

Minutes of Presbytery of London.

St. Thomas, July 10th
1900.

At St. Thomas, and within Knox Church there, Tuesday, the 10th day of July, 1900, and at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon, which time and place the Presbytery of London met and was constituted with Divine worship, Dr. Johnston leading in prayer.

Sederunt

Messrs. R. Stewart, Moderator; S. G. Stuart, J. H. Courtenay, W. J. Clark, A. J. McGillivray, Thos. Wilson, Jas. Wilson, Alex. Wilson, J. Lindsay, D. Kelso, H. W. Reede, W. Moffat, R. McIntyre, S. Lawrence, D. R. Drummond, Alex. Henderson, J. Currie, W. A. Wyllie, J. Little, R. W. Leitch, Wm. Gauld, Drs. Sutherland and Johnston, Ministers; Messrs. Ed. Waugh, A. McLarty, I. Rathburn, Alex. McAlpine, D. Crossin, J. Lochore, J. Robb, (Wallacetown), and W. H. Sutherland, Elders.

Minutes sustained.

The minutes of special meeting held May 1st, of regular meeting held May 8th, and adjourned to May 29th, also of the Commission of Presbytery convened May 22nd, being in the hands of the members in printed form, were on motion held as read. The minutes of the the Presbytery meetings were also sustained.

Mr. Henderson appointed Clerk pro tem.

Mr. A. Henderson was on motion appointed interim Clerk.

Docket

A docket of business was submitted and adopted.

Call to Mr. McIntosh declined.

Dr. Johnston reported that the call from Thamesford to Mr. A. W. McIntosh had been declined. Dr. Johnston was empowered to moderate in a call at Thamesford before next regular meeting of Presbytery should they be prepared to proceed.

Call to Dr. Johnston

The Clerk laid on the table a call from the Presbytery of Toronto asking for the translation of Dr. Johnston to Knox Church in that Presbytery. The call was signed by 389 members and 106 adherents, and was accompanied by a guarantee of stipend of \$3,250 with six weeks' holidays. Dr. Johnston stated that after careful consideration he had been enabled to come to a decision prior to the meeting of Presbytery, and that his duty appeared clear to him to decline the call; also that he had intimated his mind at once to the Moderator and office bearers of Knox Church and to the Clerk of the Presbytery. The session and congregation of St. Andrew's Church had been duly cited, and were represented at the Presbytery by Mr. Fraser.

Deferred.

It was agreed to postpone further consideration of the call till the afternoon so as to allow time for Commissioners to arrive from Toronto.

- The following Commissioners reported diligence in attending the General Assembly :—Messrs. J. Little, J. G. Stuart, R. W. Leitch, W. H. Wylie, S. Lawrence, W. M. Kay, Wm. Gaud, Ministers, and Elders E. Waugh, C. Fitzgerald, D. Campbell and D. C. McKellar.
- Reports of Assembly Commissioners.**
- Mr. McNeil certified to Distribution Committee.** Mr. Henderson reported that, acting for the late stated Clerk, he had forwarded to the Clerk of Assembly the Presbytery's application in behalf of Mr. J. McNeil for leave to retire temporarily and to have his name retained on the roll of Presbytery ; but that Mr. McNeil in the meantime had felt so far restored that he desired the application withdrawn and to be certified to the Committee on Distribution of Probationers for employment in the vacancies during the ensuing quarter. Mr. Henderson reported that he had certified him to the Committee accordingly. Mr. Henderson's action was sustained.
- D. C. Johnson's death: Committee appointed.** The Presbytery recorded with deep regret the death since last meeting of Mr. D. C. Johnson, Stated Clerk, and appointed Messrs. McGillivray, Johnston and Leitch to draft a minute thereon, and to report in the afternoon.
- M. W. & O. Fund—application for Mrs. Johnson.** The Clerk of Presbytery was instructed to apply to the Convener of the Committee on Ministers', Widows' and Orphans' Fund in Mrs. Johnson's behalf for the usual annuity.
- Committee on students appointed.** The Committee on examination of students were instructed to confer with the students resident within the bounds and report.
- Mr. Moffat—leave of absence.** Mr. W. Moffat asked and obtained leave of absence for three months to return to Scotland on account of important tidings he had unexpectedly received, suitable supply having been arranged for his pulpit during his absence.
- Mr. Currie—Moderator of Westminster.** Mr. J. Currie was appointed interim Moderator of Westminster with power to moderate in a call there before next meeting of Presbytery should they be prepared.
- St. James — leave to borrow.** Mr. A. J. McGillivray in behalf of the congregation of St. James Church, London, asked leave to borrow not more than \$3,000 on the church property, to be applied to the building debt. The application was granted.
- Extract minute granted.** An extract minute of the session of Appin was laid on the table craving extracts of the minutes of Presbytery suspending Mr. McGregor. Extracts were granted.
- Com. on Treasurer's books appointed.** A special Committee consisting of Messrs. Courtenay, Drummond, McGillivray and I. Rathburn was appointed to examine the late Treasurer's books and report in the

Corresponding members. afternoon. Messrs. Andrew McNabb and John Anderson, Ministers without charge being present were invited to sit with the Presbytery and correspond.

Rearrangement report. The special Committee on rearrangement appointed at last meeting, to lay certain proposals (*vide* printed minutes p. 133) before the Lyn and Fingal congregations submitted their report with certain recommendations. It was moved by Mr. Currie, seconded by Mr. J. G. Stewart, that the report be received and the recommendations considered *seriatim*. It was moved in amendment by Mr. J. H. Court-enay, seconded by Dr. Johnston, that the report be received and the Commissioners heard. The vote being taken the amendment was lost, and the motion declared carried. The first recommendation was read as follows:—

1. That that portion of Fingal congregation known as Lyn Church be separated from Fingal congregation, the separation to take effect on October 1st next, and that Fingal congregation be asked to increase their Christian liberality with a view to at least becoming self-supporting; or failing this, report at a subsequent meeting of the Presbytery the amount of aid required from the Augmentation fund. Mr. Currie moved its adoption, seconded by Mr. Jas. Wilson.

Commissioners were then called to the bar. Through some misunderstanding no Commissioners had been appointed by Fingal congregation. Mr. D. A. McNab representing Chalmers' Church, Dunwich, was heard. The hour of adjournment having arrived Presbytery resolved to meet at 2 o'clock and that the election of Stated Clerk and Presbytery Treasurer should be the first business of the afternoon sederunt. Presbytery adjourned, the Moderator pronouncing the benediction.

A. HENDERSON, *Clerk pro tem.*

2 p. m. *Same place, same day, and at the hour of 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the Presbytery met and was constituted with Divine worship conducted by the Moderator.*

Sederunt the same as in the forenoon with the addition of Mr. W. H. Geddes.

It was agreed to dispense with the usual reading of minutes of previous sederunt and to proceed with the order of the day—the election of Stated Clerk. It was moved by Mr. Clark and agreed that the election be made by ballot without nominations. The vote having in this manner been taken the Moderator declared Mr. A. Henderson elected by a clear majority of the house. Mr. Henderson accepted the position and thanked the Presbytery for their confidence in him in committing to him this important trust. On motion duly seconded it was agreed to appoint

A. Henderson elected Clerk and Treasurer. Mr. Henderson as Treasurer of the Presbytery's Funds. The Committee appointed in the forenoon to examine the late Treasurer's books were allowed to retire and prepare their report.

Roll re-adjusted. It was moved by Mr. Henderson and agreed that the Presbytery's roll for the election of Commissioners to the

General Assembly be re-adjusted by adding the name of Mr. Wm. Gauld, Missionary to Formosa, immediately after the name of the congregation which stood at the foot of the roll at the time of his designation to the Foreign Mission Field, and that the congregations of Chalmers' Church, London, and St. George Church, London, follow in the order of their first settlement under stated pastors—this roll to be printed with the minutes of the first meeting of Presbytery, each year.

Lobo—leave to call. Leave was granted Mr. Lawrence to moderate in a call at Lobo and Caradoc before next meeting of Presbytery should the congregation be prepared.

Dr. Johnston's translation declined. Consideration of the call from Knox Church, Toronto, was resumed. No commissioners having appeared to prosecute, the Presbytery resolved to sustain Dr. Johnston's declination, and to decline the translation. The Presbytery expressed gratification at Dr. Johnston's decision.

Augmented Congregations—annual report. The Clerk drew attention of the Presbytery to the Synod's instruction requiring all aid-receiving congregations to submit to the Presbytery's Augmentation Committee a copy of their annual report prior to the March meeting of Presbytery. The matter was referred to the Presbytery's Augmentation Committee.

Re-arrangement resumed. The consideration of the report on re-arrangement of congregations was resumed. Messrs. J. Fletcher and D. Thompson from Chalmers' Church were heard; also Messrs. A. C. Campbell, Colin McArthur, John Turner, Colin Munro, Colin Campbell and Dr. Smith from Lyn Church. Mr. McLarty from Fingal being present as a member of the Court, though not a Commissioner, was invited to speak at this stage. Dr. Sutherland was also heard. The Court then proceeded to deliberate. After long and earnest discussion, with conference with the

commissioners, the following was by mutual consent substituted for the Committee's recommendation:—Moved by **Resolution substituted for recommendation.** Mr. Drummond, seconded by Mr. J. Currie, that in the judgment of the Presbytery it is expedient that Fingal be asked to stand alone as a separate congregation; that the Presbytery undertake to do their best to secure an income for Dr. Sutherland of not less than \$800 per annum during the remainder of his pastorate, that the Fingal congregation be requested to increase their Christian liberality as much as possible to this end; and that this judgment be referred to the session of Fingal to report at an adjourned meeting of Presbytery to be held at Knox Church, St. Thomas, on Tuesday next at half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon, and that Chalmers' Church session be also notified.

Referred to Fingal Session.

Amendment lost. It was moved in amendment by Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Courtenay, that Presbytery proceed no further with this business, but that this whole matter of re-arrangement be allowed to drop. The vote being taken the motion was carried.

N. Ekfrid joined to Appin.

It was then moved by Mr. Currie, seconded by Dr. Johnston, and agreed, that the request of North Ekfrid congregation submitted to the March meeting of Presbytery (printed min. page 120) be granted, that it be joined to the pastoral charge of Appin and Tait's Corners under the pastorate of Mr. A. Henderson, that it assume responsibility for Tait's Corner's share of Manse property, also of the Minister's four weeks' holidays, that this union take effect on the 31st day of July instant, that Mr. Henderson be formally installed as pastor of North Ekfrid at the hour of half-past three in the afternoon of that day, and that a committee consisting of the Moderator, Mr. J. G. Stewart, Dr. Johnston, Mr. Alex. Wilson and Mr. I. McDonald, with their respective elders, and I. Rathburn, be appointed to take charge of the installation service. Mr. J. G. Stewart, convener. It was then moved by Mr. J. Currie, seconded

S. Ekfrid joined to Duff's Church.

by Dr. Sutherland, and resolved, that Tait's Corner's congregation be separated from Appin, Tait's Corners and North Ekfrid, that Duff's Church be separated from Chalmer's Church, Dunwich, and united with Tait's Corners to constitute a distinct pastoral charge, this to take effect on July 31st, immediately after Mr. Henderson's installation into the pastorate of North Ekfrid. Mr. J. Steven to act as interim Moderator

Stipend - Appin and N. Ekfrid.

with power to moderate in a call. It was further agreed that the promise of \$675 towards the minister's stipend from the newly constituted charge of Appin and North Ekfrid be accepted in the meantime, and that the Presbytery express the hope that these congregations will soon be able to come up to the self-sustaining point.

Minute anent Mr. Johnson.

The committee appointed to draft a suitable minute relating to the decease of the late Stated Clerk, submitted the following, which was adopted and ordered to be engrossed in the minutes, also that a copy of it be forwarded to Mrs. Johnson. "The London Presbytery desires to place on record its high appreciation of the Rev. D. C. Johnson, late Clerk of the Presbytery, and its sense of the great loss which the Church has sustained through his removal by death. Through a long and painful illness, which compelled him to retire from the active work of the ministry (a work in which he enjoyed eminent success), he not only exhibited in a rare degree the graces of Christian patience and constancy, but sustained an unflinching interest in all the work of the Church, to whose service he had consecrated his powers. In his position as Clerk and Treasurer of the Presbytery, he exhibited an admirable fidelity and an unflinching sympathy with his brethren in more active work that endeared him to all who sustained fraternal relationships with him. The Presbytery extends its sincere sympathy to Mrs. Johnson in her bereavement, and rejoices with her in the memory of a life so unselfish, so full of service and so ripened for higher work in the immediate presence of our Lord. The Presbytery commends her to the unflinching comfort of God's grace and unites with her in recognizing the goodness of our God in all his ways."

Report on Students.

The committee on the examination of students reported that subjects for written exercise had been appointed to

Messrs. T. S. Martin, missionary at North Ekfrid, Murray Tait, J. Little and A. Laidlaw. They also recommended that Presbytery recommend Mr. R. J. Campbell to the senate of Knox College as a literary student of the third year's standing, and that Mr. W. Nichol present his certificates of standing and other necessary papers to the Presbytery's committee prior to the adjourned meeting of Presbytery to be held next Tuesday. These recommendations were adopted.

Advice anent probationers. Mr. Henderson, as convener of committee on Home Missions intimated that the Assembly's committee had appointed probationers to this Presbytery for Sabbaths in August for which supply had not been asked, and that as far as he could learn the vacant pulpits were already provided for in that month. The convener was instructed to make the best disposal he could of the probationers sent, but that he be authorized to notify the convener of the General Assembly's committee that the Presbytery accepts responsibility for employment of probationers only so far as the convener of the Presbytery's Committee has forwarded applications.

Report of Committee on Presbytery's finances. Mr. Drummond submitted the report of the committee appointed to examine the books of the late Treasurer stating that there was a balance of cash to the credit of the Presbytery at the present time of \$149.30, with an additional \$4.80 received by the committee from Hyde Park as their assessment. Also that the sum of \$48.00 was still due the widow of the late Treasurer as the balance of his salary as Clerk and Treasurer. This statement and balance were ordered to be handed to Mr. Henderson and he was authorized to borrow a sufficient sum to pay all present claims while the assessments from congregations are coming in. The committee also submitted a recommendation regarding the salary of present Clerk and Treasurer. The Presbytery received the report and after deliberation resolved that the combined salary be \$175 with additional allowance for postage and stationery.

Salary of Clerk and Treasurer.

The Presbytery adjourned to meet in this place on Tuesday next at half-past ten o'clock, the Moderator pronouncing the benediction.

ALEX. HENDERSON, Clerk.

St. Thomas, July 17, 1900. *At St. Thomas, and within Knox Church there, Tuesday, the Seventeenth day of July, 1900, at the hour of half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon, which place and time the Presbytery of London met according to terms of adjournment and was duly constituted with Divine worship. Mr. John Currie leading in prayer.*

Sederunt. Mr. R. Stewart, Moderator, Dr. Sutherland, of Fingal; Messrs. J. G. Stewart, W. J. Clark, A. Henderson, J. Currie, D. Kelso and D. R. Drummond, ministers, with elders McLarty, Lochore and Crossin. The minutes of meeting held July 10th were read and approved.

Grant for Appin and N. Ekfrid.

It was moved by Mr. Currie, that application be made to the Augmentation committee for a grant of \$75 for the newly-formed charge of Appin and North Ekfrid. Mr. Henderson expressed his wish that no application be made, preferring to depend entirely upon his congregation for his support. The motion was carried.

J. M. Nichol's license trials appointed.

A Presbyterial certificate from Presbytery of Toronto was laid on the table by Rev. J. G. Stuart transferring Mr. J. M. Nichol, B. A., a graduate of Yale College, to the Presbytery of London to be taken on trial for license. It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Currie, and agreed, that Mr. Nichol be taken on trial for license at next regular meeting of the Presbytery, and that the Moderator and Mr. Stuart appoint him subjects for trial.

Finance Committee.

At the request of the Treasurer of the Presbytery a standing committee on Finance with whom he might confer for advice when necessary was appointed, consisting of Rev. Messrs. J. Currie and D. R. Drummond, with Mr. Rathburn, elder.

Next Meeting.

It was resolved to hold the next regular meeting of Presbytery in the lecture room of the First Presbyterian Church, London, on the second Tuesday of September, at half-past ten o'clock.

Deposition of J. S. Mullen.

The clerk read a communication from the Presbytery of St. John, N. B., intimating that that Presbytery had deposed Mr. James S. Mullen from the ministry for persistent disobedience to the injunctions of the Presbytery and violation of his ordination vows.

Re-arrangement.

The main business of re-arrangement of congregations, for which the Presbytery adjourned last week, was taken up and a report from the session of Fingal called for. The session was represented by Messrs. McLarty and Best, who addressed the court, strongly urging the Presbytery to allow the congregation to remain intact as at present constituted. Mr. Donald Turner spoke at length for the Lyn church and was followed by Mr. A. C. Campbell. Mr. D. A. McNabb represented Chalmers' Church,

Motion thereanent.

Dunwich. The following motion was submitted by Mr. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Stuart: "That in view of the answer received from the session of Fingal to the Presbytery's finding of July 10th, the Presbytery would re-affirm its judgment that the separation of Fingal and Lyn, with a view to the re-arrangement of Lyn and Cowal, is the end to be arrived at, but in view of Dr. Sutherland's long and efficient services, and his own and his session's wish to continue the old relationship, we do not at present so proceed, but instead, open a regular preaching service at Lawrence Station, which, in conjunction with Cowal, will form one pastoral charge." The subject was long and earnestly discussed, in the course of which the representatives of both Lyn and Cowal expressed their strong preference for union to the action proposed. It was therefore moved in amendment by

Amendment.

Mr. John Lochore, seconded by Mr. Currie, that Lyn church be separated from the Fingal congregation and be united to Cowal as a

pastoral charge, and that services will be held at Lawrence at least fortnightly. Further, that Presbytery advise Lyn congregation to vote their share in the manse at Fingal to the Fingal congregation to be paid to Dr. Sutherland in four annual installments."

The hour of adjournment having arrived Presbytery adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the Moderator pronouncing the benediction.

A. HENDERSON, Clerk.

2 p. m. *Same place, same day, at the hour of 2 o'clock in the afternoon, Prebytery resumed and was duly constituted with Divine worship. Mr. D. Kelso leading in prayer.*

Sederunt the same as in the forenoon.

The matter of re-arrangement of Fingal and other congregations which was under consideration at the hour of adjournment in the forenoon was resumed.

After careful consideration it was finally agreed to allow the original motion to be withdrawn, and a vote being taken on the amendment of Mr. Lochore it was carried unanimously and became the judgment of the house. Parties were recalled, the Moderator announced the decision in which all cordially acquiesced. It was further agreed that this change should take effect on Tuesday, the 4th of September next, but in the meantime the probationers supplying Chalmers' Church have opportunity of being heard also in Lyn during the month of August. Rev.

J. Steven Moderator of Chalmers and Lyn. Mr. Steven, the present interim Moderator of Chalmers' Church was appointed interim Moderator of Lyn and Chalmers from the time the union takes effect. A commission of the Presbytery, consisting of the Moderator and Messrs. Steven, Kelso, Drummond, Currie and Rathburn, was appointed to meet on Tuesday, September 4th, at half past ten o'clock in the forenoon, and fully organize the congregation of Lyn Church; also to visit the Fingal congregation in the afternoon with regard to Dr. Sutherland's stipend, and application, if found necessary, for aid from the Augmentation Fund.

A Commission appointed. The commissioner from Fingal requested that the Lyn congregation should contribute their present share of Dr. Sutherland's stipend till the end of the present year. The commission of the Presbytery was instructed to commend this request to the favorable consideration of the congregation of Lyn. It was then moved by Mr. Lochore, seconded by Mr. Drummond, and agreed, that arrangements regarding the manse and all other details affecting the union between Lyn and Cowal be left to the congregations concerned, to report to the committee at Lyn, this committee to report to the September meeting of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery adjourned to meet at London and within the lecture room of the First Presbyterian Church, on Tuesday, the 11th day of September next, at half past ten o'clock in the forenoon.

A. HENDERSON, Clerk.

Docket of Business for September Meeting.

1. Elders' Commissions.
2. Election of Moderator.
3. Examination of Session Records.
4. Appointment of Standing Committees.
5. Home Mission Report.
6. Augmentation Report.
7. Hearing of Students' Exercises.
8. Report of Committee having charge of installation service at North Ekfrid.
9. Report of Commission *in re* Fingal, Lyn and Cowal congregational arrangements.
10. Report of Committee *in re* St. George Church financial affairs.
11. Hearing Mr. Nichol's trials for license.
12. All the newly constituted charges arising out of the recent re-arrangement should report their respective mutual agreements as to details to Presbytery for confirmation.

NOTE.—(1) Session Records are to be transmitted *annually* to the Presbytery for review. (*vide* Sec. 36 Rules.) The records of all the sessions will be called for at the September meeting.

(2) No elder can vote at the September meeting who has not been appointed since last regular meeting of Presbytery at a duly constituted meeting of session. It would facilitate the business very much if certification of elders appointments were mailed to the Clerk at least one week before the meeting of Presbytery, giving elder's name in full, his own post-office address, the session he represents, and the term of his appointment.

(3) Similarly, it would help the business further if all parties having business at the Presbytery other than what is specified in the above docket, would forward copies of resolutions or other relevant papers to the Clerk eight days before the meeting of each Presbytery.

(4) It will be noted that the docket for September is large. It is humbly suggested that brethren come prepared for an evening session.

August 1st, 1900.

ALEX. HENDERSON, Appin.