

**MINUTES**

OF

**THE SYNOD**

OF THE

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**NOVA-SCOTIA.**

Held in Truro and Pictou, January 10th, and June 27th, 1854.

**HALIFAX, N. S.**

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1854.

MINUTES

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AT A SPECIAL MEETING HELD IN TRURO, JANUARY 10th, 1854.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

Truro, January 10th, 1854, 2 o'clock, P.M.

Special Meeting.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia met, being summoned by the Moderator in terms of the Synod's Resolution passed in New Glasgow, on the fifth day of July last, and a Sermon by Rev. Professor Ross, having been previously preached, was constituted by the Moderator.

Members present.

Were present Rev. Messrs J. L. Murdoch, James Ross, William McCulloch, Peter G. McGregor, James Bayne, James Waddell, John Cameron, James Watson, Robert Sedgewick, Eben. E. Ross, George Patterson and Alex. L. Wylie, Ministers, and Messrs. D. McCurdy, from the Congregation of Onslow, David W. Archibald from the Congregation of Truro, Daniel Cameron from the Congregation of West River, Anthony Peppard from the Congregation of Upper Londonderry, Welwood Reynolds from the Congregation of Musquodoboit, William Creelman from the Congregation of Stewiacke, and Cameron McDonald from the Cong. of Shubenacadie Ruling Elders.

Reports of Presbyteries.

The Presbytery of Pictou reported that since last meeting of Synod they had inducted Rev. D. Honeyman lately of Shubenacadie to be assistant and successor to Rev. T. Trotter of Antigonish and that his name had been added to their Roll.

The Presbytery of Halifax reported that Mr. Honeyman's name had been removed from their roll in consequence of his accepting the call from Antigonish, and that having ordained Mr. George M. Clark, Preacher to the Pastoral charge of the Shelburne Congregation (including Shelburne, Clyde, Barrington and Ragged Islands) they had added his name to the roll of Presbytery. Ordered that his name be added to the Synod Roll.

Reasons for calling Meeting.

The Moderator then stated his reasons for calling the present Meeting, viz.: that he had been notified by the Secretary of the Board of Superintendence of the Seminary that they had agreed upon a person to be recommended to the Synod, to fill the situation of Second Professor and requesting him to call the Synod to meet at the time and

place provided for by Resolution of Synod passed at New Glasgow, July 5th, 1853.

On motion of Rev. Professor Ross, seconded by Rev. J. Waddell, it was agreed unanimously, "That the Synod approve of the procedure of the Moderator in calling this meeting."

The Moderator having called upon the Board for a statement of their proceedings respecting the nomination of a Professor, the Secretary submitted as their report the minutes of their proceedings together with their correspondence with Mr. Thomas McCulloch, the person recommended and in favour of whom Synodical appointment was desired.

The correspondence shewed that the Board had inquired from Mr. McCulloch if he would accept the nomination upon the following terms. First. This Board have only the power to nominate and recommend, the nomination may be accepted or rejected by the Synod.

Secondly. That if appointed Mr. McCulloch would be expected to undertake the teaching of Latin, Mathematics and Natural Science including Chemistry.

No specific promise was made as regards Salary. To which inquiry Mr. McCulloch, after some delay to enable him to procure competent medical advice respecting the sufficiency of his health to undertake the duties of the situation, wrote accepting the nomination.

It was then moved by Rev. J. Cameron and seconded by Rev. P. G. McGregor, "That the nomination of the Board be accepted and confirmed." The Resolution passed unanimously.

The Synod approved of the division of labour suggested by the Board in their letter to Mr. McCulloch as a general outline, leaving the minor arrangements to the Professors themselves, subject to the approval of the Board.

On motion of Rev. P. G. McGregor, seconded by Mr. D. McCurdy, it was agreed that the Salary shall be £150, payable half yearly in advance.

The Synod adjourned, closing its meeting with prayer and the Apostolic Benediction.

P. G. MCGREGOR, Synod Clerk.

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# MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA SCOTIA.

### JUNE---JULY, 1854.

#### FIRST SEDERUNT.

PRINCE STREET CHURCH,

June 27th, 1854, 7½ o'clock, P.M.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia met, and after a sermon from the Rev. James Byers, the Moderator, from 2nd Cor. chap. v, verse 13th, "For whether we be beside ourselves it is to God, or whether we be sober it is for your cause," and was constituted.

Present besides the Moderator, the Rev. Messrs. Angus McGillivray, James Smith, David Roy, John McCurdy, John J. Baxter, William McCulloch, Peter G. McGregor, George Christie, James Bayne, James Waddell, James Watson, George Walker, Robert Sedgewick, George Patterson, David Honeyman, Alex. L. Wylie, James Byers and George M. Clarke, Ministers, and Messrs. David Fulton from the Congregation of Stewiacke, David W. Archibald from the Congregation of Truro, Samuel Creelman from the Congregation of Halifax, Matthew Patterson from the Congregation of Pictou, James Murphy from the Congregation of Musquodoboit, John Little from the Congregation of Upper Londonderry, James Mahon from the Congregation of Lower Londonderry, and Peter Ross from the Congregation of West Branch, E. River, Ruling Elders.

The Presbytery of Truro reported that they had ordained Mr. James Thomson, Preacher of the Gospel to the Pastoral charge of the Congregation of Economy and Five Islands, and that his name had been added to the Roll of Presbytery. Ordered that his name be added to the Synod Roll, and being called Mr. Thompson, was present.

The Presbytery of Pictou reported that since last meeting they had licensed Mr. James McLean to preach the everlasting Gospel.

The Rev. Angus McGillivray was chosen Moderator, and took the chair accordingly.

The minutes of the special-meeting of Synod held at Truro, for the appointment of the second Professor in the Theological Seminary were then read and approved.

The following Committees were then appointed:

Committee to examine Presbytery minutes. Rev. Messrs. Walker and Christie, and Mr. John Little, Ruling Elder. Mr. Walker, Convener.

Committee on Statistical Questions. Rev. Messrs. Sedgewick and Byers, and Peter Ross, Esq. Ruling Elder. Mr. Sedgewick, Convener.

Committee on Financial Reports. Rev. Messrs. Patterson and Honeyman, and Hon. S. Creelman, Ruling Elder. Mr. Patterson, Convener.

The Report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures was then read exhibiting the Business coming before Synod properly arranged, and suggesting that the hours of meeting and adjournment should be the same as last year. It was agreed that the Report be received and the order followed in general.

Rev. Professor Smith and Rev. George M. Clarke, were appointed to follow the Moderator in conducting devotional exercises, at the commencement of the morning Sederunt. Concluded with prayer.

#### SECOND SEDERUNT.

Same Place, June 28th, 9 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator who was followed in prayer by the Rev. Professor Smith and Rev. George M. Clarke with the singing of Psalms at intervals.

Present as formerly together with Rev. Messrs. Thomas Trotter, John L. Murdoch, James Ross, J. Campbell, J. Cameron, Ebenezer E. Ross, Ministers, and Messrs. James Grant from the Congregation of East Branch, E. River, William Sutherland from the Congregation of James Church, Thomas Dickson from the Congregation of Onslow, Hugh McDonald from the Congregation of St. Mary's, John Brown from the Congregation of West River, Roderick McGregor from the Congregation of Primitive Church of New Glasgow, James McLean from the Congregation of Salem Church, Ruling Elders.

Rev. G. Patterson, Clerk of the Pictou Presbytery stated in addition to his report given in at last sederunt, that the Rev. Hugh Ross had been by the Pictou Presbytery admitted as a Minister in connection with this Church.

The Report of the Committee appointed to prepare Rules and forms of procedure in our Church Courts was submitted by Rev. P. G. McGregor, Convener. The Report was printed and consisted of a Recommendation of the Rules of the United Presbyterian Church published in 1853, with certain additions and alterations proposed for the consideration of Synod. The Convener explained the principles on which the Committee had acted in suggesting the alterations submitted.

The Report was received and the diligence of the Committee approved. It was agreed that the proposed alterations should be sent down to Presbyteries and Sessions, and that the clerks of Presbyteries be directed to report all the proposed amendments from Sessions and Presbyteries, by the first of March next, and to forward the same to the Committee, who shall review the whole, and prepare it for Synod, at its next meeting.

The Report on Colportage was submitted by Rev. J. J. Baxter, from which it appeared that several Colporteurs have been and still are occupied in disposing of Religious publications in different parts of the Province; that 7279 volumes had been imported during the past year, amounting in value to £665 0s. 7½d. making in all during the last two years 15,487 volumes, amounting to £1411 16s. 3½d. The stock on hand consists of 2200 volumes which just covers the debt due.

After some discussion the following motion was submitted by the Rev. G. Patterson: "Reappoint the Com-

Sermon.

Members present.

Reports of Presbyteries.

New Moderator.

Minutes.

Committees.

Report of Com. of Bills ann Over.

Devotional Exercises appointed.

Devotional Exerc.

Members present.

Report Pictou Phy.

Report of Com. on Rules of Procedure

Report remitted to Phys. and Sessions

Rep. on Colportage

Motion.

mittee, encourage them to prosecute their labours, more especially in such efforts for the evangelization of the the more destitute localities of the Provinces as may be consistent with the position of the agents employed, and authorize the Committee to receive such free contributions as may be offered so as to relieve as much as possible the Philadelphia Board of Publication of expense incurred in the measure."

Amendment. It was moved in amendment by Rev. Mr. McCulloch, that the Report be received, and the Committee encouraged to prosecute their work.

Second Amendment adopted. A second amendment was moved by Rev. J. Watson, as follows: "Reappoint the Committee, approve of their proceedings hitherto, and authorize them to receive free contributions, throughout our Congregations in behalf of the Philadelphia Board of Publication."

The question being taken the second amendment was adopted when the Synod adjourned, concluding with prayer.

THIRD SEDERUNT

Same day and Place, 3 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod met and was constituted. Present as at last sederunt.

Rev. A. McKenzie and Rev. Hugh Ross being present were invited to correspond.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The Committee of Correspondence with evangelical Churches submitted their report.

Report of Com. of Correspondence.

The Committee stated that their letters to Jamaica and to the Union of Evangelical Churches in France, had not yet been answered and assigned, satisfactory reasons for the delay in the latter case. The Committee stated that owing to a mistake respecting the time of the meeting of the Canadian Synod that they had not dispatched a letter as they intended to that Synod. They had written however for information respecting the proceedings of the Canadian Missionary Society, for the evangelization of the French Population, enquiring into their plans, prospects and success and whether a missionary could be obtained by this Church to labour among the Acadian French, who are similar in language and manners. To these enquiries they had as yet received no reply. The diligence of the Committee was approved, they were re-appointed and farther directed to correspond during the present year with the Parent Church, and with the United Presbyterian Church in Australia.

Farther Directions

The Report of the Committee on the site of the Seminary, was called for, when the Convener stated that the Committee had not met, and consequently that no report was forthcoming. The Convener requested an opportunity for the Committee to meet, which the Synod granted.

Com. on Site.

The Report of the Board of Home Missions was read by Rev. W. McCulloch, Sec'y. when the Report was received and the diligence of the Committee approved.

Report of Board of Home Missions.

The Synod then took up in order the suggestions contained in the Report. The first was to the effect that Synod should express sympathy with the Congregation of Harvey, which had been unjustly deprived of its Church property. On motion it was agreed: "That this Synod deeply sympathizes with the Congregation of Harvey, in their loss, and recommend the Congregations under our charge to give them such assistance in building as they may be able; and that the Clerk be directed to communicate this resolution to that congregation." The second suggestion was that Probationers should remit all monies received from Mission Stations to the Treasurer, and apply for payment to the Board. This recommendation was adopted. The Synod then adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock, leaving the evening to be occupied by a Lecture from Rev. James Bayne on Christian Union. Concluded with prayer.

First suggestion, sympathy with Harvey Cong.

FOURTH SEDERUNT

Same Place, June 29th, 9 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod met and was constituted, Present as formerly, with Rev. R. S. Patterson.

The Clerk of P. E. I. Presbytery, being now present, stated that since last meeting of Synod, that Presbytery had ordained Mr. Henry Crawford to the Pastoral charge of the Congregation of St. Peter's and Bay Fortune; and Mr. John McLeod to be Pastor of the Congregation of Richmond Bay, and that their names had been added to the Roll of Presbytery. Ordered that their names be added to the Synod Roll, and being called they were present. The Clerk farther stated that the same Presbytery had licensed Mr. J. McG. McKay to be a preacher of the Gospel. Minutes were read and approved.

Report of P. E. I. Presbytery.

Names added.

Resumed consideration of suggestions of the Home Mission Board. Took up the case of Probationers who are or may be left without steady employment. The following motion was agreed to "That the Synod recognizes the justice to congregations, and Probationers, of Probationers receiving an equal share of appointments in Congregations and Stations, while on the roll, but for the future, after Probationers have been on the roll for a period of four years, they shall be removed from the roll for regular supply, without depriving them of their status, as licentiates, and still leaving them eligible for occasional supply."

Home Missions. Second suggestion.

The subject of making an additional grant to Probationers by the Board in cases in which their expenses, are great, was considered, and the Board authorized to act as heretofore.

Third suggestion.

The Board inquired respecting their right to allow Preachers an interval to attend the meetings of Synod, agreed "that the Board be authorized to grant such liberty."

Fourth. An Inquiry.

The next question referred to cases in which settled ministers are sent to missionary stations, and their expenses demanded, while Probationers are paid for supplying their pulpits. The Synod agreed "that the present practice be continued, that is, the Board shall exercise discretion in granting such requests."

Fifth. An Inquiry.

The Synod's opinion was next asked by the Presbytery of Halifax, if travelling expenses to and from a recent ordination at Shelburne, amounting to £10, should be borne by the Home Mission Board or not. It was moved "that in the peculiar circumstances of the case, that the money be paid from the Synod fund." It was moved in amendment "that the money be paid from the Home Mission Board," and the question being taken the amendment was carried.

Expense of Shelburne Ordination

Mr. McCulloch tendered his resignation as Secretary of the Board of Home Missions, and laid the Home Mission Books upon the table. Closed with prayer.

Mr. McCulloch resigns.

FIFTH SEDERUNT.

Same day and Place 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted. Present as at last sederunt.

Minutes being read and approved, it was moved by Rev. P. G. McGregor, "that Mr. McCulloch's resignation be accepted and the thanks of the Synod communicated to him by the Moderator, for his long continued and indefatigable exertions as Secretary of the Board of Home Missions."

Resignation accepted, and thanks given to Mr. McCulloch.

It was moved in amendment by Rev. G. Christie, "that a Committee be appointed to confer with Mr. McCulloch and to report to Synod." Both being seconded, the question was taken when the motion passed: The thanks of

Reappointment of Board postponed.

Synod were then given to Mr. McCulloch, by the Moderator. On motion it was agreed that the appointment of the Board and Secretary be postponed for the present.

Bd. of F. Missions. Report.

Took up the business of the Board of Foreign Missions. The Report was read by Rev. J. Bayne, Secretary.

Report received.

On motion of Rev. J. McCurdy it was agreed that the Report be received, adopted and published by the Secretary, with such alterations as he may find desirable.

Goods to be insured

The Synod decided that the goods sent out by the Board should be insured.

Mr. Gordon.

It was agreed that the Synod approve of the conduct of the Board in reference to Mr. Gordon, as a Candidate for the Foreign Mission Field, and that they continue their oversight over his preparatory studies.

The question being raised respecting the propriety of looking out for a third missionary, the following motion was submitted by Rev. E. E. Ross: "That the Synod whilst thankfully acknowledging the success that has attended their past missionary efforts in the foreign field are not prepared, in the mean time to send out more than one additional labourer." Rev. George Walker moved in amendment. "That the Board be authorized to accept the services of two labourers," and the question being taken the amendment passed.

The Synod then adjourned till to-morrow morning, leaving the evening to be occupied by the Synodical Missionary Meeting. Concluded with prayer.

SIXTH SEDERUNT.

Same Place, June 30th, 9 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod met and was constituted. Present as formerly except Mr. James Murphy and Mr. David W. Archibald.

F. Bd. reappointed

The Board of Foreign Missions was reappointed.

Home M. Board

Moved "That the Board of Home Missions be reappointed with Rev. J. Thompson in room of Rev. D. Honeyman, whose resignation was accepted, and that Rev. E. Ross be Secretary.

Various motions.

It was moved in amendment by the Rev. E. Ross, "That the Boards be united with the addition of so many other members as the Synod may think necessary. A second amendment was offered by Rev. J. McCurdy, "that the Rev. Messrs. Murdoch, Sedgewick, and McGregor, with two elders be the Committee. Rev. J. S. Murdoch, Convener, and Rev. P. G. McGregor, Secretary."

The first amendment was then withdrawn when the following was moved by Rev. P. G. McGregor, "That the Board consist of Rev. Professor Ross, Rev. Messrs. Patterson, Watson and Walker, together with the Presbytery Elders of Green Hill, West River and Primitive Church." The question was taken on the last amendment For or Against when there appeared For 19. Against 19. The Moderator decided in favour of the amendment which therefore passed, the motion and the other amendment being thrown out. Mr. Patterson being appointed secretary resigned his seat at the Foreign Mission Board.

Board appointed.

The Report of the Seminary Board was then read by the Rev. J. Watson the Secretary. It was agreed that the report be received and printed, and the diligence of the Committee approved. Also that the Board be reappointed, with their former powers. The Board having asked the mind of Synod respecting their liberty to make additions to the Library and to provide a uniform set of Classical works, it was agreed "that the Board be authorized to procure such Books for the Library, and such classical and theological works as the Professors may require, and to draw for the expenditure from the funds of the Educational Board.

Board reappointed  
Inquiries about  
Library.

Special Effort.

The next question in the Report, referred to the action of the Board on the question of raising funds for Library,

Apparatus and investment. In connection with this an Overture was read from the Session of Primitive Church, New Glasgow, against such an investment, and another from Truro Presbytery in favour of the prosecution of the scheme.

Overtures for and against Investments. Overt. on Investments for Seminary.

The supporters of the Overture from Primitive Church Session withdrew their Overture as the subject would come fully before Synod on discussing the Overture from Truro Presbytery.

Questions were asked and answered preparatory to the full discussion of the subject when the Synod adjourned, concluding with prayer.

SEVENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 3 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod met and was constituted. Present as at last Sederunt with Mr. David W. Archibald.

Minutes were read and approved. Resumed the consideration of the Overture from Truro Presbytery, "that the Synod prosecute the Scheme of investments upon which it has heretofore acted in part with reference to the support of the theological seminary."

Overture on Investments for Seminary.

An opportunity having been given to the Presbytery of Truro, to support their overture, the subject was fully discussed and the following motion and amendments were placed on the table. Mr. Roderick McGregor moved, "That this Synod disapproves of ministers soliciting money to invest, so that the interest only can be appropriated for the schemes of the Church."

It was moved in amendment by Rev. G. Christie, "That this Synod feeling the importance of giving, as far as possible, stability to their theological Seminary, do in accordance with the spirit of the Overture of the Truro Presbytery, agree to express in general their approbation of the plan to raise by voluntary contributions such sums as parties may be disposed to give for increasing the permanent funds of the Church."

Various motions.

Rev. J. McCurdy moved, "That the Church proceed in the mean time to raise contributions for the Seminary as heretofore." All these motions were seconded.

Leave of absence.

Messrs. David Fulton and Thomas Dickson obtained leave of absence when the Synod adjourned, closing with prayer.

EIGHTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 7 1/2 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod met and was constituted. Present as at last Sederunt, except Messrs. David Fulton and Thomas Dickson and Rev. T. Trotter.

Minutes being read and approved the Synod resumed the consideration of the question of Investments. The following Resolution was then submitted by Rev. J. Campbell, "That the question of endowing the Seminary be remitted to Sessions to report at next meeting of Synod."

Same subject continued.

Rev. G. Patterson moved, "That from the past success which has attended the efforts of Synod as well as the improved circumstances of the people, the Synod consider that the time has now arrived for making a special effort for the permanence of the Institution, by raising a sum for Library, Apparatus, (and Buildings if necessary), receiving such sums as parties may choose to have invested for its annual support."

Motions.

Rev. James Watson moved as follows: "As this Synod has never made the principle of Church and state a term of Communion, and as some members of court seem to have different opinions respecting investments for the

Question taken.

Seminary, whether or not they involve the principle of Endowments and thus indirectly the principle of Church and State, resolved that this Synod pronounce no decision on the subject, leaving every individual untrammelled to act according to the dictates of conscience."

After discussion, Mr. Campbell withdrew his motion. The question was then taken on Mr. Watson's amendment when it was lost, 4 voting for, and 31 against.

Mr. Christie then withdrew his motion in favour of Mr. Patterson's, on which the vote was next taken, when there appeared For 26, Against 8.

On motion of Mr. Roderick McGregor the names were journalized.

Names journalized For.—Rev'ds. R. S. Patterson, J. L. Murdoch, J. J. Baxter, James Ross, W. McCulloch, P. G. McGregor, G. Christie, J. Bayne, J. Cameron, J. Watson, E. E. Ross, G. Patterson, A. L. Wylie, J. Byers, G. M. Clarke, J. Thomson, H. Crawford, and J. McLeod, Messrs. James Grant, David W. Archibald, Hon. S. Creelman, Messrs. J. Brown, J. Little, James McLean, James Mahon, and James Moore, Esq.

Against.—Rev'ds. James Smith, David Roy, J. McCurdy, J. Campbell, G. Walker, H. McDonald, Esq., Mr. R. McGregor, and Peter Ross, Esq.

Rev. Messrs. Sedgewick and Honeyman declined voting.

Mr. Smith asked and obtained leave to insert on the minutes his reasons for voting against Mr. Patterson's resolution.

Leave of absence was granted to Rev. J. Campbell, and to Messrs. McDonald, Little, and Mahon. Concluded with prayer.

NINTH SEDERUNT.

Same Place, July 1st, 1854, 9 o'clock, A.M.

Explanations. The Synod met and was constituted. Present as at last sederunt except Rev. J. Campbell, and Messrs. Peter Ross, H. McDonald, J. Little, and J. Mahon.

Minutes having been read and approved, Mr. Smith's statement was handed in and is as follows: Mr. Smith requests that his reasons for voting against the preceding motion may be marked in the minutes, which was this, that he was strongly in favour of Mr. Christie's resolution, but that having been withdrawn, apparently out of deference to what seems to him a very small minority of Synod, he was prevented from giving it his support.

Mr. Roy asked and obtained leave to have it recorded on the minutes, that he voted against the motion which passed with the intention of supporting Mr. McCurdy's motion.

Overture on Pictou Academy. An Overture was read from the Session of Poplar Grove Church, requesting the Synod "to adopt measures to shew the Legislature the injustice which this Church suffers while maintaining out of its own resources two Professors to teach the Preparatory Branches of Education, in being deprived of the Pictou Academy property which was accumulated mainly by the exertions of ministers and members of this Church, and that without compensating advantages to the educational interests of the Province, and respectfully to ask that said property be conveyed to a trust under the control of this Synod to be applied for the promotion of Education under its management. Rev. P. G. McGregor was heard in explanation and in support of the statements set forth in the Session's Overture, after which the whole subject was discussed at length." It was moved by Rev. J. McCurdy and seconded by Roderick McGregor, "That the Overture be dismissed." Rev. J. L. Murdoch then moved as an amendment and Rev. G. Christie seconded the following resolution: "Whereas the Property connected with the Pictou Academy in justice belongs to the

Motion. Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, and whereas every modification of the original Charter to meet the views of others, has failed to realize the promises made and the expectations cherished at the time, and has defeated the ends contemplated by the founders of the Institution, Resolved therefore that the Synod do respectfully memorialize the different branches of the Legislature to restore the said property to its original owners."

Amendment. It was moved by Mr. James Moore, "That a Committee be appointed to confer with the Trustees of the Pictou Academy on this subject." After some discussion, Mr. Waddell withdrew his motion and the question was taken when there appeared for the motion One, the seconder being now absent, for the amendment 18. Ten declined voting.

Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. J. McLean, D. W. Archibald and J. Brown.

Adjourned to meet on Monday at 11 o'clock, A.M. Concluded with prayer.

Another motion. Question taken.

TENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Place, July 3rd, 1854, 11 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. Present besides the Moderator, Rev. Messrs. R. S. Patterson, Baxter, McCurdy, James Ross, McCulloch, McGregor; Christie, Bayne, Watson, Walker, Sedgewick, E. Ross, G. Patterson, Honeyman, Byers, Clarke, Thomson, McLeod, Hon Samuel Creelman, and Messrs. Roderick McGregor and Matthew Patterson, Ruling Elders.

Minutes having been read and approved, Mr. Creelman moved, seconded by Mr. Christie, "That a Committee be appointed to carry out the motion respecting the Pictou Academy property." The following brethren were appointed as a Committee for that purpose: Rev. J. L. Murdoch, Professor Ross, Rev P. G. McGregor, Rev Mr. Cameron, and Mr C. Robson. Rev J. L. Murdoch, convener.

The Rev George Walker, convener, gave in the Report of the Committee for examining Presbytery Minutes, stating that the committee had examined the same, and find them correct, with the exception of a few verbal inaccuracies; and that they have been kept in a regular and business like manner. The Report was received, and the diligence of the committee approved.

Rev R. Sedgewick, the convener of the Committee on Statistical Returns, gave in the Report of that committee, explaining that certain congregations had failed to send in their returns, and that therefore the table did not fully represent the present state of the Church. The report was received and the diligence of the committee approved.

On motion of Mr Creelman it was agreed that a committee be appointed to examine the Statistical and Financial Questions, with the view of making such improvements as to render the tables a more complete index of the state of the Church; and to report at next Synod. Committee: Messrs. Creelman, Robson, and Rev J. Cameron. Mr. Creelman, convener.

The narrative of religion having been called for, Mr. Baxter stated that the returns were deficient in number, and late in coming forward, and therefore that he was unprepared to report at present, and craved delay, which was granted.

Mr. McCulloch's motion on baptism being called for, it was agreed owing to the small attendance that Mr. McCulloch have leave to bring in his motion at a subsequent sederunt, or, should the attendance still be small, that it be the order of the day for the first afternoon sederunt of next Synod.

Concluded with prayer.

Another motion.

Question taken.

Committee on Pictou Academy Property.

Report of Committee on Presbytery Minutes.

Report of Com. on Statistics.

Committee to examine Questions.

Narrative of state of religion.

Motion on Baptism

ELEVENTH SEDERUNT.

Same day and Place, 3 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod met and was constituted. Present as at last sederunt with Rev. Professor Ross, Rev. Messrs. Murdoch, Roy, Waddell, Wylie, and Crawford, and Mr. James Moore, Ruling Elder.

Report of Finance Committee.

Minutes being read and approved, the Rev. G. Patterson, Convener of Financial Committee, submitted the Committee's report together with the Returns arranged in a table. The Report was received and the diligence of the Committee approved. Agreed that the Table be published and with it the Committees Report.

Letter from W. Matheson, Esq.

A Letter was read from W. Matheson, Esq. of West River, suggesting that an application be made to the contributors of the Theological Professorship fund, to obtain their consent to the appropriation of the money for the benefit of the Seminary. Rev. P. G. McGregor then moved "That a Committee be appointed to enquire in what way the Theological Professorship fund can be made available for the promotion of Theological Education by being applied to the payment of the Professors of Theology, and to report to next meeting of Synod." It was moved in amendment by Rev. J. McCurdy, "That the Theological Professorship fund be left as it is," and the question being taken, there appeared for the motion twenty and for the amendment two. Agreed that the Committee be Rev. G. Walker and Mr. Roderick McGregor, that Mr. Matheson's letter be placed in their hands, and that the Clerk be directed thankfully to acknowledge the receipt of said letter.

Resolution.

Overture against Dancing, &c.

Read the Overture from Isaac Flemming, Esq., of Upper Londonderry, transmitted through the regular channels, requesting the Synod to pass such Resolutions as may lead to the suppression of dancing and frolicking as practices inconsistent with a Profession of religion, specially dangerous to the youthful members of the Church and calculated to lead to many injurious consequences. The same subject having come before Synod by memorial and a deliverance on the subject having been given on it in the year 1842 it was agreed that that decision be reaffirmed and placed upon the minutes which is as follows: "Respecting the second evil of which memorialists complain, viz: the pernicious tendencies and melancholy consequences of promiscuous assemblies and night revelling, the Synod enjoins upon ministers and elders the exercise of prudent and affectionate diligence and faithfulness in the suppression of the irregularities and other great evils which arise from the unnecessary mingling of the members of the Church with the men of the world, either for recreations in themselves innocent or for purposes of doubtful or dangerous tendency."

Seminary Board directed.

The Seminary Board was reappointed and instructed to use diligence in carrying into effect the resolution of Synod, to make a special effort in behalf of the Seminary.

Reference from Bd. Home Missions.

The Board of Home Missions referred to Synod an application for expenses due Rev. J. McCurdy for Missionary work, undertaken without appointment of Board or Presbytery. It was agreed "that the money be paid but the Synod do not sanction the general principle of paying expenses where the party has not received an appointment."

Presentation.

The Rev. D. Roy presented to the Synod a Copy of the proceedings of the United Presbyterian Church from the Union in 1847 to the termination of the Synod of 1853, a donation from the Rev. Andrew Somerville, Secretary of the Board of Missions of the United Presbyterian Church, and Rev. David Crawford one of the Synod Clerks. A vote of thanks was passed by the Synod to these Brethren for their valuable and valued gift, and the Clerk was directed to transmit to them a copy of this minute.

Thanks.

Adjourned to meet again at 7 1/2 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

LAST SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 7 1/2 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod met and was constituted. Present as at last Sederunt except Rev. P. G. McGregor and Messrs. Roderick McGregor and Matthew Patterson. Report of Com. on Site.

Minutes being read and approved, the Committee on the site of the Seminary reported that they had nothing additional to present to the Synod except a letter from Abram Patterson, Esq., tendering an acre lot in the neighbourhood of Pictou should it be deemed suitable. The Report was received. On motion it was agreed to defer the subject till the next meeting of Synod, in the hope that circumstances will be such as to enable the Synod to come to a decision, and the Clerk was instructed to return the thanks of the Synod to Mr. Patterson for his generous offer. The Committee was re-appointed with their former powers with the addition of Mr. Sedgewick. Reappointed.

Rev. Mr. Baxter submitted the narrative of the state of religion as drawn from the reports of Sessions. It contained a condensed summary of the various reports. The report was received and Mr. Baxter's diligence approved. A number of returns being wanting which it is expected will yet be given in. Mr. Baxter was directed to complete his narrative as far as he can and publish it in the Register. Narrative of the State of Religion.

The Minutes of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards were then read and ordered to be countersigned by the Moderator. Minutes of Boards.

Agreed that the resolution of Synod regarding the time of Probationers being on the list, for regular supply take effect from this time and have no ex post facto influence upon probationers at present upon the roll. Law respecting Probationers.

The Report of the Educational Board was given in and read, from which it appeared that the amount in the hands of the Board £1416 have been loaned on interest, and that £50 had been received from the estate of the late John Chambers, Esq. of Newport. Report of Educational Board.

Agreed that the Professors of Divinity be paid £30 each. Also the Clerks fee £5. To the Janitor £2. Also Bills for Printing and Stationary and expense of Light. Agreed that the thanks of Synod be given to the Congregation of Prince Street Church for the use of the Building. Disbursements.

Rev. D. Honeyman gave notice of a motion at next meeting, for toleration of the use in our Church, of the United Presbyterian Hymn Book. Notice of motion.

Rev. James Byers was appointed to lecture at the next meeting of Synod. Lecture.

The Committee to memorialize the Legislature on the Pictou Academy were appointed to prepare and publish a statement of the grounds on which they found their application, the expense to be paid out of the Synod fund. Statement of claim.

The Presbyteries of Pictou and P. E. Island were appointed to supply the pulpit of Rev. Dr. Kerr during the sitting of the Hall and the Presbyteries of Truro and Halifax, to supply the pulpit of Professor Smith. Professors Pulpits.

Mr. McLeod was appointed to assist Mr. McCurdy in dispensing the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Aid to Mr. McCurdy.

According to notice given Mr. Baxter moved, "That a Committee be appointed to correspond with any Committees that may be appointed by other bodies on the subject of a General University." Motion on University.

Moved in amendment, "That the Synod having at its meeting in 1848 declared its sentiments on the subject of Education does not deem it necessary under present circumstances to take any farther action in this matter." Amendment.

Mr. McCurdy moved, "That the matter drop." A vote being taken on the last amendment it was lost. A vote was then taken between the motion and amendment when the motion was carried by the casting vote of the Moderator. Mr. McCurdy craved and obtained leave to record his objections to both motion and amendment which were as follow: Second Do. Motion carried.

I object to both motion and amendment.

Mr. McCurdy's reasons of dissent. 1. Because the education of the people is not properly the business of the state, but of the church.  
2. Because my objection, which I obtained leave to record, to the resolutions passed in 1848, referred to in the amendment, was not (through inadvertance I presume) recorded in the minutes of Synod for that year: and as by appointment of Synod, I went to Masquodoboit to preach, I was not present at the next or any future seditant of that Session, I had no opportunity of having the minute corrected.

JOHN McCURDY.

Com. on Widows fund. The Committee appointed to disburse the Widows fund reported that they had not been able to accomplish the object of their appointment. Agreed that the amount be merged in the Synod fund.

Next Meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting of Synod shall be held in Halifax on the 4th Wednesday of June, at 7 o'clock, P.M.

The Committee to examine the accounts of the Treasurer was reappointed.

The minutes of the present sederunt were then read, when it was moved, "That the Synod do now adjourn." It was moved in amendment, "That Rev. Messrs. Baxter and McGregor and Mr. C. Robson be a Committee on the subject of a General University," when the question being taken the motion carried.

The Roll being called, the Rev. Messrs. McGregor and Cameron were absent without leave, but excused. Psalm 133rd being sung, the Synod closed its meeting with Prayer and the Apostolic Benediction.

PETER G. MCGREGOR,  
Synod Clerk.

Pictou, July 3rd, 1854.

*Abstract of Synodical Accounts, as reported by the Standing Committee for Auditing Accounts.*

Receipts and Expenditure for the year ending 4th July, 1854	
Home Mission Receipts	£258 2 2½
"    Expenditure	230 0 11
Receipts more than Expenditure	£28 1 3½
Foreign Mission Receipts	£433 15 2
"    Expenditure	293 0 7½
Receipts more than Expenditure	£140 14 4½
Synod Fund Receipts	£81 2 1½
"    Expenditure	78 4 9
Receipts more than Expenditure	£2 17 4½
Seminary Fund Receipts*	£328 0 3½
"    Expenditure	346 4 0
Expenditure more than Receipts	£18 3 8½

\* £50 of the Seminary's Receipts were appropriated by the Synod this last year, for the purchase of apparatus.

1854.	
July 4. Home Mission—balance in Treasurer's hand	£157 1 11
Foreign Do. " " "	606 8 5
Synod Fund— " " "	5 3 3
Seminary Fund— " " "	177 3 2
Educational Board " " "	15 0 2
Theological Professorship Fund, including interest on this money in Bonds and mortgages	581 11 10
Monies of Educational Board, at interest,	1500 4 6
	£3102 13 4

GEORGE WALKER,  
RODK. MCGREGOR,  
ALEX. FRASER, } AUDITING COMMITTEE.

N. W. GLASGOW,  
17th July, 1854.

**BOARDS, STANDING COMMITTEES, &c.**

**Board of Home Missions.**—Rev. Professor Ross, Rev. Messrs. Patterson, Watson, and Walker, together with the Presbytery Elders of Green Hill, West River, and Primitive Church. Rev. George Patterson, Secretary.

**Board of Foreign Missions.**—Rev. Messrs. Baxter, Keir, Roy, Walker, Bayne, and Waddell, and Messrs. Ebenezer McLeod and Daniel Cameron, of West River; A. Fraser, of New Glasgow, and John Yorston, of Pictou. SECRETARY, Rev. J. Bayne.

**Seminary Board.**—The Professors, ex officio. Rev. Messrs. McCulloch, Bayne, Christie, McGilvray, Watson G. Patterson, and Messrs. Daniel Cameron and J. McGregor. Mr. McCulloch, CONVENER. Rev. Mr. Watson, SECRETARY.

**Committee of Bills and Overtures.**—Rev. Messrs. Bayne, Roy and McGilvray, and Mr. Jas. McGregor. Mr. Bayne, CONVENER.

**Committee of Correspondence with Evangelical Churches.**—Rev. Messrs. Patterson, Walker, and Bayne. Mr. Patterson, CONVENER.

**General Treasurer for all Synodical Funds.**—Abram Patterson, Esq. Pictou.

**Receivers of Contributions to the Schemes of the Church.**—James McCallum, Esq. P. E. Island, and Mr. Robert Smith, Merchant, Truro.

**Committee to audit Accounts.**—Rev. G. Walker and Messrs. Rodertck McGregor, and Alexander Fraser, of New Glasgow. Rev. G. Walker, CONVENER.