

SEPTEMBER, 1898.

Minutes of Meeting

OF THE

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 1898.

At London, and within the First Presbyterian Church there, on Tuesday, thirteenth day of September, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and at half-past ten o'clock forenoon, the Presbytery of London met and was duly constituted. Rev. Donald Kelso, Moderator ; Mr. Geo. Sutherland, Clerk.

Sederunt—D. Kelso, George Sutherland, John Milloy, Dr. Proudfoot, Alex. Henderson, John Currie, E. H. Sawers, R. McIntyre, W. J. Clark, James Little, Robert Stewart, J. H. Courtenay, R. W. Ross, John McNeill, Samuel Lawrence, Alex. Wilson, J. G. Stuart, R. Johnstone, W. R. Leitch, George Smith, Thos. Wilson, J. Steven, Geo. Gilmour, A. J. Macgillivray, Ministers. Angus McLarty, Thos. McDougall, M. Robb, D. Grey, W. A. Caveril, Andrew Thomson, D. McKay, Elliott Grieve, Elders.

The Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The Minutes of 12th July, being printed, were in the hands of members, and accepted as read.

Elders commissions were given in and the Roll of Presbytery made up.

Appointing Moderator.

The Moderator intimated that his term of office had expired, and called on the court to appoint his successor. Moved by

Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. W. J. Clark, that Mr. Thos. Wilson be appointed for next six months. It was moved in amendment by Mr. Currie, duly seconded, that Mr. Lindsay be appointed. The motion was carried and Mr. Wilson took the chair and thanked the Presbytery for the honor conferred on him.

Thanks to the Retiring Moderator.

A vote of thanks was given Mr. Kelso, retiring Moderator, for his conduct in the chair, and suitably acknowledged.

Session Records Examined.

The Session Records of South Westminister, Glencoe, Knox Church, London, and Knox church, Belmont, were submitted to special committees, who, on examination of the same, reported them as carefully and correctly kept. They were attested accordingly.

Corresponding Members.

Mr. Geo. McLellan, of Hamilton Presbytery, and Mr. Walter S. Nichol, of Sarnia, being present, were invited to sit and correspond. It was moved and carried that the Presbytery adjourn at 12.30, to meet again at 2 p. m. It was also agreed that the discussion on augmentation be the first order of business at the afternoon Sederunt.

Deputations to Aid—Receiving Congregation Report.

Mr. Ross reported his visit to North Delaware and Caradoc. N. Delaware expects to reduce their grant from January, 1899, by \$25. Cookes' church promises a reduction of \$50 after same date. They ask the old grant for this year (\$125.)

Mr. Clark reports his visit to Hyde Park and Komoka. In both stations there have been losses by removals. They promise \$618 for the year beginning next October. They ask for \$132.

Mr. Currie reported his visit to Aylmer and Springfield. It was decided to ask for the old grant of \$150; to make the salary \$800 without a manse.

Mr. Sawers reported his visit to Chalmer's church, London. They are quite sanguine of being soon able to be self-sustaining: meantime they ask for \$150.

For the Past Six Months They Ask the Following:

The grants are: Aylmer and Springfield, \$75; Port Stanley, \$100; North Delaware and Caradoc, \$62.50; Chalmers' Church, \$100; Hyde Park, \$75.

Report of Commission to Kintore.

Mr. Currie reported for the commission appointed to visit Kintore—that all the members of the commission were present and came to the following finding, in which the congregation acquiesied; the commission of the Presbytery have reviewed the whole matter, and came to the following finding: "That the Session be requested at as early a date as possible, to appoint a leader of praise other than Mr. McKenzie, the present leader, or Mr. McDonald, who was the former leader of the choir; such appointment to continue only until the induction of a new minister. The report was received and adopted.

Permission to Moderate in a Call at Kintore.

Rev. Mr. Smith applied for permission to moderate in a Call at Kintore. A committee was appointed to consider the matter and report at next Sederunt.

The Committee on the examination of students obtained leave to retire and report in the afternoon.

Committee for Striking Standing Committees.

The Moderator appointed the following: Messrs. W. J. Clark, Robt. Stewart, J. H. Barnett, Ministers, and Messrs. Rathburn and Greenlees to strike Standing Committees for the year.

Resignation of Mr. Dewar of Ailsa Craig and Carlisle.

The Clerk read Mr. Dewar's letter tendering his resignation, and intimated that he had cited the congregation to appear for their interests at this meeting of Presbytery. No appointment of any representative, however was made. The Presbytery concluded that inasmuch as they were duly cited, and yet appointing no representative, they are to be regarded as consenting to the resignation. After Mr. Shipley, Elder from Carlisle, had spoken in regard to the matter, it was moved with sincere regret that the resignation be received, the same taking effect next Sabbath: that Mr. Lawrence declare the pulpit vacant on that day, and act thereafter as Moderator of Session. This motion was duly seconded and carried. Messrs. Robert Stewart and Norman Lindsay were appointed a committee to draft a suitable minute in connection with the resignation.

The Presbytery adjourned to meet again at 2 p. m., and was closed with the benediction.

GEORGE SUTHERLAND, Clerk.

Same place, same day, at two o'clock, afternoon, the Presbytery of London met again pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted. Rev. Thos. Wilson, Moderator; Mr. George Sutherland, Clerk; Sederunt as in the forenoon.

The minutes of the forenoon Sederunt were read and sustained. Mr. Sawers gave in the report of his visit to Chalmer's Church, London. They ask meantime a grant of \$150.

The Matter of Kintore Moderation.

The matter of Kintore congregation was submitted by Mr. Smith, as follows, and agreed to: "That leave be granted to the interim Moderator to moderate in a Call to a minister before next meeting of Presbytery, on condition that a minimum stipend be raised, and further, that the Presbytery respectfully remind the congregation, of the former resolution in the matter of Mr. Munro's retirement.

Standing Committees for the Year.

Mr. Clark gave in the following report of the Committee on Standing Committees for the year.

(1) Church Life and Work, Messrs. Sawers, (Convenor,) McGillivrey and Lohead, Elder. (2) Home Mission—Alex. Henderson, (Convenor,) J. G. Stuart, and F. McDougal, Elder. (3) Augmentation—Messrs. J. Currie, (Convenor,) Clark and Rathburn, Elder. (4) Sabbath Schools—Messrs. J. Barnett, (Convenor,) Courtneay, Fraser, and Atkinson, Elder. (5) Examination of Students—Messrs. G. H. Smith, (Convenor); Lindsay, Church History; W. H. Anderson, Hebrew. (6) Y. P. S.—Messrs. R. W. Ross, (Convenor), A. Wilson, J. H. Barnett and Andrew Thomson, Elder. Yearly Statistics—Messrs. Sam'l Lawrence, (Convenor), John F. Scott and Thos. Wilson.

Report of Committee on Beneficence.

Mr. Henderson gave in the report of the Committee on Beneficence. After reading the document it was agreed that the same be received and discussed, at an adjourned meeting of Presbytery to be held two weeks from to-day at 10.30 a. m.

The clerk read a communication from Dr. Warden, stating the amounts required for the several Schemes of the Church for the current year.

Committee Appointed to Allocate to Congregations

their share of contributions. Messrs. J. Currie, J. G. Stuart and A. Henderson, were appointed a Committee to attend to this matter.

EXPENSES OF COMMITTEES DOING PRESBYTERY WORK.

Mr. Henderson reported on behalf of the Committee on expenses of Committees doing Presbytery Work, as follows :

- (1) That the necessary expenses of Standing Committees be paid from the Presbytery Fund.
- (2) That all committees appointed from time to time, to attend to special Presbytery business have their necessary expenses paid from Presbytery Fund. This would not include ministers taking part in Ordinations and Inductions.
- (3) That as a general rule, when a Committee is appointed to visit a congregation in response to a petition, memorial, complaint or appeal, or to aid in settling any difficulty, or discharging any business belonging to the congregation ; the expense should be defrayed by the congregation ; This should include assessors and ministers taking part in ordination and induction.
- (4) In any case that may arise in which there may be doubt as to which of the above categories the committee should belong, the Presbytery should indicate at the time of appointment from what source the expenses should be met. The report was adopted as a whole.

RESOLUTION ANENT THE PLEBISCITE.

Mr. Johnstone moved the following resolution, "that this Presbytery in view of the Plebiscite about to be taken in Canada, on the suppression of the traffic in strong drink, reaffirm the position which the Presbyterian Church has taken for years, that the traffic is contrary to the Word of God, destructive of the prosperity, health and morals of the land, and a standing obstacle to the progress of the kingdom of Christ in our Dominion, and that we express our sympathy with the principle of Prohibition ; and that we urge all our congregations of the Presbytery to use every wise effort, especially at this time, to secure the removal of this great evil." The resolution was carried unanimously.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EXAMINATION OF STUDENTS,

Mr. Ross submitted the report of the Committee on Examination of Students, as follows : That Mr. W. L. Nichol be recommended as a resident student to Knox College ; Mr. G. M. Young to Knox College, the third preparatory year ; Mr. R. Laidlaw recommended as third year's student in Arts' Course, as a resident of Knox College, Mr. A. R. Campbell, to be certified as second year's student in the Arts' Course, to

Knox College. Mr. R. F. Robinson was requested to appear at the adjourned meeting on the 27th instant. The report was received and adopted.

CALLS TO MESSRS. CLARK AND SAWERS.

The Clerk read an extract minute from Toronto Presbytery intimating that Erskine church had called Mr. W. J. Clark, of First Presbyterian Church, London. It was agreed to dispose of the Call at the adjourned meeting of Presbytery on the 27th inst., in this Church, at 10.30 a. m., and the Clerk was instructed to cite all persons interested.

The Clerk intimated that a Call from Walkerton, in the Presbytery of Bruce, had been moderated in favor of Mr. E. H. Sawers, of Westminster; but Mr. Sawers had stopped any further proceedings. Mr. Johnstone moved that the Presbytery express its special satisfaction with Mr. Sawers' decision. This motion was cordially seconded and carried.

At the request of Mr. Gilmour, permission was given to associate Mr. Cairncross, (an elder in good standing in our church,) with the Session of Pottersburg. The Presbytery adjourned to meet again in the same place on the 27th inst., at 10.30 a. m., and closed with the benediction.

GEORGE SUTHERLAND, Clerk.

At London, and within the First Presbyterian Church there, on Tuesday, 27th September, 1898, and at 10.30 forenoon, the Presbytery of London met, pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted. Rev. Thos. Wilson, Moderator. Sederunt—Messrs. T. Wilson, Geo. Sutherland, Dr. Proudfoot, A. Henderson, J. Currie, E. H. Sawers, R. McIntyre, W. J. Clark, J. Little, R. Stewart, J. H. Courtenay, R. W. Ross, John McNeill, Sam. Lawrence, Alex. Wilson, J. G. Stuart, R. Johnston, R. W. Leitch, G. H. Smith, James Steven, Geo. Gilmour and A. J. MacGillivray, Ministers. Messrs. Greenlees, Lohead, Elliott, Grieve and Shipley, Elders.

THE CONDITION OF MOSA CONGREGATION.

Mr. Ross, of Glencoe, brought before the Presbytery the condition of Mosa congregation. The minister they had has left them, his time having expired. There is no Moderator and they had no word from their minister, though the time allowed by the Presbytery has expired. The Presbytery agreed to appoint Mr. Ross Moderator of Session during Mr. Fraser's absence, and the Clerk of Presbytery was instructed to communicate with Mr. Fraser, stating the condition of congrega-

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tional matters and reminding him that the time granted by the Presbytery for his vacation had expired. Mr. Ross was asked by the Presbytery to look after the supply.

MR. DEWAR, LATELY MINISTER OF AILSA CRAIG, ASKS FOR A
TRANSFER TO DENVER PRESBYTERY.

The Clerk intimated that he had taken the liberty of sending Mr. Dewar's certificate of ministerial standing, so as to be received by the Denver Presbytery at its meeting this week. The Presbytery ratified the Clerk's action.

Mr. Hugh Brown, lately minister of S. Delaware and Tempo, requests to be transferred to Toronto Presbytery. The Clerk was authorized to give the transfer.

THE CALL TO MR. CLARK.

The Clerk read communications from Erskine Church, Toronto, and from the Clerk of Toronto Presbytery, to the effect that no representative would appear before the London Presbytery, as Mr. Clark had indicated already his non-acceptance. After hearing Mr. Greenlees and Mr. Henderson from the First Church, London, declaring the unanimity of the congregation in retaining Mr. Clark, it was moved by Mr. Currie, duly seconded, that having heard parties in the case, the Presbytery express its satisfaction with Mr. Clark's decision.

MR. ANDERSON'S RESIGNATION.

The Clerk read a letter from Mr. Anderson, tendering his resignation of the charge of Aylmer and Springfield. It was agreed to lay the resignation meantime on the table, and cite the congregations to appear for their interest at next regular meeting, or a special meeting of Presbytery at St. Thomas. The Clerk was instructed to communicate with Mr. Anderson, and call a special meeting if necessary, at St. Thomas, to deal with the matter.

DR. PROUDFOOT'S JUBILEE.

Moved by R. Johnston, that at the next regular meeting of Presbytery, the jubilee of Dr. Proudfoot will be observed, that the Presbytery meet at 1 p. m., in First Church, London, on Tuesday, 8th November, and that a public meeting in connection with the jubilee shall be held in the evening, and that all arrangements be left in the hands of committee. The motion was seconded and carried.

MR. LAWRENCE'S REPORT IN CONNECTION WITH AILSA CRAIG.

Mr. Lawrence reported that he had declared the pulpits of Ailsa Craig and Carlisle vacant, and that the congregations petition the Presbytery for leave to call a minister. After some discussion, in connection with re-arranging the services at Ailsa Craig and Carlisle, it was agreed to associate Mr. Wilson, Moderator of Presbytery, with Mr. Lawrence, and leave was granted to moderate in a Call, on condition that the re-arrangement of services is satisfactory.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Mr. Henderson gave in the report of the Home Mission Committee, desiring that Mr. Robinson, student, continue to supply Ekfrid Station for the first three months, and that Mr. Munro, late of Kintore, supply for the next three months. The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EXAMINATION OF STUDENTS.

Mr. G. H. Smith gave in the report as follows : (1) Mr. F: A. Robinson has been previously examined by a Presbytery of our Church as to his motives in entering the ministry and sustained. (2) He has resided during part of last scholastic year with one of our ministers, attending classes in the Western University. He has labored as a student missionary within the bounds of this Presbytery during last summer. His discourse has been sustained by the Committee. The Committee recommend that Mr. Robinson be retained as a student in the Western University of the first year in Arts. The report was received and adopted.

REQUEST OF MR. MILLER, OF MAITLAND PRESBYTERY.

A request from A. Miller, on behalf of Maitland Presbytery, for leave to use a circular issued by London Presbytery on the matter of Temporalities. Granted.

REPORT ON BENEFICENCE.

Mr. Henderson read the report of the committee on Beneficence. The first, second, third and fifth propositions were discussed and agreed to. The fourth was re-committed to the committee, and Mr. J. G. Stuart was added to the committee ; the report to be submitted to the next meeting of the Presbytery at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The Presbytery adjourned to meet again at 2 p. m. in the same place, and this Sederunt closed with the benediction.

GEORGE SUTHERLAND, Clerk.

Same place, same day, and at two o'clock in the afternoon the Presbytery of London met and was duly constituted. Rev. T. Wilson, Moderator ; Mr. George Sutherland, Clerk ; Sederunt as in the forenoon. The minutes of forenoon Sederunt were read, corrected and sustained. The Presbytery continued the discussion of the report on Beneficence. Revs. Dr. Proudfoot, J. Currie, W. J. Clark and A. Henderson taking part. After considerable discussion on the sixth proposition it was agreed to adjourn till the second Tuesday of November, and the discussion on Beneficence be an order of the day at 3 p. m., the Presbytery closed with the benediction.

GEORGE SUTHERLAND, Clerk.

**DOCKET OF BUSINESS FOR 8TH NOVEMBER,
1898, AT 1 P. M.**

1. Minute anent Mr. Dewar's resignation.
2. Call from Kintore, Mr. Smith.
3. Resignation of Mr. Anderson, Aylmer.
4. Action taken, if needed, in connection with congregations not contributing to Church Schemes.
5. Best methods of contributing to Church Schemes.
6. Conference on Missionary Work.
7. Dr. Proudfoot's Jubilee.
8. Communication from Kamloop's Presbytery.