Presbytery of Montreal—Cornwall, Kenyon, Lachute, Osnabruck, Winchester, St. Eustache and Grand Freniere.

Required for ensuing year, current expenses.....	\$5400 00
“ “ Interest on purchase.....	642 00
“ “ balance now due the fund.....	1754 00
	<hr/>
	\$7796 00

ABSTRACT of Account College Building Fund, for the year 1857-8.

R E C E I P T S.

To Presbytery of London.....	\$ 552 27
“ “ Hamilton.....	16 50
“ “ Toronto.....	44 00
“ “ Cobourg.....	396 10
“ “ Kingston.....	40 00
“ “ Brockville & Ottawa.....	128 60
“ “ Montreal.....	119 42
“ Amount of Individual Subscriptions.....	601 83
“ “ From England, per Rev. Donald Fraser.....	1227 45
“ “ “ Scotland and Ireland, per Rev. Dr. Burns.....	4892 26
“ Discount on Note of \$1,000 given to Dr. Clark.....	60 00
“ Balance Due the Fund now.....	261 60
	<hr/>
To Balance against Fund.....	\$8340 43
	261 60

D I S B U R S E M E N T S.

By amount paid on account of purchase money.....	\$6288 00
“ “ Interest on account of purchase money.....	831 36
“ “ for sundry accounts, Painters, Plumbers, and Hardware for College.....	247 25
“ “ “ Photographic View of College for Dr. Burns and Mr. Fraser.....	40 00
“ “ “ Expenses connected with supply of Pulpits	12 75
“ “ “ Interest, and Expenses connected with execution of Deed and Mortgage.....	141 21
“ “ “ Insurance of Building.....	75 75
“ “ “ Alterations in Basement, and other Carpenter work.....	169 06
“ “ “ Expenses connected with Act of Incorporation.....	35 00
“ “ “ Interest Credited to Widows Fund.....	48 00
“ “ “ Proportion of Expenses of Office, Postages, Telegraphs, Stationery, and other incidental charges.....	51 32
Balance account last year.....	401 48
	<hr/>
	\$8340 43

The amount now due on purchase account is £2678—\$10712, the Interest on which is \$642 72 per annum, payable in July and January, the balance of purchase money payable in January, 1862.

STATEMENT of *Bursary Fund for Financial Year 1857-8.***RECEIPTS.**

To amount of balance on hand.....	\$ 262 00
“ “ from Congregation of St. Catherines.....	6 00
“ “ “ “ Scarborough.....	15 20
“ “ “ “ Egmondville.....	3 60
“ “ “ “ Saltfleet and Binbrook.....	10 00
“ “ “ “ Gananoque.....	8 00
“ “ “ “ St. Catherines.....	10 00
“ “ “ Isaac Buchanan, Esq., M. P. P.....	80 00
“ “ “ Mrs. Esson for Henry Esson Bursary.....	20 00
“ “ “ Ladies Association, Galt.....	20 00
“ “ “ Knox's Church, Hamilton.....	40 00
“ “ Sundry sums re-paid by Students.....	60 00
“ “ from Executors of late J. Thompson of Beverly, less charge on Draft.....	1014 14
	<u>\$1551 64</u>
To amount balance on hand.....	\$ 912 44

DISBURSEMENTS.

By amount paid balance due J. A. Smith in connexion with boarding.....	\$ 169 00
“ “ “ Bursary to F. McQuaig.....	20 00
“ “ “ “ N. McKinnon.....	20 00
“ “ “ “ L. Cameron.....	40 00
“ “ “ “ D. H. Fletcher.....	20 00
“ “ “ “ J. Robertson.....	40 00
“ “ “ Fees of entrants at University College... ..	88 00
“ “ “ Sums advanced to Students.....	109 00
“ “ “ Sum paid to Mr. Willing on account of Students, (to be re-paid).....	133 20
“ “ Balance on hand.....	912 43
	<u>\$1551 64</u>

WILLIAM REID,
General Agent & Treas.

ABSTRACT Statement of *Buxton Mission and Synod Fund, for year 1857-8.***RECEIPTS.**

To amount from Presbytery of London.....	\$281 62
“ “ “ Hamilton.....	362 93
“ “ “ Toronto.....	244 66
“ “ “ Cobourg.....	119 08
“ “ “ Kingston.....	75 53
“ “ “ Brockville and Ottawa.....	151 75
“ “ “ Montreal.....	255 30
“ “ Sabbath School, St. Gabriel, Street Montreal.....	14 00
“ “ “ Peterboro'.....	5 00
“ “ “ Ayr.....	2 00
“ “ “ Knox's Church, Toronto.....	60 00
“ “ “ Cook's Church, Toronto.....	18 00
“ “ W. & J. McIntosh of London.....	1 00
“ “ Ladies' Anti-Slavery Assoc'n of Dundee, Scotland... ..	24 33
	<u>\$1615 20</u>
Balance now due.....	777 68
	<u>\$2392 88</u>

DISBURSMENTS.

By amount paid	Rev. W. King, balance due previous year.....	\$ 160 50
"	" do. for account of Salary.....	500 00
"	Mr. Nichol, Teacher.....	79 73
"	Mr. Thomson, Teacher.....	200 00
"	Printing Circulars and charges on draft.....	10 50
"	Sundry Accounts and Expenses connected with Synod Fund.....	29 00
"	Rev. S. C. Fraser's account.....	72 00
"	Printing Minutes, Statistical Tables, &c.....	220 00
"	Proportion of General Agents Salary.....	600 00
"	Proportion of Office Rent, Taxes, Postages, Station- ery, Assistance in Office, &c.....	66 00
"	Balance at beginning of year.....	455 15
		<u>\$2392 88</u>

ABSTRACT of Widows' Fund Account for the year 1857-8.

RECEIPTS.

To amount from Presbytery of London.....	\$ 201 15
" " " " Hamilton.....	357 77
" " " " Toronto.....	183 68
" " " " Cobourg.....	86 21
" " " " Kingston.....	44 53
" " " " Brockville and Ottawa.....	155 20
" " " " Montreal.....	192 27
" " Donation.....	200 00
" " Sundries, per J. Gibb, Esq.....	9 86
" " Do. per P. Redpath, Esq.....	6 66
" " Minister's Rates.....	856 00
" " Interest.....	1462 46
" " Principal falling due and paid.....	4380 10
" " Balance at beginning of year.....	\$8135 83
	<u>2155 60</u>
*To amount of balance.....	\$10291 43
* Arrangements are being made for the Investment of part of this balance.	2889 93

DISBURSEMENTS.

By amount paid	Rate re-paid to Ministers.....	\$ 8 00
"	" Annuities to Widows.....	957 50
"	" Purchase of two Mortgages.....	6120 00
"	" Proportion of Salary to General Agent.....	250 00
"	Do. Expenses of Office Rent, Taxes, Fuel, Postage, Stationery, & Incidental Exp	66 00
"	" Balance.....	2889 93
		<u>\$10291 43</u>

PRESENT STATE OF WIDOWS' FUND.

Invested Debentures of Co. of Wellington.....	£ 1491 0 0
" " " Middlesex.....	600 0 0
" " " Township of Dereham.....	1598 14 0
" " " Sundry Mortgages.....	1580 0 0
Amount of balance on hand as per statement.....	722 9 8
	<u>£5992 3 8</u>
	\$23968 78

ABSTRACT of Account of Foreign Mission of Presbyterian Church
of Canada.

R E C E I P T S.

Balance in hand 1st June, 1857	£313	6	6
Received through Rev. W. Reid	374	9	1
" " St. Andrew's Church, Cobourg.....	17	15	2
" " A Friend, through Mr. Court.....	0	10	0
" " St. Gabriel St. Church, Montreal.....	2	5	0
" " Lachute.....	2	10	0
" " Interest.....	17	10	0
	£728	7	9

D I S B U R S E M E N T S.

Sterling Bill remitted to Rev. G. Stevenson.....	£122	4	5
Sterling Bill remitted to Rev. G. Stevenson.....	122	4	5
Discount on Draft.....	0	9	6
Postages, Rev. D. Fraser.....	0	12	9
Balance in Treasurer's hands.....	482	16	8
	£728	7	9

Montreal, 1st June, 1857.

J. REDPATH,
Treasurer.

Balance in hands of J. Redpath, Esq.....	£482	16	8
Balance in hands of Rev. W. Reid.....	113	6	5
	£596	3	1

Abstract of Account of Ecclesiastical and Missionary Record for
year 1857-8.

R E C E I P T S.

Amount of Subscriptions received.....	\$1595	51
Balance.....	54	12

\$1649 63

E X P E N D I T U R E.

For Printing.....	\$1253	00
Distribution of City Records, &c.....	27	00
Proportion of Salary.....	300	00
Proportion of Office Rent and Expenses.....	66	00
Balance due last year.....	3	63

\$1649 63

We hereby certify that we have examined the Accounts of the various Schemes of the Synod, and compared the Vouchers, and find the whole to be correct.

TORONTO, 10th June, 1858.

WM. GREGG,
JOHN McMURRICH,
Per J. S. PLAYFAIR.

ADDENDA.

BOARD OF COLPORTAGE AND PUBLICATION.

Messrs Scott, Reid, Ure, Dr. Irvine, Messrs T. Wardrope, S. Young, Nisbet, Inglis, King, Laing, R. F. Burns, and J. McTavish, Ministers; and Messrs. Dickerman, Osborne, Young, McMurrich, Hopkin, Mitchell, Stewart, Court, Begg, Clark, Cowan, and Mckenzie; Mr. Inglis, Convener.

WIDOWS' FUND COMMITTEE.

Dr. Burns, Messrs. G. P. Young, Smellie, Scott, Inglis, D. Fraser, Dr. Boyd, Dr. Irvine, Ministers; and Messrs. Osborne, Buchanan, Walker, McLellan, Elmslie, Davidson, Blain, Ferrier, McMurrich, Shaw, Spreull, Morgan, C. S. Patterson, Hay, Redpath, D. Davidson, Court, Gibb, Dr. Dickson, Hon. J. McDonald; James Osborne, Esq., Hamilton, Convener.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Messrs John Gray, Gregg, Nisbet, Laing, Burns, Ministers; and Dr. Holden, Messrs. Court, A. Fraser, and F. W. Torrance; Mr. Gray, Convener.

COMMITTEE ON STATE OF RELIGION.

Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Messrs. McLeod, D. Fraser, Gregg, John Gray, Inglis, Ministers; Messrs. McMurrich, Court, Cattanach, Clark, Elders; Mr. Scott, Convener. The following Ministers were appointed corresponding members in the various Presbyteries, viz:—For Presbytery of Montreal, Mr. Crombie; for Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa, Mr. T. Wardrope; for the Presbytery of Kingston, Mr. Wilson; for Presbytery of Cobourg, Mr. McKenzie; for Presbytery of Toronto, Mr. McTavish; for Presbytery of Hamilton, Mr. R. F. Burns; and for Presbytery of London, Mr. D. Walker, of Port Sarnia.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

Messrs Reid, Ure, Wightman, Nisbet, Gray, Gregg, Stark, McRuar, Burns, Dr. Irvine, Messrs. Inglis, Black, A. McLean, of Puslinch, Scott, McDiarmid, Ball, Tolmie, Walker, King, McMillan, of Fingal, W. J. McKenzie, McLeod, J. W. Smith, Wilson, James Smith, P. Gray, D. Fraser, Kemp, Currie, and Anderson, Ministers; and Messrs. Telfer, Bannerman, Wallace, Archibald Young, W. Wilson, Thomson, Dougan, McKenzie, Ross, Gordon, Leith, Turnbull, Stewart, Graham, Nicoll, Cattanach, Court, Redpath, Ross, and Dr. Holden, Elders; Mr. Reid, Convener.

AGENCY COMMITTEE.

Dr. Burns, Messrs. Lowry, Ure, Wightman, McTavish, McLeod, Gregg, Dr. Irvine, Mr. Inglis, Mr. Ross, Mr. King, Ministers; and McMurrich, Shaw, Dickerman, Matthews, Ferrier, Court and Clark, Elders; Dr. Burns, Convener.

FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

Messrs. D. Fraser, W. B. Clark, Kemp, T. Wardrope, Wilson, McLeod, Reid, Dr. Irvine, Messrs. Inglis, Stark, Scott, Ball, Lowry, McRuar, Dr. Burns, Ministers; and Messrs. Redpath, Court, Clark, Dickerman, Elder, Kennedy, Cattanach, Turnbull, Ross, Elders; Messrs. D. Fraser, and T. Lowry, Joint Conveners.

COMMITTEE ON FUND FOR AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS

Messrs. Gregg, McTavish, Lowry, Reid, Ministers; and Messrs. Court, Ferrier, Stewart, McMurrich, Walker, Sherwood, and Alex. Mitchell; Mr. Gregg, Convener.

Committee for corresponding anent ordination of Ministers from other Churches—
Messrs. Gregg, Lowry, and Reid.

OMISSIONS AND ERRATA.

Page 3, in Roll of Presbytery of London, for Robert Vanvran, read Robert Vanvrankin, as Elder from Buxton.

Page 6, after Roll of Presbytery of Montreal, insert Rev. A. F. Kemp, Pres. Clerk, Montreal.

Page 27, 8th line from bottom, for I read It.

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