

JULY, 1899.

Minutes of Meeting

OF THE

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN CANADA

PORT STANLEY, JULY 11TH, 1899.

At Port Stanley, and within the Presbyterian church, on Tuesday, the eleventh day of July, one thousand, eight hundred and ninety-nine, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, the Presbytery of London met and was constituted. In the absence of Mr. Lindsay, Mr. T. Wilson acted as Moderator.

Sederunt—Revs. J. Milloy, J. Currie, A. Henderson, R. W. Ross, Dr. Proudfoot, J. F. Scott, R. Stewart, J. Little, W. J. Clark, Dr. Johnston, D. Kelso, Dr. Smith, J. G. Stuart, T. Wilson, W. M. Kay, J. McNeil, J. Lindsay, J. H. Barnett, D. R. Drummond, J. H. Courtenay, S. Lawrence, W. A. Wyllie, W. Moffat, A. J. McGillivray, M. N. Bethune, Ministers ; and J. G. Lethbridge, D. K. McKenzie, Wm. Patterson, D. C. Johnson, Angus Campbell, Elders.

The Minutes being in the hands of members were approved. Mr. D. C. Johnston and Mr. McGillivray were appointed a committee to prepare a minute in connection with the death of Rev. J. M. Munro. It was moved by Mr. McGillivray, duly seconded and agreed, that the Presbytery officially notify the Committee of the Ministers' Widows and Orphans Fund of the death of Rev. J. M. Munro, and that application be made for an annuity to Mrs. Munro and the three children, who are under eighteen years of age.

Minutes Anent Dr. Sutherland's Resignation.

Mr. Henderson reported on behalf of a committee appointed to prepare a suitable minute anent the resignation of Dr. Sutherland as Clerk. The following minute was heartily adopted. "The Presbytery in accepting the resignation of Dr. Sutherland of the office of Clerk on account of impaired health, desire to record their great regret that on this account he feels compelled to retire from an office that he has filled with efficiency and fidelity during the long period of eighteen years. He was appointed first Clerk of the Presbytery of London as it is at present constituted, that is, after the formation of the Presbytery of Sarnia in 1881. The Presbytery express their high appreciation of the carefulness and faithfulness with which he discharged the duties of an office which must necessarily have been a large tax upon his time and energies. The Presbytery rejoice to hear that his visit to Scotland has so far proved beneficial, and sincerely trust that he will be prospered by the Great Head of the Church to return in due time, with renewed vigor, to his pastoral duties."

Reports of Commissioners to the General Assembly were heard from Revs. J. Currie, Dr. Smith, J. Milloy, R. Stewart, D. Kelso, W. J. Clark, A. Henderson, R. W. Ross, and Messrs. J. G. Lethbridge and D. C. Johnson.

The Treasurer was authorized to pay the account, when presented, for the printing of the pamphlet on Systematic Beneficence. The hour of adjournment having arrived, Presbytery adjourned to meet at two o'clock in the afternoon.

On the same day and at the same place, at two o'clock in the afternoon, the Presbytery met and was constituted.

Sederunt the same as in the forenoon.

The Election of Clerk was taken up. After some discussion as to the method of election, it was agreed that the vote be taken by ballot without nominations. The vote thus taken resulted in favor of Mr. D. C. Johnson, who was accordingly declared elected. On motion of Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Courtenay, it was resolved to make the vote unanimous for

Mr. Johnston, who on his election thanked the Presbytery for the honor conferred on him. It was moved by Mr. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Moffatt, and agreed, that the Moderator be instructed to name a committee to report matters pertaining to the Clerk's salary, and remuneration to the acting Clerk for his services.

McMullen Bequest—It was agreed that the Moderator and Clerk give authority to the executors to pay over to Cook's Church, Caradoc, the McMullen bequest.

A Petition was presented from Mr. A. B. McGregor, of Appin, complaining of the action of the Session. Mr. McGregor was heard in support of the petition. Mr. Henderson read the answer of the Session of Appin to Mr. McGregor's complaint. Mr. Henderson, Moderator of Session, and Messrs. Angus Campbell, Christopher Carruthers and Richard Webster were heard in support of the action of the Session. Mr. McGregor was heard in reply. After thorough consideration of the matter it was resolved that the petition be dismissed, and that Mr. McGregor be instructed to submit himself to the Session of Appin, and to answer any questions in regard to the case. It was resolved that Mr. McGregor be further instructed that it is his place to apply to the Session for a consideration of the case.

Mr. Courtenay presented a **Call from Alma Street Presbyterian Church, St. Thomas** to the Rev. H. W. Reede, of Teeswater. The call was signed by one hundred and twenty-eight (128) members and thirty (30) adherents. There was a guarantee of stipend of eight hundred (800) dollars per annum, without a manse, and a promise of a month's holidays. Commissioners from the congregation were heard who testified to the heartiness and unanimity of the Call. On motion, duly seconded, it was agreed that the conduct of the Moderator be approved and the Call sustained as a regular gospel Call, and forwarded to Mr. Reede for his decision. Provisional arrangements for Mr. Reede's induction, in case of his acceptance were made, the date being left in the hands of the Moderator of Session. The following brethren were appointed to take part,

viz : The Moderator of the Presbytery to preside, Mr. Geddes to preach, Mr. Currie to address the minister, and Mr. Courtenay the congregation.

The Moderator and Elders of the Appin Session, in attendance on Presbytery, agreed to request the Presbytery to appoint the following ministers and elders to sit as assessors with the Session of Appin in their dealing with Mr. McGregor, Messrs. R. W. Ross, R. Stewart and W. A. Wyllie, ministers; and Messrs. I. Rathburn, J. G. Lethbridge and — Fletcher, elders. The request was granted.

Dr. Smith addressed the Presbytery on behalf of **French Evangelization**. On motion of Mr. Henderson, duly seconded, it was resolved that the Augmentation Scheme be taken up at the September meeting and that Mr. Currie be appointed to present its claims ; also that Mr. A. Thompson of Knox Church, London, be appointed to present the claims of the Widows and Orphans fund.

Presbyterial Certificate to Rev. Alex. Fraser.—At his request the Presbytery granted a Presbyterial Certificate to Rev. Alex. Fraser, late of Mosa.

The Clerk read a circular letter from the Clerk of St. Johns Presbytery, dated July 5th, anent the suspension of Mr. J. S. Mullen.

A communication was read from Dr. Robert Campbell, Moderator of the General Assembly, and Convenor of the Century Fund, anent arrangement for his visit to the Presbytery in the interest of that Fund. On motion, duly seconded, it was agreed that the members of the Advisory Committee appointed by the Assembly on the list of this Presbytery, be a committee to divide the Presbytery into sections, the first named on the printed list to act as convenor. It was further agreed that when the Presbytery adjourn, it adjourns to meet for its next regular meeting in the First Church, London, at the call of the Moderator, and that the clerk notify Dr. Campbell that two o'clock of the day fixed upon will be the best hour at which to address the Presbytery.

The Clerk was instructed to apply to the Committee of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, giving the facts in regard to the late Rev. J. M. Munro, and asking for as large aid as may be obtained.

Wardsville Congregation.—A statement was read from the managers of the Wardsville Congregation calling the attention of the Presbytery to the fact that after a careful canvas of the congregation there remains a deficiency of upwards of a hundred dollars on this year's stipend. On motion, duly seconded, it was agreed that a committee consisting of Messrs. Ross, Barnett and Rathburn be appointed to visit Wardsville and report.

The following deputations were appointed to visit augmented charges and report: North Delaware and South Caradoc, A. Henderson and Elder Smith; Delaware and Tempo, T. Wilson and elder; Hyde Park and Komoka, J. G. Stuart and elder; Chalmer's Church, London, A. J. McGillivray and elder; Port Stanley, D. R. Drummond and elder; Aylmer and Springfield, W. M. Kay and elder.

St. Andrew's Church, London—Dr. Johnston, on behalf of St. Andrew's Church, London, asked authority from Presbytery to raise a loan of twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars on mortgage. Authority was granted.

St. James' Church, London—Rev. A. J. McGillivray, on behalf of St. James' Church, London, asked permission of Presbytery to borrow seventeen thousand (\$17,000) dollars on mortgage. Permission was granted.

The Clerk was instructed to notify ministers who have not yet done so, to send in sketches of their charges to Mr. Courtenay to assist them in preparing a map of the Presbytery.

Financial and Statistical Report of the Presbytery—Mr. Lawrence presented the financial and statistical report of the Presbytery, containing a large amount of varied and valuable information as to the relative position and strength of congregations, and indicating a gratifying degree of progress during the past year. The report was received, the Convener thanked for his diligence, and the recommendations adopted. The Con-

venor was instructed to have the report printed and circulated. The statistical committee was instructed to inquire into the matter of arrears of salary in congregations.

The Presbytery adjourned to meet in September in the First Church, London, at the Call of the Moderator.

D. C. JOHNSON, Clerk.

LONDON, AUGUST 15TH, 1899.

Pursuant to the order of the Moderator, a pro re nata meeting was held in the First Church, on Tuesday, August 15th, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

Sederunt—Rev. N. Lindsay, Moderator; Messrs. Dr. Johnston, Kay, Lawrence, Little, McGillivray, McIntyre, Moffat, Dr. Proudfoot, Ross, Sawers, Scott, A. Wilson, Wyllie, Ministers. Messrs. Caveril, Dolphin, Grieve, Innis, Johnson, McDougall, Rathburn, Elders. Presbytery being constituted.

Call from Burns' Church, Mosa.—Mr. Ross stated that he had met with the congregation of Burns' Church, on Monday, July 31st, and had moderated in a Call which came out unanimously in favor of Mr. Isaac McDonald, of Glammis, in the Presbytery of Bruce. It was agreed that his conduct in moderating be approved. The Call was now laid on the table, signed by one hundred and seventy-four (174) members, and one hundred and twenty-three (123) adherents, all duly attested, with reasons of translation, and guarantee of stipend at the rate of eight hundred and fifty (\$850) dollars per annum, in half-yearly payments, and a promise of a month's holidays. Messrs. McNeil and Leitch spoke briefly in behalf of the heartiness and unanimity of the Call. On motion of Dr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. McGillivray, it was agreed that the Call be sustained as a regular gospel Call and forwarded to the Clerk of the Presbytery of Bruce, and that Mr. Ross be appointed to prosecute the Call before that Presbytery at its next meeting.

Call from Knox Church, Guelph—The Clerk presented a Call from Knox Church, Guelph, to Rev. R. W. Ross, Glen-

coe, signed by four hundred and sixteen (416) members and sixty-eight (68) adherents. The Call was accompanied with reasons of translation, and a guarantee of stipend at the rate of sixteen hundred dollars (\$1600) in weekly payments, with a month's holidays. Commissioners in prosecution of the Call were heard as follows : Dr. Torrance and Mr. Horne for the Presbytery of Guelph. and Dr. Wardrope, James A. McCrae and A. W. Alexander for the session and congregation of Knox church, strongly urging the translation of Mr. Ross.

Commissioners from Glencoe were next heard, viz. : Messrs. Rathburn, J. Young, and James A. Younge, who pleaded earnestly for the retention of Mr. Ross, speaking in the highest terms of him and his work. Mr. McCrae replied briefly on behalf of the Guelph commissioners. The Call was then placed in the hands of Mr. Ross, who, with deep feeling, signified his acceptance of it.

On motion of Dr. Johnston, seconded by Dr. Proudfoot, it was agreed to grant the translation. It was further agreed on motion of Dr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Moffat, that Mr. Henderson preach and declare the Glencoe congregation vacant, and thereafter act as interim Moderator of Session.

The business for which Presbytery was called being finished, the sederunt was closed with the benediction.

D. C. JOHNSON, Clerk.

ST. THOMAS, AUG. 22, 1899.

At St. Thomas, and within Alma Street Church, on the 22nd day of August, one thousand, eight hundred and ninety-nine, at eight o'clock in the evening, the Presbytery of London met by order of Moderator and was constituted. Sederunt : Rev. N. Lindsay, Moderator ; D. C. Johnson, Clerk, J. Currie. E. H. Sawers, J. H. Courtenay and A. Henderson.

Revs. J. W. Rae and H. W. Reede being present were invited to correspond. The edict being returned, attested as duly served, Mr. Courtenay made proclamation to the assembled congregation. No objection being offered to the life or doctrine of Mr. Reede, public worship was proceeded with, Mr.

W. H. Geddes preaching a sermon from the first Epistle of John, fourth chapter and sixteenth verse (I. John 4: 16.) At the close of the service Mr. Courtenay, interim Moderator of Session, briefly narrated the steps leading up to the induction. Mr. Reede was then called forward and the Moderator asked him the questions prescribed for such occasions. The questions having been satisfactorily answered, the Moderator led in prayer, after which he gave Mr. Reede the right hand of fellowship, and in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the only King and Head of the Church, inducted him into the pastoral charge of the congregation. At the close of the service Mr. Reede was conducted to the door of the church and was welcomed by the congregation as they retired. Mr. Reede signified his willingness to subscribe the formula of adherence to the confession of faith when required, and the Clerk was instructed to add his name to the roll of Presbytery.

The Presbytery then had a brief and pleasant conference with the elders and managers, the latter being prepared to pay the first instalment of stipend. Mr. Reede having been formally introduced to the other members of Session, and to the managers, Presbytery was closed with the benediction.

D. C. JOHNSON, Clerk.