

# MINUTES

OF THE

## NINTH SESSION

OF THE

### Synod of the United Presbyterian Church

#### IN CANADA,

(FORMERLY THE MISSIONARY SYNOD IN CANADA,)

IN CONNEXION WITH THE

#### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD IN SCOTLAND.

LONDON, C. W. :

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THE STATE OF NEW YORK

IN SENATE

JANUARY 18 1864

REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE

IN ANSWER TO A RESOLUTION

PASSED BY THE SENATE

APRIL 18 1863

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# ROLL OF SYNOD FOR OCTOBER, 1848.

(The figures mark the Sederunts at which the Members were present.)

## PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

MINISTERS.	SEDERUNTS.	ELDERS.	SEDERUNTS.
William Proudfoot,	3 4 5 6 7 8		
George Murray,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8		
James Skinner,	2 3 4 5 6 7 8		
Alexander M'Kenzie,			
John M'Lellan,			
Charles Fletcher,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8		
John Proudfoot,			

## PRESBYTERY OF FLAMBORO.

Thomas Christie,	
James Roy,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Alexander Ritchie,	3 4 5 6 7 8
William Barrie,	
Robert Torrance,	1 2 3 4 5
David Caw,	
George Fisher,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
J. R. Dalrymple,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
John Porteous,	1 2 3 4 5
Alex. Drummond,	1 2 3 4 5 6
Alexander Henderson,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

## PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

R. H. Thornton,	2 3 4 5 6	Alex. Burnet,	2 3 4 5
John Cassie,	2 3 4 5		
William Fraser,	2 3 5 6 7 8		
George Lawrence,	1 2 3 4 5 6	John Short,	1 2 3 4 5
John Jennings,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	William Bell,	1 3 4 5 6 7
James Dick,	1 2 3 4 5 6		
David Coutts,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8		
Alexander Waddell,	2 3 4 5 6	William Dunbar,	2 3 4
James Pringle,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8		
		James Goodfellow, (Albion),	2
		Thomas Marshall, (Vaughan),	2 3 4 5 6

## PRESBYTERY OF CANADA EAST.

William Taylor,  
Alexander Lowden,  
John Morrison,  
William Aitkin,



MINUTES OF THE NINTH SESSION  
OF THE  
SYNOD OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH IN CANADA, &c.

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Toronto, October 10, 1848.

I. SEDERUNT.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, after Sermon by the Moderator, the Rev. John Jennings, from Rev. xi. 15, met and was constituted.

In the absence of the Rev. William Proudfoot, Synod Clerk, the Rev. George Murray was chosen Clerk *pro tempore*.

Proceeded to make up the Roll of Synod.

The Presbytery of London reported, that since the last meeting of Synod they had ordained the Rev. John Proudfoot to the pastoral charge of the United Congregation of St. Mary's and Downie on the 16th of July last, and that his name was added to the Roll of Presbytery. Ordered, that his name be added to the Roll of Synod.

Mr. John Proudfoot's name added to the Roll of Synod.

The Rev. Walter Scott being present was invited to take his seat in Court.

The Rev. David Coutts was now chosen Moderator, and took the chair.

Appointed the Rev. Messrs. Dick, Torrance, and Fletcher, and Mr. Short, elder, a Committee on Bills and Overtures; Mr. Dick, Convener. Said Committee to report at next Sederunt.

Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The Rev. Mr. Christie's excuse for absence from this Meeting of Synod was sustained.

Appointed the Rev. Messrs. Torrance and Fisher to conduct the devotional exercises of the Synod to-morrow forenoon.

Appointed the Presbytery of Flamboro' to meet to-morrow morning at 7 o'clock.

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Appointed the Presbytery of Toronto to meet in Mr. Jennings' house to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

Adjourned to meet in this place to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

II. SEDERUNT.—11th Oct. 1848, 10 o'clock, a.m.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Coutts, Moderator.

Sederunt. (See Roll of Attendance.)

After devotional exercises, the minutes of the preceding Sederunt were read and approved.

Mr. Ormiston licensed.

The Presbytery of Toronto reported that since the last meeting of Synod they had sustained trials for License, appointed to Mr. Wm. Ormiston, and that on the 1st August last, he was licensed to preach the gospel in connexion with this Synod.

Report of Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented their report of the following tenor:

1st. Case for the report of Committee on Missions.

2nd. Draft of a System of Management, and Rules of Order.

3rd. Mrs. Clarke's Protest and Appeal from the decision of Flamboro' Presbytery.

4th. Overture from Presbytery of Toronto anent an Assistant Clerk.

5th. Report of Committee on Statistics.

6th. Report of Committee on Union.

7th. Petition from the Congregation of Goderich.

The Report was adopted, and it was agreed that the first business on the Minutes be taken up as soon as practicable.

Report of committee on Missions.

The Rev. Mr. Dalrymple, Convener of the Committee appointed to devise means for cherishing a missionary spirit in our church, gave in a verbal report, and read extracts from minutes of said Committee.

To be matured.

On motion of Mr. Thornton, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, it was agreed—That the Convener of the Missions Committee be requested to mature his report and present it at a future Sederunt of this Synod.

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On motion of Mr. Thornton, seconded by Mr. Fraser, took up a Draft of a system of Congregational Management. Draft of a System of Management.

The Draft was read.

Entered on the consideration of it in detail, and proceeded to No. 3 of Head III.

Adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock, p. m.

III. SEDERUNT.—2 o'clock, p. m.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Coutts, Moderator.

The minutes of last meeting of Synod were read and approved.

It was moved by Mr. Dalrymple, and seconded by Mr. Jennings, and agreed to, That the Minutes of last Synod be printed with the Minutes of this Meeting;—said Minutes to be printed within six weeks after the rising of this Synod. Synod Minutes to be printed.

Resumed the consideration of the Draft of a System of Management, and proceeded to the end. Draft of Management resumed,

It was moved by Mr. Fraser and seconded by Mr. Fletcher, and agreed to, That the Draft of a System of Congregational Management which has now been considered be approved, and recommended for the adoption of congregations under the inspection of this Synod.—(For Draft, see Appendix No. I.) and adopted.

Agreed to take up the subject of the Theological Institute. Theological Institution.

Read the minutes of last meeting of Synod with reference to the matter.

Appointed the Rev. Messrs. Dalrymple, Roy, Lawrence, Jennings, Murray and Skinner, a Committee to mature the business regarding the Theological Institute; Mr. Roy, Convener. Committee to report at Sederunt of to-morrow forenoon.

Rev. Mr. Proudfoot was requested to confer with said Committee.

The Committee was instructed to consider the following points, viz.—1. Is it expedient to continue the present system? 2. The ways and means of supporting the Institution. 3. Its location.

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Adjourned to meet at 6½ o'clock.  
Closed with prayer.

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### IV. SEDERUNT.—6½ o'clock. p. m.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Coutts, Moderator.

The Minutes of last Sederunt were read.

Mrs. Clarke's case

Agreed to proceed to the consideration of Mrs. Clarke's case.

Read the minutes of the Flamboro' Presbytery.— Also, an extract from the minutes of the Session of West Dumfries congregation. Read also Mrs. Clarke's reasons of appeal, and answers thereto by the Session. Also, the deliverance of the Synod. An extract from the minutes of Session of West Dumfries, dated 6th April, 1847. Also, another extract dated 22nd March, 1847.

Parties were heard at length and removed.

After deliberation, it was resolved, on motion of Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Dunbar, To waive consideration of the merits of the appeal, and proceed to hear Mr. Ritchie and Mrs. Clarke on what Mrs. Clarke maintains as the original cause of the whole of her complaints.

Adjourned to meet in this place at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Closed with prayer.

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### V. SEDERUNT.—12th October, 1848, 10 o'clock a. m.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Coutts, Moderator.

Resumed.

Resumed Mrs. Clarke's case in terms of the motion adopted at the close of last Sederunt.

Mrs. Clarke being called on, stated the following as her complaints:

1. That in the act of discipline of which Mary Anderson was the subject, Mr. Ritchie had named her son



who was not a member of the church, as *particeps criminis*.

2. That he had done so without any authority or acknowledgment from her son.

3. That her son was represented as having committed a crime worse than the most atrocious murder.

The above being read to Mrs. Clarke, she declares that it is a full statement of her original grievance.

Mr. Ritchie being called upon, stated that, in rebuking Mary Anderson he made use of what he considered the common form in such cases. That he announced the case to the congregation in the terms of her (Mary Anderson's) confession, i. e. that she confessed the sin of fornication with James Clarke. Farther, that in his address to the congregation he endeavoured to point out the aggravated nature of this sin; that he quoted a passage or passages of the word of God in which this sin is classed with other sins, and amongst the rest, with murder. That, though not distinctly recollecting what he said, he thinks that he may have used such expressions as the following, viz.—That the sin was distinguished from other sins, inasmuch as more than one individual was implicated, and that in some respects it may be said to be worse than murder. Farther, That at the same time he rebuked another woman for the same sin, and that they were both addressed in the same language.

Mrs. Clarke being asked if she heard the rebuke, stated that being sick she was not present.

Parties being heard were removed.

The Synod proceeded to deliberate in the case.

On motion of Mr. Dalrymple, seconded by Mr. Torrance, ordered: That the petition presented as No. 7 by the Committee of Bills and Overtures being a petition from the Congregation of Goderich on Finance be remitted to the Presbytery of London for transmission to the Treasurer of the Synod's grant.

Goderich petition.

Adjourned to meet here at 2 o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

VI. SEDERUNT.—2 o'clock, p. m.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Coutts, Moderator.

Mrs. Clarke's case resumed.

Resumed consideration of Mrs. Clarke's case.

It was moved by Mr. Jennings and seconded by Mr. Fraser, That having heard the statement of Mrs. Clarke as to the grounds of her complaint against Mr. Ritchie, and having heard Mr. Ritchie's statement, find, that Mrs. Clarke acted in the case under misinformation or misapprehension of what was stated by Mr. Ritchie in the rebuke of Mary Anderson, and therefore, that Mrs. Clarke had no sufficient grounds of complaint. That Mr. Ritchie, in characterizing the offence, should not be restricted or limited to any precise form or set of words. And it appearing that Mr. Ritchie had no intention in what he stated in said rebuke, of injuring the character of James Clarke, or wounding the feelings of his mother, Mrs. Clarke should now feel satisfied to cease from any further complaints. And as she declares that she absented herself from public worship because of imputing a wrong design to Mr. Ritchie in making such statement, recommend her to go to Mr. Ritchie and the Session of West Dumfries, and allow that she is now satisfied with Mr. Ritchie's explanations, and if she shall do so, leave the Session of West Dumfries to replace her in her membership if they shall see cause.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Henderson, and seconded by Mr. Lawrence, That the Synod having heard both Mrs. Clarke's and Mr. Ritchie's statement of the original ground of Mrs. Clarke's complaint against Mr. Ritchie, find, That Mr. Ritchie did use James Clarke's name in connexion with the case; That Mr. Ritchie did not say that James Clarke was guilty of a crime worse than the most atrocious murder; That Mrs. Clarke had received an erroneous impression of Mr. Ritchie's language and design; That the form used by Mr. Ritchie has been frequently practised in the church:—and therefore Mr. Ritchie cannot be blamed, and therefore dismiss the complaint as groundless. At the same time, the Synod recommend to the

West Dumfries Session to deal privately and affectionately with Mrs. Clarke, endeavour to bring her to a proper state of mind in reference to this matter, and to take such steps as shall, by the divine blessing, tend to promote the peace and prosperity of the church.

The vote was then taken, when there appeared—for the motion, 14; for the amendment, 3. Likeas, the Synod did, and hereby do, decide in terms of the motion. And decided.

Suitable advices were then addressed to Mrs. Clarke by the Moderator.

Mr. Ritchie craved an extract from the Minutes of Synod in the case.

Mrs. Clarke also craved extracts.

Took up the Overture from the Presbytery of Toronto respecting an Assistant Clerk of Synod. An Assistant Clerk

It was moved by Mr. Dalrymple, seconded by Mr. Roy—

That the Overture lie on the table for consideration at next meeting of Synod.

In Amendment, it was moved by Mr. Dick, seconded by Mr. Skinner—

That the Overture be now adopted.

The vote being taken, the amendment was carried.

Mr. Roy craved leave to dissent from this Resolution, because he believes that the appointment of an Assistant Clerk will lead to an unnecessary waste of the Synod's funds.

Mr. Torrance also craved leave to dissent.

Mr. Fraser was then appointed Assistant Clerk of Synod. Mr. Fraser appointed.

Agreed, that the salary of the Clerk of Synod shall be £10 per annum, and that of the Assistant Clerk £6. This resolution to take effect from this time.

Adjourned to meet at 6½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

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VII. SEDERUNT.—6½ o'clock, p. m.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Coutts, Moderator.

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Report on Statistics adopted.

Read the minutes of former Sederunt.  
Took up the Report of the Committee on Statistics. Having considered the Report in detail, it was agreed that it be adopted.

Theological Institution.

Appointed Messrs. Jennings and Dalrymple a Committee to draft a plan for carrying these Statistics into effect. To report to-morrow morning.

The Committee appointed to mature the business regarding the Theological Institute reported, That they had met and entered upon the consideration of the subject, but had not been able to agree upon any definite scheme.

The subject was discussed at great length, till the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

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### VIII. SEDERUNT.—15th Oct., 1848, 9 o'clock, a. m.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada met, and was constituted by Mr. Couits, Moderator.

Read the Minutes of last Sederunt.

Preachers' Appointments.

Ordered, That Mr. Scott remain six weeks in each of the Presbyteries of London, Flamboro' and Toronto, to commence with Toronto. And that Mr. Wm. Christie, when licensed, shall continue six weeks in the Flamboro' Presbytery, and then six weeks in the Toronto Presbytery; and the six weeks thereafter in the London Presbytery, and that he shall not be required to go to Canada East before the opening of the navigation in spring.

Ordered, That Mr. Kennedy put himself under the direction of the Flamboro' Presbytery after the second Sabbath of December, for one month, and for the same time thereafter under the Toronto Presbytery, and then return to the Presbytery of London.

Committee to visit the Theological Institution.

Appointed Messrs. Jennings and Barrie, a Committee to visit the Theological Institute, and to report at next meeting of Synod.

Next meeting.

Appointed next meeting of Synod to be held in the

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City of Hamilton, on Tuesday after the first Sabbath of June, 1849, at 7 o'clock, p. m.

Re-appointed the Committee on Missions, and instructed them to report at next meeting of Synod.

The Committee for carrying the Statistics into effect gave in their report, which was adopted, and is as follows :

Statistics.

That the Table of Questions on Congregational Statistics be printed forthwith, and copies sent to the Clerks of Presbyteries. That the Clerks of Presbyteries send a copy to each congregation within their bounds before the first of January every year ; said copy to be filled up by the Clerk of Session and Treasurer of the Congregation, and remitted to the Presbytery Clerk before the first of March. That the returns thus obtained be, by the Clerk of each Presbytery, engrossed in a copy to be transmitted before the first of April to the Convener of the Missions' Committee, as the ground of procedure for that Committee, and as a part of its annual report to the Synod.

Agreed, that when the Minutes of Synod are printed, the matter contained in the printed copies shall form sufficient ground of action in all cases, without written extracts from the original manuscript minutes.

Printed Minutes, sufficient authority

Read a communication from the Clerk of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, containing the deliverance of that Synod respecting the publication of the papers of the Committee on Union, which is of the following tenor :

Letter from the Clerk of the Presbyterian Synod.

Resolved, That they will publish the papers of their own Committee, with such explanations as may appear necessary.

Extracted from Minutes of Synod.

(Signed) W. RINTOUL, Synod Clerk.

After deliberation, the Synod agreed that the resolution of last Synod as to the publication of the papers of the Committee on Union be carried into effect without delay.

Papers on Union to be printed.

Resumed the consideration of the Theological Institute, interrupted by last night's adjournment.

Instructions to the Committee on the Theological Institute.

On motion it was Resolved, To continue the Committee on the Theological Institute appointed at the Third Sederunt of this meeting of Synod, with instructions to devise ways and means for transferring the In-

stitute to Toronto, to obtain contributions and collections, and authorize them with this view to correspond with the Clerks of Presbyteries and with the Missions' Committee in Scotland.

**Rules of Order.**

Agreed, that the Rules of Order, with the exception of those under the head of Miscellaneous Rules, be regarded as an *ad interim* system of rules in directing the business of Synod.

Delayed all other causes.

Closed with prayer.

DAVID COUTTS, *Moderator.*  
WM. PROUDFOOT, *Synod Clerk.*

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## APPENDICES.

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### APPENDIX No. 1.

A SYSTEM OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE CONGREGATIONS UNDER THE INSPECTION OF THE SYNOD OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.

I.—The title and designation of this Congregation shall be \_\_\_\_\_

II.—There shall be \_\_\_\_\_ Managers of the temporal affairs of said Congregation, who must be members in full communion.

III.—The duties of said Managers shall be :—

1. To appoint their own Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Chairman to have the power of calling Meetings of the Managers when he shall think it necessary; or when requested to do so by at least two of the Managers.

2. To receive and disburse by their Treasurer, all monies which may be raised by the Congregation—either for the support of gospel ministrations, or for any other purpose not properly under the jurisdiction of the Session.

3. To cause to be kept a faithful account in a Book or Books of all their receipts and expenditure, and also regular Minutes of all their Meetings.

4. They shall receive vouchers, through their Treasurer, for all their disbursements.

5. They shall call meetings of the Congregation for secular affairs, when they shall deem it necessary, or when requested to do so by at least

six members, sanctioned by the Session, and the objects of the Meeting specified in writing by said Members.

6. They shall submit all their books and papers containing their introductions, minutes, and vouchers at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, or at any General Meeting, when said books and papers may be demanded. It being understood that all accounts shall be balanced up to the 31st December in each year.

IV.—That should a vacancy of one-third of the Managers occur during the interval of two Annual Meetings, the remaining Managers shall call a General Meeting of the Congregation, for the purpose of electing Managers to fill such vacancy.

V.—A vacancy shall be held to have occurred by such circumstances as—

1. The death of a Manager.
2. By his removal out of the bounds of the Congregation.
3. When any Manager shall have given in a written resignation of his office to the Chairman or Secretary, and the same been accepted.
4. When any Manager shall not be recognised as a Member by Session of said Congregation.

VI.—That an Annual Meeting of the Congregation shall be held on the most convenient day in the month of January, in each year; and that all members in full communion, and they only, shall have a right to vote at such Annual or General Meeting of the Congregation.

VII.—That the order of procedure at any Annual or General Meeting shall be as follows:

The Meeting shall appoint a Chairman and Secretary for said Meeting; the Secretary to record the proceedings of such meeting in a book kept for that purpose, which records or minutes shall be signed by the Chairman and Secretary; and said book shall be given in charge to the Clerk of Session—and shall by him be produced at every Annual or General Meeting of the Congregation.

VIII.—The Meeting, after the election of their Chairman and Secretary, and after the reading of the minute of the preceding Meeting, shall hear the report of their Managers for the past year, and shall appoint two members to audit their books. Then they shall elect the requisite number of Managers by a majority of votes.

IX.—That the Managers shall be chosen for one year only, but may be re-elected.

X.—That an intimation of every Annual or General Meeting of the Congregation shall be given in the Church at the conclusion of public worship on the Sabbath preceding such Meeting, or on the Sabbath nearest preceding such Meeting on which there shall be public worship in the Congregation.

## CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS.

Name of Congregation,	_____
Date of Formation,	_____
Stations connected,	_____
Average Attendance,	_____
Members added,	_____
Members Removed,	_____
Members on the Roll,	_____
Children of Members,	_____
Number of Elders,	_____
Baptisms,	_____
Deaths,	_____
Number in Sab. Classes,	_____
Number in other Classes,	_____
General Prayer Meeting,	_____
Fellowship Meetings,	_____
Libraries,	_____
Missionary Society,	_____
Collected for Synod Fund,	_____
Collected for Academy,	_____
Collected for Mission Scheme,	_____
Collected for General Missions,	_____
Raised by Collections,	_____
Raised by Seat Rents,	_____
Raised by Subscriptions,	_____
Places of Worship erected in the bounds,	_____
How is property deeded?	_____
Amount of Debt,-	_____
Debt liquidated,	_____
Stipend promised,	_____
Stipend paid,	_____
Total Income,	_____
Total Expenditure,	_____