

1906

Presbyterian Church in Canada, PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

Special Meeting, May 1st. *A special meeting of the Presbytery of London was held on the call of the Moderator and by permission of the Synod of Hamilton and London, at 7 p. m. on Tuesday, May 1st, and was constituted with prayer.*

Present: R. Stewart, Dr. Johnston, J. Steven, J. Little, J. H. Scott, W. M. Kay, D. Kelso, W. Gauld, J. H. Barnett, Ministers, and W. H. Sutherland, elder.

Report of Committee on re-arrangement of Ekfrid, etc., Congregations.

Mr. Steven reported for Committee appointed to visit a number of charges in the Presbytery and seek for re-arrangement. The report gave full details of the visits to the various fields and the result of the same, and contained the following recommendations:—

1. Your Committee recommend that the petition of the North Ekfrid Mission congregation be granted, and that it become connected with Appin congregation as a pastoral charge, and take over Tait's Corners portion of manse responsibility.
2. That the Appin congregation be urged to raise its Christian liberality to stipend to \$400.
3. That Tait's Corners and Duff's congregations be united in a pastoral charge.
4. That Chalmers' and Lyn congregations be united as a pastoral charge.
5. That Fingal be requested to stand alone, and inasmuch as Dr. Sutherland has been and is very much appreciated, and his term of office is likely to be lengthened by a reduction of labor, we recommend the congregation to increase their liberality, so that Dr. Sutherland's loss may not be felt by him.

On motion this report was received, but action thereon was postponed. The Presbytery was then dismissed with the benediction by the Moderator.

W. J. CLARK, *Clerk pro tem*



May 8th, 1900. *At London and within the First Presbyterian Church there, Tuesday, the 8th day of May, one thousand nine hundred years, and at the hour of nine o'clock of the forenoon, which time and place the Presbytery of London met and was constituted with Divine worship, the Moderator leading in prayer.*

Sederunt. Mr. Robt. Stewart, Moderator; Dr. Johnston, Dr. Sutherland, Messrs. A. Henderson, J. Steven, J. H. Barnett, I. Macdonald, J. Currie, W. J. Clark, J. Little, W. H. Reede, Thos. Wilson, W. Moffat, J. H. Courtenay, J. H. Scott, Alex. Wilson, A. J. McGillivray, Geo. Gilmore, S. Lawrence, J. Wilson, R. W. Leitch, ministers; Messrs. J. Lochore, W. Watson, D. Crossin, I. Rathburn, P. Ferguson, J. D. Campbell, J. T. Sutherland, H. S. Saunders, A. Grant, R. W. Baty, elders.

Interim Clerk. In the absence of the stated clerk, Mr. A. Henderson was appointed clerk *ad interim*.

Minutes Sustained. The printed minutes of last meeting of Presbytery being in the hands of the members it was on motion agreed that they be held as read. The following corrections were made:—On page 121 "Wm. Wallace" (Commissioner to the General Assembly) was made to read "Wm. Watson;" on page 123 after the words "was lost" (recommendation 2) insert "The Moderator, being obliged to retire, left the chair, and Mr. J. Milloy was called to preside in his place." The minutes were then sustained. The minutes of a special meeting held during the meeting of Synod were read and sustained.

Docket. The Presbytery then prepared the docket of business, and agreed to take up Century Fund business at half-past eleven o'clock.

Mr. Knowles present. Mr. Knowles, of Knox Church, Galt, being present, was invited to sit with the Presbytery and correspond.

Report Y. P. S. Presbyterial. Mr. Steven reported that the Presbyterial Convention of Young People's Societies was held on Monday, the seventh instant, at two o'clock, and attended by about forty delegates; that encouraging reports had been received from the Societies represented; that the Societies had been urged to contribute liberally to the general schemes of the church with special regard to Home Missions and to the claims of the Sandon Mission field in particular; also that the Convention had been ably addressed by Mr. Knowles, of Galt. The report was received.

Assessors for Bryanston Session. Mr. Little applied for and obtained leave to associate the elders of Proof-line with Bryanston Session as assessors.

Resignations and Appointments of Commissioners to General Assembly. Mr. D. C. McKellar, Wallacetown, was appointed Commissioner to the General Assembly, in room of Mr. John Robb, resigned. Mr. Wm. Gauld, of Formosa, now on furlough, was appointed Commissioner to the General Assembly, by special election, in room of Dr. Sutherland, resigned. The Kintyre

Session was notified to appoint one of their number as Commissioner, in room of Mr. Peter Stevenson, resigned, and to notify the Clerk as soon as convenient. Failing to make an appointment, the Clerk was instructed to notify the next Session in order on the roll to do so and to certify the appointment to the Clerk of Assembly.

Communications. Communications were read from the Presbyteries of
Reception of Ministers. Minnedosa and Westminster, giving notice that they would apply to the next General Assembly for leave respectively to receive Messrs. R. Gow and W. H. Hay into the ministry of this Church.

Petition for Organization at Mt. Brydges. A petition from certain persons residing in the township of Caradoc, near Mt. Brydges, asking for organization as a Presbyterian congregation and to receive religious ordinances in connection with the pastoral charge of Delaware and Cook's Church, Caradoc, was submitted and read. Compared for the petitioners Messrs. T. A. McEvoy and H. C. Buchanan, who were heard and questioned. The delegates were then removed, and the Presbytery proceeded to deliberate.

Petition Received and Committee Appointed. It was then moved by Mr. W. J. Clark, seconded by Mr. Currie, and agreed that the petition be received and a committee appointed to consider more fully the whole matter and bring in a deliverance in the afternoon; the committee to consist of Messrs. McGillivray, Courtenay and Lawrence, with Mr. I. Rathburn, elder.

Committee in St. George Church Financial Affairs. Mr. Gilmore intimated that the grant from St. Andrew's Church, this city, in aid of St. George congregation, is about to expire, and asked for a committee to meet with the office-bearers of St. George Church and take their future financial arrangements into consideration and report to next meeting. Presbytery agreed to appoint the following committee in terms of this request:—Messrs. Thos. Wilson, convener; W. J. Clark, A. J. McGillivray and Dr. Johnston, with their respective representative elders.

Mr. Gilmore—Leave of Absence. Mr. Gilmore asked and obtained leave of absence for three months, satisfactory arrangements having been made for the supply of St. George pulpit in the interval.

Communication in re Mr. R. J. Campbell, Student. A communication from Knox College Senate, relating to the academic standing of Mr. R. J. Campbell, student in the preparatory course, was read and laid on the table.

Tempo, etc., Augmentation Grant. Committee Appointed. Mr. Currie reported that the General Assembly's Committee on Augmentation had granted a rate of \$150 per annum to South Delaware and Tempo congregation for six months only, and a rate of \$125 for the second half year. It was on motion resolved to appoint Messrs. Currie, Clark and Henderson to visit these congregations with the view of having their contributions to stipend increased by the amount of the reduction in grant at least.

- St. George Session Records Committee.** Messrs. A. Wilson and J. D. Campbell were appointed a committee to examine the records of St. George Session and report.
- Deferred Annuities Circular.** The circular anent deferred annuities was read and considered. It was agreed to approve the general principle of the proposed scheme, but to draw the attention of the convener of the Assembly's Committee to the uncertainties in regard to the details of the scheme which were reported to last meeting of Presbytery.
- St. George Session Records Report.** The committee appointed to examine the records of St. George Session reported the same as carefully and correctly kept. These were ordered to be attested accordingly.
- Leave to Moderate in Lobo.** Leave was granted Mr. S. Lawrence to moderate in a call at Melville Church, Lobo and North Caradoc, before next regular meeting of Presbytery, should they be prepared to proceed.
- Report of Committee in re Mt. Brydges Petition.** The Committee on the petition for organization of a congregation in Caradoc reported that "Having heard the commissioners and being satisfied that the organization of a congregation at Mt. Olivet would not interfere with any existing congregation, and that it will do away entirely with the augmentation grant to the Delaware and Caradoc charge, and seeing no obstacle in the way, recommend as follows:—
- Commission Appointed.** (1) That a commission be appointed with Presbyterial powers to perfect the organization at the earliest possible date; (2) that North Caradoc and Cook's Churches be notified of the contemplated organization, and if no valid objection be raised by these congregations the organization be proceeded with at once. The report, with recommendations, was adopted and the following commission appointed in terms thereof:—Messrs. R. Stewart, moderator; A. J. McGillivray and W. H. Wyllie, ministers; Mr. Rathburn, elder; the same to meet at Mt. Olivet Church, Caradoc, on Tuesday, May twenty-second, at two o'clock afternoon, the Clerk to cite the congregations interested.
- Presbytery adjourned, to meet at two o'clock, the Moderator pronouncing the benediction.

A. HENDERSON, *Clerk pro tem.*

AFTERNOON SEDERUNT.

Same day and place, at the hour of two o'clock afternoon, the Presbytery met and was constituted with Divine worship, Mr. Jas. Wilson leading in prayer.

Sederunt. Sederunt, the same as in forenoon, with the exception of Messrs. Macdonald, Thos. Wilson, Courtenay, A. Wilson, McGillivray, ministers, and J. I. Sutherland, elder; and with the addition of Messrs. Drummond, Kay and McNeil, ministers, and A. McLarty, elder. Minutes of forenoon sederunt were read and approved.

Re-arrangement of Westminster Congregations - Report. Mr. McGillivray reported for the committee on re-arrangement of the Westminster, etc., congregations. The report was received and considered, and after deliberation the following recommendations were adopted:—(1) That action in the case of Belmont and Kilmartin Church, Yarmouth, be postponed for one year; (2) that the possibility of a separation in the near future between First and St. Andrew's Churches, Westminster, be made known to these congregations and also to the minister who may be called in the meantime; (3) that the committee be reappointed to keep the matter in charge and report from time to time as they deem wise.

Re-arrangement of Ekfrid, etc., Congregations. Report of Committee. Mr. Steven reported for the Committee on the re-arrangement of the North Ekfrid, Appin, etc., field. The recommendations as submitted to the special meeting of Presbytery held May 1st (*vide supra p. 126*) were read, considered seriatim and severally adopted. It was then further agreed on motion that North Ekfrid congregation be requested to contribute \$350 towards the stipend. It was then moved by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Currie, and resolved as follows:—The Presbytery express approval of these recommendations and re-appoint the committee to visit the charges included in the rearrangement proposed, and having presented the plan approved to the congregations involved, cite them to appear at an adjourned meeting of Presbytery at First Church, London, on May twenty-ninth, at half-past ten o'clock, the Clerk to issue the citations.

Leave to Moderate at Westminster.

Leave was granted to Mr. Moffat to moderate in a call at Westminster before next meeting of Presbytery, should the congregation be prepared to proceed.

Dr. Bryce Nominated Moderator of General Assembly.

On motion made by Dr. Johnston it was agreed to nominate Dr. Bryce, of Winnipeg, as Moderator of the next General Assembly.

Mr. McGillivray. Increase of Stipend.

Mr. McGillivray intimated that the congregation of St. James had increased his stipend by \$200. Presbytery recorded the fact and expressed gratification at the liberal and enterprising spirit manifested by the congregation.

Death of Andrew Denholm.

The Presbytery noted with deep regret the very sudden death of Mr. Andrew Denholm, who for many years had served the Presbytery with great courtesy, fidelity and efficiency as church officer.

It was on motion agreed to hold the next regular meeting of Presbytery in Knox Church, St. Thomas, on second Tuesday (tenth day) of July at ten o'clock in the forenoon. Presbytery adjourned to meet in First Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, May twenty-ninth, at half-past ten o'clock, the Moderator pronouncing the benediction.

ALEX. HENDERSON, *Clerk pro tempore.*

May 29th, 1900. *At London and within the First Presbyterian Church there, Tuesday, the twenty-ninth day of May, one thousand nine hundred years, and at the hour of half-past ten in the forenoon, which time and place the Presbytery of London met according to adjournment and was constituted with Divine worship, Mr. J. Little leading in prayer.*

Clerk pro tem. In the absence of the stated Clerk, Mr. A. Henderson was appointed Clerk *ad interim*.

Sederunt. The Moderator, Mr. R. Stewart; Drs. Sutherland and Johnston, Messrs. A. Henderson, J. Steven, W. J. Clark, J. Little, R. McIntyre, A. J. McGillivray, D. Kelso, I. Macdonald, Thos. Wilson, J. G. Stuart, D. R. Drummond, W. Moffat, R. W. Leitch, W. A. Wyllie, J. Currie, J. Lawrence, J. McNeil, ministers; Messrs. P. Ferguson, D. Crossin, J. Lochore, Jas. Robb, A. McLarty, T. Campbell, W. H. Sutherland and D. A. Campbell, elders.

Minutes of May 8th Sustained. The minutes of last meeting, held May eighth, were read and sustained.

The Presbytery prepared a docket of business.

Corresponding Members. Messrs. John Anderson, J. W. Mitchell, F. W. Gilmore and F. Ballantyne, being present, were invited to sit and correspond.

Call to Mr. Stewart. Mr. Moffat reported having moderated in a call at Westminster in behalf of Mr. R. Stewart. The Moderator's conduct was approved, but inasmuch as Mr. Stewart had expressed his desire that the matter should proceed no further, the call was, on motion, set aside.

Commissioners to General Assembly. Mr. Jas. Greaves, elder, was appointed commissioner to the General Assembly in room of Mr. John McPhail, resigned. The Kintyre Session reported having appointed Mr. Andrew Allan as Commissioner to the General Assembly in room of Mr. Peter Stevenson, in accordance with the instructions of Presbytery. The appointment was confirmed.

Minute anent Mr. McNeil's Retirement. Mr. Kelso, for the committee appointed to draft a minute anent the retirement of Mr. McNeil, submitted for adoption the following, which was adopted and ordered to be engrossed in the records:—"The Presbytery, in accepting the resignation of the Rev. John McNeil, Dunwich, express their sympathy with him in his affliction, and hope that after a short rest his health may be restored, enabling him to resume the duties of the ministry. The Presbytery would put on record their appreciation of his services. As a member of this Court he was always ready and willing to do the work assigned him. As a preacher he was earnest, evangelical and faithful, having a deep sense of his responsibility as a minister of the Gospel. As a pastor he was diligent and systematic, taking the deepest interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the congregation, and although his field was large yet he often found his

way to every home. The blessing of God rested upon his labours, and Mr. McNeil during his six years' pastorate has done a good work, and wherever God may order his lot his name will long be remembered in Dunwich."

Retention on Roll of Presbytery. Committee. Messrs. Henderson and Kelso were appointed to enquire into the requirements of the law of the Church regarding the retention of Mr. McNeil's name on the roll of the Presbytery, and to secure compliance with all requirements before the meeting of the Assembly.

Leave to Moderate at Westminster.

Permission was given to Mr. Moffat to moderate in a call at Westminster before next meeting if the congregation be ready to proceed.

Rearrangement Report.

Mr. Steven presented the report of the Committee on rearrangement of the North Ekfrid, Appin, etc., congregations. On motion it was agreed to receive the report and consider its recommendations.

Commissioners Heard.

In response to citation of Presbytery compared Messrs. P. Ferguson and W. Chisholm for North Ekfrid; A. Campbell and R. Webster for Appin; J. G. Lethbridge for Tait's Corners; J. J. McMillan for Duff's Church; Fletcher and Thompson for Chalmers' Church; Turner, McArthur and Campbell for the Lyn congregation, and A. McLarty, P. Stevenson, Chas. Stevenson and Best for Fingal. These were heard in the above order. In the course of the hearing the hour of adjournment arrived, and Presbytery adjourned with the benediction, to meet at half-past one o'clock.

A. HENDERSON, *Clerk pro tem.*

AFTERNOON SEDERUNT.

Same place and day, at half-past one, the Presbytery met and was constituted with Divine worship, Mr. W. J. Clark leading in prayer.

Sederunt. Sederunt, the same as in the forenoon, with the exception of Mr. Thos. Wilson.

The minutes of forenoon Sederunt were read and approved.

Call from Thamesford Sustained.

Dr. Johnston reported having moderated at Thamesford in a call to Mr. A. W. McIntosh, Licentiate and probationer. The call was signed by two hundred and eighty communicants and eighty adherents, and was accompanied with a guarantee of stipend of one thousand dollars, with manse and four weeks' holidays. Compared commissioners from the Session and congregation—Messrs. Young, McPherson and Patterson, who were heard in above order. Parties were withdrawn. After deliberation it was on motion agreed to approve the conduct of the Moderator, sustain the call as a regular Gospel call, and instruct the Clerk to forward the same with the relative papers to Mr. McIntosh for his consideration. It was further agreed on motion that should Mr. McIntosh intimate to the Clerk his acceptance of the call, Dr. Johnston and Mr. McGillivray be instructed to appoint him ordination trials—these to be heard at the regular meeting of Presbytery in July.

Rearrangement Resumed.

Consideration of the rearrangement of the Ekfrid, etc., congregations was resumed. The Commissioners were recalled, and the hearing of them finished. After lengthened deliberation it was moved by Dr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. J. G. Stuart, that the final disposal of this matter of rearrangement be laid over till next meeting of Presbytery, and in the meantime the committee be instructed to investigate the Iona and Lawrence districts with the view of ascertaining the feasibility of uniting them with Chalmers' Church as a separate charge. The motion was declared lost.

Proposals to Fingal, Lyn and Chalmers.

Mr. Steven moved the adoption of the following recommendation of the committee:—That a preaching station be opened at Lawrence under the supervision of the Chalmers Session with the view of constituting a separate pastoral charge. It was moved in amendment by Mr. J. Currie, seconded by Mr. W. Moffat, that this recommendation be referred to the Lyn and Fingal congregations for their consideration, and also the following alternative proposal, namely:—That Lyn Church be united to Chalmers' Church as one pastoral charge, and that Lyn Church pay \$250 to the treasurer of Fingal congregation for three years, and that they report to next meeting of Presbytery. The amendment was carried. On motion, Messrs. Drummond, Currie and Stewart were appointed to lay these proposals before the Lyn and Fingal congregations, and also the congregation of Chalmers' Church.

Laid over till July.

It was agreed to lay over the remainder of the report till the July meeting, and that the congregations interested be notified that the whole matter of rearrangement will come up for final settlement at that meeting.

Mr. Johnson's Illness.

The Presbytery expressed deep sympathy with Mr. Johnson, Stated Clerk, in his protracted illness, and hoped by the Divine blessing for his speedy recovery.

The Presbytery adjourned, to meet in Knox Church, St. Thomas, on Tuesday, the tenth day of July, at ten o'clock in the forenoon. Closed with the benediction.

ALEX. HENDERSON, *Clerk pro tem.*

Minutes of Commission of Presbytery.

May 22nd, 1900. *In the Township of Caradoc and within the church called Mount Olivet, Tuesday, the twenty-second day of May, one thousand nine hundred years, and at the hour of two o'clock in the afternoon, the Commission of Presbytery met with the petitioners according to appointment.*

Present—Mr. R. Stewart, Moderator, and Mr. W. H. Wyllie.

No Objections Offered. After Divine service, the purpose of the meeting was stated in presence of the congregation and objections called for, if any, to the organization of a congregation at Mt. Olivet. No objections being offered, it was resolved to proceed with the organization.

Communion Roll Made Up. The following were received into the membership of the congregation:—By certificate—Mr. and Mrs. Coleman; Mrs. Waggood, Miss McCracken; on profession of faith—Miss Annie Clark, Mrs. C. E. Bateman, Mr. Wyatt, and these names were declared to be the communion roll of the newly-constituted congregation.

Designation. At the request of the congregation the commission agreed that it be known under the designation of St. Andrew's Church, Mount Brydges.

Interim Session. The Commission further appointed the Session of Cook's Church as interim Session.

Guarantee of Stipend. At a meeting of the Congregation held at this stage, in presence of the Commission, Mr. Wm. Wyatt in the chair, it was agreed, out of an estimated annual revenue of \$200,

Trustees and Board of Managers Appointed. to pay the sum of \$150 in semi-annual payments towards the stipend of the pastor. Three trustees and a board of management were also appointed.

Arrangement for Gospel Ordinances. The Commission accepted the guarantee of stipend, and resolved that the Congregation should receive fortnightly service in the meantime and should form part of the pastoral charge of St. Andrew's Church, Delaware, and Cook's Church, Caradoc. The Congregation was then dismissed and the Commission closed with the benediction.

W. A. WYLLIE, Clerk.

Docket of Business for July Meeting.

1—From the Minutes—

Report of Committee in St. George Church Financial Affairs.
Rearrangement—Returns from Congregations of Fingal and Lyn
and Chalmers' Church.
Call to Mr. McIntosh—Ordination Trials.

2—Stated Business—

Report of Commissioners to General Assembly.
Assembly Returns.