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THE MINUTES OF SYNOD.

FIRST DIET.

At and within St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, N. S., the 24th day of June, 1873, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland met; and, after an appropriate discourse by the Rev. James Murray, of Dalhousie, N. B., the retiring Moderator, from St. Mark xvi. : 15, was constituted with prayer by the said Rev. James Murray.

The Roll of the Synod was then made up, as follows, and read:—

I.—PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.

CHARGE.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Halifax (St. Matthew's),	George M. Grant,	James J. Brenner,
Halifax (St. Andrew's),	John Campbell,	James S. McDonald,
Richmond, Goodwood, N. W. Arm,	James Fraser Campbell,	John Hosterman,
Truro,	John McMillan,	Samuel Archibald,
Musquodoboit,		Charles Sprott.
St. John's, Newfoudland	Daniel McDougall,	

II.—PRESBYTERY OF PICTOU.

Pictou,	Andrew W. Herdman,	William Jack,
New Glasgow,	Allan Pollok,	Alex. McGregor,
Stellarton and Westville,	Charles Dunn,	Hector McKenzie,
McLennan's Mountain,	William Stewart,	Donald McDonald,
W. and E. Branches, East Riv.,	Donald McRae,	Senator Holmes,
Gairloch,	Neil Brodie,	Wm. McDonald,
Saltsprings,	William McMillan,	Henry Munro,
Roger's Hill and Cape John,	James W. Fraser,	Alex. Fraser,
River John,	Robert McCunn,	John Holmes, Jr.,
Earlton and W. B. Riv. John,	James McColl,	Alex. McLean,
Wallace.	James Anderson,	Alex. Ross,
Pugwash,		John Fraser,
Barney's River and Lochaber,		Angus Campbell,
J. M. Sutherland, M. A.,	ordained Missionary.	
George L. Gordon and John McLean,	Catechists.	

III.—PRESBYTERY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Charlottetown,	Thomas Duncan,	Archibald Kennedy,
Belfast,	Alexander McLean,	Hugh Finlay,
Georgetown and Cardigan,	Peter Melville,	James N. Cogswell,
St. Peter's Rd. & Brackley Pt.	John Moffat,	Alex. Robertson,
DeSable and Orwell,		Allan Stewart.

IV.—PRESBYTERY OF ST. JOHN, N. B.

Fredericton,	John M. Brooke, D. D.,	John McBeath,
St. John (St. Andrew's),	Robert J. Cameron,	Matthew Lindsay,
St. John (New St. Stephen's),	George J. Caie,	Roderick Ross,
St. Andrew's,	Peter Keay,	David Mowatt,
Nashwaak and Stanley,	William Fogo,	William Craig.
Woodstock and Northampton,	William P. Begg,	

V.—PRESBYTERY OF RESTIGOUCHE.

CHARGE.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Dalhousie, Campbelton, Bathurst, New Richmond,	James Murray, William Murray, John Wells.	Alexander Laing, Arch. McKenzie, Daniel Cairney.

VI.—PRESBYTERY OF MIRAMIDIII.

Chatham, Newcastle, Tabusintac, Burnt Church, } Black River and Bed Rank,	William M. Wilson, John Robertson, Samuel Russell,	Thomas Johnstone, W. G. Crichton, Kenneth McKenzie.
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Commissions were called for, when the clerk read one received from the Synod of our Church in Canada, in favor of the Revs. Duncan Morrison, Duncan McDonald, Gavan M. Lang and Walter Ross.

The Synod then proceeded to the election of Moderator for the ensuing year, when the Rev. Donald McRae, of East and West Branches East River, was unanimously appointed; and, having taken the chair, he briefly addressed the Synod.

The Synod then proceeded to the appointment of a Clerk, when the Rev. P. Keay of St. Andrews' N. B., was reappointed.

The Rev. A. MacLean moved a vote of thanks to the retiring moderator, and requested that the sermon preached before the Synod be published in the *Record*. Agreed.

The following Committees were then appointed.

Committee on Bills, Overtures and Appeals.—Rev. R. J. Cameron, Convener, Rev. T. Duncan, and Messrs. Kennedy and Lindsay.

Committee to arrange for Sabbath Services, Missionary Meeting, &c.—The Synod's Committee on Devotions.

Committee on Presbytery Records.—Rev. J. Anderson Convener; Revs. P. Melville and John McMillan.

Committee on Addresses to the Governor General, and Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.—Revs. T. Duncan and R. McCunn.

Committee to draw up Memorial on the late Rev. Daniel McCurdy.—Revs. J. Campbell and W. McMillan.

HOURS OF MEETING.

It was agreed that these be:—From 11 A. M. to 1 P. M., from 3 P. M. to 5½ P. M., from 7½ P. M., *ad libitum*.

The Rev. Mr. Herdman, Convener of Committee on Devotions, having given in an interim Report, the Rev. Alexander MacLean was appointed to conduct devotional exercises to-morrow morning, and after praise and prayer the Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow at 11 A. M.

SECOND DIET.

The Synod met according to adjournment, and, after devotional exercises, was constituted.

The Synod Roll having been called, the minutes were read and sustained.

CHANGES DURING THE YEAR.

In the Presbytery of Halifax, the Rev. T. W. Wilkins demitted the Charge of Truro, to which the Rev. John McMillan was translated from Musquodoboit, Nov. 28th, 1872.

The Rev. Daniel McCurdy died January 9th, 1873.

In the Presbytery of Miramichi, the Rev. F. R. McDonald of Newcastle, demitted that charge and returned to Scotland.

In the Presbytery of Restigouche, the Rev. Frederic Home demitted the charge of Bathurst.

In the Presbytery of Pictou, the Rev. James McColl has been transferred from De Sable and Orwell, P. E. I., to the charge of Earltown and W. B. River John, and the congregations of Wallace and Pugwash have been disjoined.

The Rev. Mr. Herdman read a letter from Rev. Dr. Brooke, of Fredericton, N. B., explaining his absence from the meeting of Synod, which was sustained.

The Report on the *Monthly Record* was now called for, and submitted by the Rev. J. Campbell, Convener, as follows:—

Your Committee again beg to report concerning the work committed to their care and supervision during another year. They feel that the work is an important one having a very great influence upon the welfare of the Church. The Committee are of opinion that in turning to the different congregations they can point out generally those specially zealous and active in the service of the Lord as those among whose members the *Record* circulates most largely. Upon this point the Committee do not claim the full credit to themselves, for it is partly owing to the fact that the work is vigorously carried on in other departments that the circulation of the *Record* assumes an extended dimension. But the Committee claim that they have helped such congregations into their present condition of efficiency. Hereupon they found their claim to the cooperation and assistance of the Ministers and Elders of the Church. It is therefore the sanguine hope of the Committee that in future those interested in the welfare of the Church, whether clergymen or laymen, will use every endeavour to have the circulation of the *Record* increased. And the Committee humbly submit that no minister of the Church should rest till the *Record* is in the hand of every communicant, and that no elder of the Church should rest till it is in the hand of every adherent in his district. Were this once accomplished, your Committee would then consider that the *Record* was accomplishing its purpose, and in accomplishing the same they solicit as already stated, the cooperation of every member of the Church.

Your Committee very much regret that after an injunction of this Court, passed in St. John to the effect that Presbyteries publish the minutes of every meeting held, only three Presbyteries have done so. The Committee regret this, seeing that that it is only in this way that the work of the church can become generally known.

It has been the anxious desire of the Committee through the Editor to notice the events which from time to time transpired in the Church. To what extent they have succeeded in this they leave the Church to judge. This much, however, they would state, that no event of importance has transpired in the Church without being noticed in the *Record*. The Committee would urge upon the Church the necessity of keeping up regular communication with the Editor; as it is known to them that many important facts during the year took place of which no notice was given him for insertion, and consequently they might have escaped notice altogether.

To all who have given assistance by communications and otherwise, your Committee tender their thanks. To the Agents, whose labours have been abundant and successful, very great obligations are hereby acknowledged.

At the solicitation of many well-wishers of the *Record*, several sermons, original or selected, have been published, and in future, as occasion shall permit, the same course will be followed.

All which is respectfully submitted in the name of the Committee.

JOHN CAMPBELL, Convener.

Mr. Campbell tendered his resignation, and asked that a Committee be appointed to consider the matter. The Synod appointed the Moderator, the Rev. Messrs. Grant, Fraser, and Cameron, with Messrs. Finlay and Kennedy.

The Report of the Juvenile Orphanage Scheme, as prepared by the Rev. Dr. Brooke was read by the Rev. T. Duncan. The Report was received and remitted to the Sabbath School Committee.

The Rev. T. Duncan read the acknowledgments of the Address which had, by authority of the Synod, last year been prepared and transmitted to Her Majesty the Queen, on the recovery of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales; and also

of the address which had been presented to the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island.

The Report of the Committee on Statistics was now called for and given in. The Rev. Mr. Anderson moved the adoption of the Report, and the discharge of the Committee.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, it was resolved to defer further consideration of this matter till the afternoon meeting.

On resuming in the afternoon consideration of the subject of *Monthly Record*, the Moderator having reported the results of conference with the Convener, the following Resolution was agreed to:—

“That the Reports of the Convener and Secretary of the *Monthly Record* be approved and the Committee commended for their diligence, the editorial staff continued for the next year, and the thanks of the Synod given to the Convener. The Synod desires to express its satisfaction that the circulation of the *Record* continues to increase, and would earnestly recommend Sessions to take oversight of this matter, that the circulation be increased still further. With reference to the recommendations in the Reports the Synod authorizes the Committee to carry them out when they see fit; and requests Mr. Campbell to accept from the Funds at the credit of the *Record*, fifty dollars, as a small token of appreciation of his services. The Synod appoints the Rev. Mr. Pollok to edit the *Record* during the ensuing year—the Rev. Mr. Grant to manage it in his absence.”

The consideration of the Report of the Committee on Statistics was now resumed when it was moved, and seconded, that the Report be received and adopted, the thanks of the Synod given to the Convener for his diligence, and the Committee discharged.

To this it was moved in amendment, that the Report of the Committee be approved, and, as several of the brethren have not received the circulars in time, that further time be granted for completing the Report, in order to be published in the August number of the *Record*. The vote of the Synod being taken, the motion was carried, and the Committee discharged accordingly.

The Report of the Home Mission Board was now called for, and given in by the Rev. G. M. Grant, Convener, as follows:—

Our Report this year is a discouraging one, on almost every side but the financial; and, even on that side, it is only encouraging as showing what we could do. In 1868, when the Board was constituted, the Synod contained 31 ministers. In 1873, it contains 32, showing a rate of progress sufficiently slow to satisfy the most cautious. We have now eight vacancies, besides fields that have never been regularly occupied by us, but that are calling loudly for supply. As one of the vacancies is attended to, for the present, by a Catechist, and we have one Missionary under the authority of the Board, our immediate necessity is for at least six ministers, three Gaelic and three English-speaking.

During the past year, the Board did little, as it had little to do. As bricks cannot be made without straw, neither can Home Missions be carried on without labourers. The labourers needed are of two kinds, Licentiates, and Divinity Students to act for half the year as Catechists. A glance at our present position is enough to show how unlikely we are to get many of either kind. (1) Licentiates will be either Scottish ministers, or our own young men who have studied in Divinity abroad. It is evident that the supply of Scottish ministers for the colonies is well nigh exhausted. It was shown at the last meeting of the General Assembly that the number now in attendance at the various Halls in Scotland is insufficient for home needs. How then can we reasonably hope to levy a contribution for colonies that are known to be old and intelligent enough, and supposed to be religious enough, to educate a native ministry for their own needs. Scottish licentiates, filled with the missionary spirit, will, as a rule, in such circumstances, prefer to go the heathen. Very thankful are we that not a few have come to us in the past. Had they not come, we would not have been in existence as a church. But the times are changing, and wise men should see and prepare for the changed circumstances. Then, as to our own young men who study abroad, we must always expect, in future, a repetition of the mortifying disappointments of the past. At last Synod, the Young Mens' Bursary Committee reported that one, whom they had assisted in his studies, at the rate of \$100 a year,

had completed his curriculum, and was awaiting license and ordination to return to his native Province. The Board learning this, appointed that he should labour in his native county and Presbytery on his return; but they are now informed that he, having studied latterly at Princeton, has remained hitherto in the United States, though he still expresses his intention to return. He is only doing what others did before him; and, as a young man's sympathies are apt to become identified with the country where he studies, and forms the first friendships of his life, such conduct is not to be much wondered at. But a few such failures, when our supply is, at the best, small, make all the difference between growth and stationariness to so small a church as ours. And even when young men faithfully carry out the letter of their engagements, and return—but unwillingly, or for a term of three or four years, they cannot be of much value to the church. A church must have ministers who cast in their lot with the people, and who are willing to make the country their home, if it is to prosper and strike its roots deep in the soil. (2) As to Divinity Students to act as catechists, we have never had any, because they all study far away from us. The Board has, therefore, ventured to engage two Gaelic-speaking Students in Arts to labour in Cape Breton, and their success and acceptance with the people is sufficient to show the value of such agency.

All these facts and views were considered by the Board at its annual meeting in Charlottetown, in 1872; and, there being then unanimity of sentiment, both as to the evil and as to the best practical remedy, the attention of the Synod was called to the subject. The Synod then declared it to be "expedient that the young men who study in our bounds, with a view to the ministry of our church, should be enabled to prosecute their studies in Divinity also in our midst; instructed their clerk to bring this deliverance before the notice of the Presbyteries of the church, and ascertain, for the information of the Synod at its next meeting, what amount could probably be depended on from each for such a scheme; empowered the H. M. Board to correspond with the Colonial Committee on the same subject, to ascertain if an annual grant could be obtained to carry it out efficiently; and requested the Board to specially consider the whole subject of Theological Education during the ensuing year." In consequence of this deliverance, the subject was very fully discussed at the semi-annual meeting of the Board last December. The Convener again proposed the plan of co-operating with the P. C. L. P. in carrying on a Hall at Halifax, according to the same principles which have resulted so satisfactorily in the Faculty of Arts in the same city; but the other members of the Board present deemed the project inadvisable in the meantime; and that it would be better to work more energetically the Young Mens' Scheme. This being the opinion of influential members of the Board, it would have been a waste of time to have taken any other of the steps recommended by the Synod, and so the whole subject dropped, and we are now in the position, understood even by recruits, of "as you were."

The only Missionary who came to our field during the past year was the Rev. John M. Sutherland, who studied at Dalhousie College in Arts, and at Glasgow University in Divinity. The Board appointed him for the first three months to Halifax Presbytery, with the understanding that he should thereafter proceed to Broad Cove, C. B. Intimation was accordingly sent in February to the Chairman of Trustees of Broad Cove congregation, that Mr. Sutherland would be with them in May; but a letter came in reply that the congregation, not knowing that there was a likelihood of our sending them a minister, had, in December last, engaged half the services of a neighbouring Free Church minister for a twelve month. In the meantime, a request came from Pictou Presbytery for Mr. Sutherland's services for a few weeks for Pugwash, and also a request from Bathurst, N. B., for a minister. Mr. Sutherland was accordingly sent to Pugwash in May, and to Bathurst in June. He is the sole Missionary at the disposal of the Board; and, as two or three calls are awaiting him, he is not likely to be at our disposal long.

With respect to funds for Home Mission purposes, they come from three sources,—the Colonial Committee, the collection enjoined by the Synod, and Presbytery subscriptions. The Board deals only with the first two, though it reports to the Synod the amount raised in the third way, so that a fair exhibit may be given of what our people do.

As to the sum drawn by us from the Colonial Committee, for the year ending 1st August, 1873, it is \$1,020, or £210 stg. The year previous, it was £319 and five years ago £1308. Any one who glances at the subjoined tables can see that, if all sections of the church obeyed the injunctions of the Synod, and co-operated heartily in the

common cause, not only would we be self sustaining, but that we could easily go forward to undertake a larger measure of Home Mission work, both in church extension and in supplementing the stipends of the ministry. In this country, if a church would succeed, it must cast itself on the people. When we were drawing very large sums from the mother church, the stipends were smaller than they are now. The people instinctively felt that they were not expected to do much. The sinews of exertion were cut, and we were helpless as a church. At present, the average stipend of our Synod is higher than in any other body in the Maritime Provinces. Not that it is what it ought to be. The minimum should be \$1,000; and, I believe, that point could easily be attained, were a hearty and unanimous effort made.

As to the Church-door collection enjoined by Synod, we asked last year for \$1,000. Twenty-three congregations have given over \$600 of that amount. The remaining seventeen congregations have given—nothing. Only in one Presbytery has every congregation respected itself and its supreme judicatory sufficiently to make the collection. It would be presumptuous to say one word to congregations so wonderfully constituted, as to remain in connection with a Synod, appoint collections by its representatives, and then go and do—otherwise. No church enjoins so few collections as ours. In no church is so little said about the amount given by congregations respectively. All that is asked is, that the people should have an opportunity of contributing. But that, it seems, is asking too much.

With regard to the third source, the Synod, last year, expressly enjoined upon all Presbyteries the introduction of collecting cards for Presbytery Home Missions, for the purpose of raising the desired amount necessary for independence. The subjoined table shows in what cases this has been done, and with what results, and in what cases it has not been done. Those Presbyteries that are independent of outside aid, and that have no supplemented charges, may deem it unnecessary to work such a scheme. But if they would take a leaf from the example of other Presbyteries, they would see that it is a good thing to have such an organization in their midst, were it only that, when they take a step forward for church extension, or ask for a missionary, they may be in funds to meet the preliminary expenses. However, there is not a single Presbytery without supplemented congregations, or in which there is not a fine field for extension.

The Convener received, last month, a letter from Rev. S. McGregor, of Victoria, Vancouver's Island, asking us to co-operate with the church in the Upper Provinces in sending a missionary to the Pacific coast. The letter was published in the *June Record*; and, if the Synod can see its way to do anything in the matter, the Board will be happy to carry out its wishes, as far as possible.

All which is respectfully submitted by

GEORGE M. GRANT, Convener H. M. Board.

In handing in this Report, the Convener tenders his own resignation of the responsible office he has held for five years. It is well that such an office should be held by different men in different quarters of the church, that a wider interest may be taken in the work. G. M. G.

Accounts of the Home Mission Board for 1872-73.

TABLE No. I.

Amounts raised for Home Missions in the Synod of the Maritime Provinces from June 30th 1872, to June 25th, 1873.

I.—PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.

	<i>Synod's Home Miss.</i>	<i>Presby. H. M.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1 St. Matthew's, Halifax.....	\$93 00	\$607 86	\$700 86
2 St. Andrew's, Halifax.....	24 00	117 52	141 52
3 Richmond, N. W. Arm and Goodwood.....	10 00	64 75	74 75
4 Truro.....	7 36	151 58	158 94
5 Little River, Musquodoboit.....	6 34	18 24	24 58
6 St. John's, Newfoundland.....	20 00	.....	20 00
Total.....	\$160 70	\$959 95	\$1120 65

II.—PICTOU PRESBYTERY.

	<i>Synod's Home Miss.</i>	<i>Presby. H. M.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1 Pictou.....	\$44 76	\$ 33 08	\$ 77 84
2 New Glasgow.....			
3 W. and E. Branch East River.....	44 85	46 18	91 03
4 Albion Mines and Westville.....	20 00		20 00
5 McLennan's Mountain.....	13 07	1 55	14 62
6 Barney's River and Lochaber.....	4 64	32 45	37 09
7 Gairloch.....			
8 Saltsprings.....	5 75		5 75
9 Roger's Hill and Cape John.....	14 84		14 84
10 West Branch River John and Earltown.....	10 06	15 86	25 92
11 River John and Tatamagouche.....		4 14	4 14
12 Wallace.....			
13 Pugwash.....		20 00	20 00
14 Broad Cove, C. B.....			
15 River Inhabitants, &c., C. B.....	14 95		14 95
Pictou Island.....		8 00	8 00
Total.....	\$172 92	\$161 26	\$334 18

III.—P. E. ISLAND PRESBYTERY.

1 Charlottetown.....		\$100 00	\$100 00
2 Georgetown, Cardigan and Montague.....	\$13 31		13 31
3 Belfast.....		20 00	20 00
4 St. Peter's and Brackley Point Roads.....	7 74		7 74
5 DeSable, &c.....			
Total.....	\$21 05	\$120 00	\$141 05

IV.—ST. JOHN PRESBYTERY.

1 St. Andrew's, St. John.....	\$83 19	\$200 45	\$283 64
2 New St. Stephen's, St. John.....	25 00	75 00	100 00
3 Fredericton.....		16 00	16 00
4 Nashwaak and Stanley.....		10 00	10 00
5 Woodstock.....	15 00		15 00
6 St. Andrew's.....		24 72	24 72
Total.....	\$123 19	\$326 17	\$449 36

V.—MIRAMICHI PRESBYTERY.

1 Chatham.....	\$22 00		\$ 22 00
2 Newcastle.....			
3 Tabusintac and Burnt Church.....			
4 Black River and Red Bank.....			
Total.....	\$22 00		\$22 00

VI.—RESTIGOUCHIE, N. B., PRESBYTERY.

1 Bathurst.....	\$10 00		\$ 10 00
2 Dalhousie.....	20 04	\$ 95 00	115 00
3 Campbelton.....			
4 New Richmond.....			
Total.....	\$30 00	\$ 95 00	\$125 00
Received by Convener at last meeting.....	46 64		
From Joseph Hart, Baddeck.....	5 00		
One tithe of ann. Sup. from supplemented Minister.....	25 00		
Totals from all sources.....	\$66 50	\$1662 38	\$2268 88

TABLE II.

Supplements from and after 1st August, 1872, to 1st August, 1873, from Colonial Committee and Synod's Home Mission.

	$\frac{1}{2}$ year ending 1st Feb., '73.	$\frac{1}{2}$ year ending 1st Aug., '73.	Total.
1 Rev. Daniel McCurdy	\$50 00	.....	\$50 00
2 Rev. John Moffat	50 00	.....	50 00
3 McLennan's Mountain	60 00	\$20 00	80 00
4 River John	40 00	40 00	80 00
5 Wallace	60 00	.....	60 00
6 Westville (Building Grant) .....	.....	243 00	243 00
7 Nashwaak and Stanley	80 00	80 00	160 00
8 St. Andrew's, N. B.	80 00	80 00	160 00
9 Woodstock	120 00	123 00	243 00
10 Black River and Red Bank	50 00	50 00	100 00
11 T. Busintac, &c.	120 00	80 00	200 00
12 Dalhousie .....	.....	26 00	26 00
13 Mr. John McLean, Catechist... ..	.....	100 00	100 00
14 Mr. George L. Gordon.....	.....	150 00	150 00
Printing Collecting-books .....	.....	7 00	7 00
Total	\$710 00	\$999 00	\$1709 00

After much consideration of the Report the following resolution was agreed to:—

“ That the Report of the Home Mission Board for 1872-73 be adopted, and that the thanks of the Synod be conveyed to the Board for its diligence, and especially to the Convener for his continued interest in and zealous attention to the important work entrusted to him during the past year.

The Synod rejoices that the Board is able to report a still further diminution of the expenditure of the Colonial Committee on account of our Home Missions, the amount being £210 sterling, for the year ending 1st August, 1873, as against £319 sterling for 1872, and £1308 sterling for 1868; and, with the hope that the position of independence may soon be reached, again enjoins upon all Presbyteries the introduction of collecting cards for Presbytery Home Missions, and again calls the attention of Congregations to the duty of taking Church door collections for the Synod Home Mission, which duty was neglected by no less than 17 congregations during the past year.

The Synod also rejoices to learn of the arrival of a Missionary since last meeting, and approves of the disposal of his services made by the Board; and also that two Gaelic-speaking catechists are labouring with acceptance in Cape Breton; but deeply regrets that the number of vacancies is so great, that the labourers are so few, and that the Board cannot hold out the hope at present of any considerable increase to the number.

In consideration of the great want of ministers and students in Divinity to supply our many vacancies, the Synod resolves,

First, That Kirk-Sessions appoint a special day to be set apart for prayer to “the Lord of the Harvest,” as well as for special appeal to the people.

Secondly, That Kirk-Sessions be enjoined to bring specially before the minds of young men in the Churches under their care, who may manifest such spiritual and intellectual gifts as seem to fit them for the work of the ministry, the duty of devoting themselves to that work.

Thirdly, That the Moderator be requested to prepare for the benefit of our congregations a Pastoral Address on this all important subject.

The Synod, believing that the great success that has attended this scheme since 1868 is mainly due to the unwearied efforts of the Rev. Geo. M. Grant, deeply regrets that he has felt it his duty to resign his position as Convener of the Board, but reluctantly accepts his resignation, and appoints the following Board: Rev. R. J. Cameron, Convener; Revs. D. Macrae and Alexander Maclean, Vice-Conveners; Revs. G. M. Grant, John McMillan, John Campbell, William McMillan, Charles Dunn, George J. Caie, Wm. Murray, William Wilson, Neil Brodie; Matthew Lindsay, Roderick Ross, and James S. McDonald, Esqs.

Thereafter the thanks of the Synod were most cordially given by the moderator to the Rev. Mr. Grant; and the Rev. Mr. Herdman was requested to offer prayer for the increase of laborers in the work of the ministry.

The Dalhousie College Endowment Report was now called for and given in by J. J. Bremner, Esq.

ASSETS OF DALHOUSIE COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND.

Montreal City Bonds.....	\$14000	00
Mortgages in City of Halifax, \$5600 old cy.....	5450	67
Loaned Trustees North West Arm Church, \$516.64 old cy.....	502	86
Cash on hand.....		76 79
Interest over due on mortgage.....	\$110	96
Do. receivable by 1st Nov., at which time the Professor's half year's salary will be payable.....	502	73
	\$613	69
Less Professor's 6 months salary, due 1st Nov.....	600	00
		13 69
		\$20,044 01

E. E.

HALIFAX, N. S., 24th June, 1873.

Amount Assets as above.....	\$20,044	01
Do. this time last year.....	20,042	56
Increase.....	\$	1 45

The Report was received and adopted, and the thanks of the Synod given to Mr. Bremner for his services.

The Report of the Synod's Committee on Union was next called for, and read by the Moderator as follows:—

REPORT OF THE UNION COMMITTEE.

In the absence of the Convener of this Committee, the Rev. A. Pollok, Mr. MacRae, as Vice Convener, having been present at the late meeting held in St. John, N. B., during the 11th of April, 1873, and succeeding days, begs to submit the following Report.

On referring to the Minute of last year's Synod on the subject of Union among the Presbyterian Churches of the Dominion, it will be observed that a Resolution was adopted expressing the unabated desire of your Court for Union, but deeming it unnecessary in view of recent decisions arrived at in the Supreme Courts of other Churches to enter on the consideration of the Articles of the proposed Basis as then reported.

At the same time the Committee was reappointed with instructions to confer with such Committees as might be appointed by other churches, and otherwise endeavour to promote re-union.

In point of fact, at the close of last year's meeting of Synod, the negotiations for Union were believed to be at an end in consequence of the action of the Canada Presbyterian Church with reference to the headship of Christ.

A Conference was, however, held at Montreal, on the 26th day of December, 1872, and succeeding days, between the Committees of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland and the Committees of the Canada Presbyterian Church at which such an understanding was arrived at in regard to the Headship Question, and other matters at issue between the two negotiating Churches, as induced them to renew proposals for a general meeting of the Committees of the four negotiating Churches with suggestion that the place of assembly should be St. John, N. B.

To these proposals the members of your Committee, and of the Committee of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces assented, on requisition from their respective Conveners, and accordingly the four Committees met at St. John, N. B., on the 11th of April, and following days of the present year.

As copies of the proceedings held during the several days of meeting—of which, also an attested copy is in our hands—have been circulated among the members of the Court your Committee deem it unnecessary to refer to those proceedings at length. It will be observed that the Basis of Union adopted by the Joint Committee at its meeting in 1871, was passed unaltered.

On all other points which occasioned some measure of controversy, the Joint Committee was enabled to arrive at unanimous deliverances; nor is your Committee

aware that any of these deliverances is of a nature demanding special notice or likely to occasion debate in your Court.

Your Committee has learned with great satisfaction, that, in the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, it was unanimously resolved at their late meeting to adopt the Basis and appended Resolutions without alteration, and to transmit them without delay for consideration by Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions in the firm hope, that, on their anticipated adoption in these Courts, the way may be fully cleared for the final settlement of the question, at the close, at farthest, of another year.

In the Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church, the same determination was arrived at, by so preponderating a majority, that that body has resolved upon a similar course of proceedings. In fact, Dr. Topp, of Toronto, writes to say, that "the Union feeling is stronger with us than in any former year. Indeed," he adds, "in this Western Province the matter is regarded as settled." As might be expected, therefore, he says, "It would help the cause greatly if you of the Lower Provinces should be able in like manner to carry through your Synods the Basis and deliverances without change, to be sent down to Presbyteries, Sessions and congregations before next meeting of Synod."

In the Upper Provinces, both Courts are so sanguine of the result that they are both to meet at Ottawa next year for the convenience of adjusting anything that may require negotiation.

It remains for your Synod to adopt such deliverances in connection with the whole subject as may be deemed advisable. But your Committee cannot close their Report without expressing the hope that, by the Divine blessing, your deliberations may be characterized by unanimity, and be such as may tend to the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

It was resolved that the consideration of this Report be deferred till to-morrow.

The Report of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund was now given in verbally by J. J. Bremner, Esq., who also explained the financial and other features of the Scheme. Whereupon it was moved and agreed to "that the Report be received and adopted, and the thanks of the Synod be given to the Convener. The Synod regrets to learn, that only \$4400 of the \$8000 necessary for the nucleus of the Fund, has been subscribed, as far as reported to the Convener; but is glad to learn that considerable sums have been subscribed and paid in, especially in the Presbytery of Pictou that have not yet been reported; urges upon Presbyteries the necessity of using exertions in order to have the \$8000 subscribed before next Synod, and paid in to the Central Treasurer by September, 1874, in order that the Synod may be in a position at its next meeting, to decide both as to the relationship of the Fund to similar Funds in the sister churches, as to the amount of ministerial payments required, and as to the scale of payments to widows and orphans."

The Rev. Duncan McDonald of East Nottawasaga, Ontario, and the Rev. Walter Ross, of Beckwith, Ontario, delegates from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, having entered the Court were cordially welcomed by the moderator in name of the Synod, and their names were added to the Roll and Sederunt.

With regard to the investment of the Funds of the Widows' and Orphans' Scheme, it was left entirely in the hands of the Central Committee.

The Rev. J. Fraser Campbell was appointed to conduct devotional exercises in the morning, and after praise and prayer the Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow, (D. V.) at 11 A. M.

THIRD DIET.

The Synod met according to adjournment, and after devotional exercises was constituted. The Roll was called and the minutes read and sustained.

The Committee on Bills, Overtures and Appeals reported that they had before them an appeal from the Presbytery of Halifax, and recommended that it be submitted in the first instance to a sub-committee of Court. The request of the Committee was granted.

The Foreign Mission Report was called for and submitted by the Rev. Alex. MacLean, Convener, as follows:—

FOREIGN MISSION REPORT.

Your Committee have to report with deep thankfulness to God that by His good hand on your weak and infant mission it has been preserved from danger during the past year, and continues to represent our Church among the perishing natives of the South Sea Islands. While thankful that no tidings of disaster have reached us, yet your Committee are not privileged to report very gratifying results in the labours of your Missionaries. In the large and interesting Island of Santo, your Missionary has had many and sore difficulties to encounter, arising both from the very degraded state of the natives, and the disgraceful doings of traders visiting the Island, and to these difficulties has been added much affliction in his own family, proceeding it is to be feared, from the unhealthy character of the Island. From the reports conveyed by Mr. Goodwill's letters, he has had, it is evident many and trying discouragements, which required resolute determination on his part not to abandon the station.

In the Foreign Mission field difficulties of various kinds are indeed always to be anticipated, and while reports of these difficulties sometimes take us by surprise, and tend to dishearten, they are all known and provided for by Him who left with us the solemn command, "Go ye and preach the Gospel to every creature." The most degraded and savage are embraced in this command, and in virtue of it we are assured that the darkest of heathen islands shall yet bask in the full flood of celestial light, and be enriched with the blessings of peace, love and joy in the Holy Ghost.

The present dark and miserable Santo will not be an exception. In the degraded forms of its inhabitants, now almost on a level with brute beasts, there dwell precious never-dying spirits dear in the sight of God, and when we labour for the salvation of these souls, and employ the means our Lord has enjoined, we are doing His will and the result we must be content to leave in His hands. We are responsible only for the means we use and the motive and spirit with which we use them. Your Committee regret not having more particular information regarding the labours of your Missionary. They are anxious to believe that so far as strength and his opportunities permit, he has employed, and continues to employ all possible means to promote the great object to which he has been solemnly devoted. It would be gratifying to learn that efforts were being made, by forming classes, or in some such way to instruct as many as possible of young and old in the knowledge of the one living God and Saviour. To what extent such means are employed, and with what measure of success, your Committee have not, as yet, been put in possession of definite information.

In the providence of God, your other Missionary Mr. Robertson, has been appointed to and is now labouring on the island of Erromango, which, above all the others, stands prominently distinguished, as the scene of cruelty and bloodshed. There several of Christ's devoted servants fell by the hand of violence. There are laid the remains of the devoted Williams, and of the two equally devoted Gordons. This blood-stained Erromanga has now fallen to our share, and our young Missionary has taken hold of the banner, which fell with the two noble pioneers, who preceded him. We might have arranged otherwise for him had we the selection, and we might prefer to see him enter on his labours on some other island, the past history of which had not been so associated with treacherous cruelty, but as the selection was not in our hands, and as we believe that the selection was made from the noble spirit which bids the soldier of the cross not retreat when the enemy gains an apparent advantage, but on the contrary to press forward, endure hardships, and in spite of dark hours and many disappointed hopes to trust the promise given and believe the victory sure. Believing this it is right to acquiesce in the arrangement, and to feel that it might be wrong to wish it otherwise. When the loyal soldiers of the Queen meet the enemy

on the battle-field, as the comrades on the front are falling, their fellows in the rear step forward and take their place. There is then but one feeling. It would be cowardly to retreat. The blood of the fallen arms the living with the courage and the strength of heroes, and renders even the weakest capable of noble deeds. Should it, then, be thought strange, or risking too much, to act a similar part, when the conflict is with the powers of darkness, and when Christ is the Captain, whose standard is visible on the battle field? Again and again, on the shores of Erromanga, has the standard of the cross been thrown down and the voice of the bearer been silenced by the enemy's hand; and, doubtless, shouts of fiendish triumph followed the bloody and tragic scene. But with what feelings should the friends of Christ witness all this? There are here disappointed hopes—there is here a terrible cutting down of the front rank, the foe has seized the standard. Shall he be permitted to retain that hold, and boast that the victory is gained, that Christ's cause is beaten, and that the great Prince of the Kings of the earth is, for once at least, compelled to retreat before the powers of darkness, and that Erromanga is now, and shall continue, his?

To desert that dark region, to hesitate one day in supplying the place of the fallen missionaries, would be to admit doubts of the result to which the word of Christ is pledged—doubts whether the strong walls can be thrown down by such means as the great Ruler of Heaven has directed us to employ, and doubts, too, whether the presence of Christ, expressly and plainly promised, shall be sufficient to secure the life and labours of His servants. While God has work for your Missionary to do, he is as safe and secure, amid the wilds of Erromanga, as in his own native land.

Your Committee feel that, as a church, we have reason to feel gratified that our young and devoted Missionary has been selected to this the most interesting of the islands. And if, in answer to his and our earnest prayers, our gracious Lord make his labours successful to the overthrow of Satan's power in that region of darkness, we know there shall be rejoicing before the angels of God; and shall there not be joy, too, throughout every dwelling in our church, and shall not the arrangement which consigned that island to our hands, form the brightest paragraph of her history, which, in coming ages, our children's children shall be privileged to read. It is no presumption to hope that this shall be so. We are weak, and our agency is very weak, and the stronghold is fortified by all the power of the enemy, but our Lord tells us on what to ground our hopes of obtaining the desired success—"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord." If our Missionaries in Erromanga and Santo, and if we, in our comfortable homes here, unite with them in fixing our eyes steadily on these words from heaven, written by God Himself on the Banner of every missionary enterprise,—and if our prayers of faith ascend in the spirit which they inculcate, then success is most certain, and our reward shall be sure and glorious.

Your Committee cannot but refer, and they do so with feelings of deep regret, to the loss sustained by the sister church—and not by that church alone, but by all the friends of missions—in the death of the distinguished Missionary, Dr. Geddie. While engaged, with all the earnestness of a heart devoted to the one great object of his life, and while the prospect of many years of usefulness lay before him, his gracious Master, whom he so faithfully served, saw it well to end his labours, and to call him to his rest. He has left to us and to all the friends of Christ a rich legacy in the history of his devoted life and labours. We see the worn out and feeble frame exhausted in the noblest of services, and by the eye of faith, we can see the aged veteran of the cross enter the portals of the Zion above, to receive the gladdening welcome, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord," and to meet among the redeemed, a multitude delivered by his instrumentality from the lowest depths of brutal vice, and now robed with heavenly beauty, moving in company with saints and angels. Alone he left his native land and home hardly knowing whither he went, until, by the guidance of God's Providence, he stood solitary and apparently helpless among the savages of Aneiteum. What could be more hopeless than the enterprise in the wisdom of the world? But the feeble Missionary held a promise in his hand. "I will be with thee always, even to the end of the world." That promise encompassed him with strength, before which every difficulty gave way and secured to him the rich reward of beholding, ere his labours closed, the multitudes of Aneiteum received into the fold of Christ. The life of the beloved Geddie adds one more striking proof to the many which the records of the Church supply, that there is nothing really risked when all is risked on any promise given by Christ. There can be no rashness here. To the full length and breadth of that promise we can go, and the ground is as sure as the very Throne of God. His friends saw much danger in the enterprise, and many felt that the risk was too great, but the issue put all their reasoning to shame.

The blessings of this world were liberally secured to him and his, in happiness and peace his last days glided by, and his honoured name will descend to coming ages, enrolled in the list of worthies who shall be held in everlasting remembrance.

Your Committee rejoice in being permitted to report that the collections of the year, now closed, manifest an increased interest in the Scheme, on the part of our congregations and a liberality in its support, which is steadily growing. While as a Church, we were only thinking of the Foreign Mission, the difficulties seemed insurmountable. How could we raise the funds requisite for sending and sustaining one missionary? That difficulty has been satisfactorily solved. Funds have been gathered into our hands beyond what we deemed were possible. We found ourselves soon in a position to send a second Missionary, and with as little difficulty we could send a third and a fourth. Just as our thoughts, and the thoughts of our people dwell on the duty and the privilege of labouring to share the blessings of the Gospel with our perishing brethren, will our funds enlarge. The difficulty most formidable in the future of Foreign Missions is in the want of willing and devoted labourers for the field, and the attention of the Church cannot be too earnestly directed to this. Means should be adopted by which *special aid* could be given to such young men, as manifest an earnest desire to devote themselves to this great work. But above all it must be remembered that if we truly desire to see the labourers increased, we must make it the object of continued supplication. "The harvest truly is great but the labourers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." In our secret closets, around the family altar, at the stated prayer meeting, and when assembled in God's own House of prayer, the gracious command here given should be for ever present in our spirits, for the salvation of myriads is suspended upon it.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. MACLEAN.

Whereupon it was moved and agreed to, "That the Report be received and adopted, the Committee's diligence commended, and the thanks of the Synod conveyed to them, especially to the convener; that the Synod rejoice at the interest manifested by the congregations in this Scheme, and at the very gratifying state of its finances. Sympathize with our missionaries in their great difficulties, and especially with Mr. Goodwill in his trying family affliction, and pray that by God's blessing on faithful labour, much fruit may rejoice their hearts. That the Synod express its interest in the fact that our Missionary, Mr. Robertson has been appointed to labor in Erromanga, stained already with the blood of martyrs, and still a post of great danger, and commend him to the special prayer of the Church. That the Synod record its sympathies with the sister Church in the heavy loss sustained, not only by that Church, but by ourselves and the church universal in the death of Dr. Geddie. That the Synod regret that the labourers in the field are so few; and enjoin on Kirk-Sessions to bring frequently before the minds of parents, and the young, their duty and privilege in this matter; authorize the Committee to aid in obtaining the necessary education for such young men as desire to devote themselves to this work, and whose circumstances render help requisite. Finally commend the Committee and their work to the sympathy and earnest prayers of the Church, and especially recommend the families of the Church to make special prayer on behalf of our missionaries on some day of the week fixed by them for the purpose."

After consideration of the Report, the Moderator requested the Rev. Geo. M. Grant to offer prayer on behalf of our missionaries and their labours.

The Rev. William McMillan, Convener of the Committee on the Young Mens' Scheme, gave in the Report as follows:—

REPORT ON THE YOUNG MENS' BURSARY FUND.

Your Committee, in submitting their Report, do so under a deep sense of gratitude to the great Head of the church, for the measure of success with which He has crowned their efforts during the past year, notwithstanding discouragements and disappointments. Our congregations are, year by year, becoming more and more convinced of the importance of a native ministry, and manifest increasing liberality in

support of this scheme. Young men of piety and ability, though comparatively few, respond to the appeals on behalf of the ministry; and, one by one of those aided by your scheme, though at somewhat discouraging intervals, return to add to the strength and efficiency of the ministry in the Province of the people.

During the past year, Mr. J. M. Sutherland, having successfully completed his studies and graduated with honors, returned to his native land; and, under the direction of the Home Mission Board, has been laboring with acceptance and success in our vacant congregations, in proof of which he has a call from each of the two congregations of Musquodoboit and Pugwash to become their pastor. In another year, it is to be hoped that Mr. George Murray will be in the field, fully equipped for the work.

With reference to Mr. D. K. Campbell, who, it was expected, would be in the field six months ago, your Committee regret to state that, although his studies were completed some time ago, he has not yet returned, for reasons not given to the Committee.

In addition to those already assisted by the Young Men's Board, Daniel Sutherland, of Malagash, Cumberland, and Daniel McKenzie, Loch Lomond, having been highly recommended by their respective pastors, were, on examination as to their motives and knowledge, &c., admitted to the benefits of your scheme.

Three of those receiving aid were absent from their classes during the last winter, two of whom gave no reasons to the Convener; the third expressed a desire, owing to his particular circumstances, for a year's delay, stating that (D. V.) he will be in a position to resume his studies this winter.

As to the financial condition of the scheme, your Committee have much pleasure in reporting that the funds compare very favorably with any past year. True, there has not been such a drain on them as in some years; but the fact is worthy of notice, that the importance and necessity of the scheme is very generally recognized, in that a large number of our congregations has made collections for it. This fact is all the more cheering because it shows that discouragements and disappointments produce little effect in dampening the zeal or checking the liberality.

As the balance in hand is \$727.50, to which may be added \$25.20, collections received too late to appear in the Treasurer's account, together with \$100 refunded by Mr. McQuarrie, as a first instalment of his debt due this fund, it will appear evident that, financially, your scheme is in a flourishing condition.

Owing to difficulties, which your Committee have been led to foresee, in the management of the Bursary offered for competition, your Committee recommend that none be offered at present. Your Committee have reasons to believe that the demands on the funds during the ensuing winter will be greater than last winter.

While the Synod has been, and is still, doing a great and good work through this most important scheme, amid considerable discouragements and disappointments, and is gladdened by the return of one after another aided by this scheme, to stand on and help to repair the waste places of our Zion, there yet remains much to be done, before all the vacant charges and mission stations within the Synod's jurisdiction be privileged to have the bread of life broken to them, and the way of life shown them, by stated pastors. Your Committee would, then, earnestly, yet respectfully, urge this Synod to recommend its members to take a deeper interest in directing the attention of parents and congregations to foster and encourage the desire for the ministry in any young men of undoubted piety known to them, until the increase of suitable men becomes commensurate with the increase of contributions. Then, and then only, need this Synod expect to hear from every side that the "harvest truly is great," yet the laborers are neither "few" nor weak.

All which, with the Convener's resignation, is respectfully submitted.

On behalf of the Committee,

(Signed)

WILLIAM McMILLAN, Convener.

P. S.—Since making up the Report, collections have been reported from St. Andrew's Church, Newfoundland, \$12, and from St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, N. B., \$13.20.

W. McM.

THE YOUNG MEN'S BURSARY FUND IN ACCOUNT WITH JAS. HILLOP, TREAS.

1872.		DR.		
June 14.	To Balance...	.....	.....	\$666 76
" 21.	" Cash from St. Paul's Church, Truro	.....	.....	10 00
Aug. 28.	" " McLennan's Mountain	.....	.....	12 26
" "	" " West Branch East River	.....	.....	18 24
" "	" " Cape John	.....	.....	7 71
" "	" " Rogers' Hill	.....	.....	9 03

Aug. 29.	To Cash from	Campbelton, N. B.	....	....	....	\$16 46
" "	" "	Kempt Road, N. B.	....	....	....	7 66
" "	" "	Flat Lands, N. B.	....	....	....	5 88
Sept. 2.	" "	Dalhousie, N. B.	....	....	....	13 00
" "	" "	Fredericton, N. B.	....	....	....	12 00
" 13.	" "	Salt Springs..	....	....	....	17 61
" 16.	" "	St. Andrew's, Pictou	....	....	....	23 80
" 24.	" "	Albion Mines and Westville....	....	....	....	7 70
Oct. 8.	" "	St. Andrew's, N. B.	....	....	....	9 45
" "	" "	Wallace Congregation	....	....	....	10 80
" 16.	" "	Col. at Fourchee, C. B.	....	....	....	1 51
" "	" "	Mrs. Hooper, Fourchee, C. B.	....	....	....	0 48
" "	" "	Loch Lomond, C. B.	....	....	....	4 30
" "	" "	River Inhabitants, C. B.	....	....	....	0 99
" "	" "	2nd col. at West Ray, C. B.	....	....	....	2 74
" "	" "	2nd col. at Port Hastings, C. B.	....	....	....	2 17
" "	" "	Subscriptions, C. B.	....	....	....	0 48
" "	" "	George Lawson Gordon	....	....	....	1 31
Dec. 2.	" "	Joseph Hart, Esq., Baddeck	....	....	....	5 00
" 6.	" "	Brackley Point Road, P. E. I.	....	....	....	4 70
1873.						
Jan. 6.	" "	St. Peter's Road Ch., P. E. I.	....	....	....	4 13
" 13.	" "	Woodstock and Northampton, N. B.	....	....	....	10 53
" 30.	" "	St. Matthew's, Halifax....	....	....	....	52 00
" "	" "	Richmond, N. W. Arm and Goodwood..	....	....	....	10 00
Feb. 26.	" "	DeSable, &c., P. E. I.	....	....	....	22 23
March 5.	" "	St. Andrew's Ch., St. John, N. B.	....	....	....	50 00
April 2.	" "	Musquodoboit, N. S.	....	....	....	7 00
May 14.	" "	Red Bank, N. B.	....	....	....	7 10
" "	" "	Black River, N. B.	....	....	....	6 75
June 9.	" "	Georgetown, P. E. I.	....	....	....	6 25
" 12.	" "	St. James' Ch., Charlottetown	....	....	....	10 00

\$1058 05

June 15. To Balance on hand 727 53

1871.

Cr.

July 3.	By Cash invested	....	....	....	....	\$80 00
	Amount sent to three Students for the ministry	....	....	....	....	250 00
	Postage, &c.	....	....	....	....	0 52
June 15.	Cash on hand....	....	....	....	....	727 53

\$1058 05

Pictou, June 24th, 1873.

E. and O. E.

JAMES HISLOP, Treas.

Having read the report, Mr. McMillan tendered his resignation of the office of Convener.

It was moved and agreed to, "That the Report be received and adopted, its recommendations approved, the Committee's diligence commended, and the thanks of the Synod conveyed to them, and especially to the Convener. That the Synod rejoices at the interest manifested in this Scheme and its consequent healthy financial condition; and that even a few young men are coming forward and giving themselves to the work of the ministry among us of whom one has completed his studies and begun his labours, and another is shortly expected. The Synod reluctantly accepts the resignation of the Rev. W. McMillan, who has for so many years ably acted as Convener for this Scheme, and appoints the following Committee: Rev. J. F. Campbell, Convener; Revs. W. McMillan, W. Stewart, S. Russell, John McMillan, Jas. Murray; and Messrs. J. S. McDonald, J. J. Bremner, and Samuel Archibald."

Reports of Delegates to the Synod of Canada were now given in. The Rev. R. McCunn's Report having been by him forwarded was read by the Clerk, and Messrs. Grant and McMillan, having gone as corresponding members, reported verbally.

The Rev. J. Campbell moved that the thanks of the Synod be given to these members.

The Rev. Mr. Herdman gave in verbally the Report of the Committee on Devotions. At this stage of the proceedings, the Synod engaged in devotional exercises of praise and prayer, the latter being conducted by the Rev. Walter Ross.

The Sabbath School Committee's Report was next read as follows :

In presenting the Report for this year your Committee beg to say with regard to

I. Statistics. That it would be desirable to have accurate information on the topics herein indicated :—

1. The number of Sabbath Schools within the bounds of the Synod ?
2. The number of Scholars. (a) Enrolled. (b) In average attendance
3. The number of those over 15 years of age ?
4. The number of Teachers ?
5. The number of volumes in Libraries ?
6. Monies raised ?
7. How these monies are expended ?
8. What Scheme of Lessons is used ?
9. Is there any Teachers meeting in connection with the School ?
10. Are all the Teachers communicants ? If otherwise, how many are not ?
11. How many from the Sabbath School have become communicants during the year ?

Some of these questions your Committee thought would have been answered in the Statistical Tables for the year, but in seeking for this information among these returns, it was found that only 19 had answered the queries ancient Sabbath Schools, and that four of these were so indefinite as to be of no practical value. Had the Committee been of opinion that answers would not have been sent in to these inquiries, it would have devolved upon them to take such steps as should place within their reach the desired results. It is therefore suggested that the Synod do give instructions to their Committee to collect the information or such portions of it as may seem advisable.

II. In the instructions given last year, the Synod required this Committee to confer "with the Committee of the P. C. L. P. with the view of selecting a Scheme of Lessons which (see *Record*, p. 27) may be recommended for use in the Sabbath Schools of both, and also take measures for the preparation and publication in the *Record* of notes on the lessons for use of Teachers."

It affords your Committee the greatest pleasure to report that through the cordial and hearty cooperation of the Committee of the sister Synod they have been enabled fully to carry out these instructions. The chief points to which they deem it advisable to refer, are these: 1st. That the Scheme of Lessons adopted by the Joint Committee is that known as the "International Series," one which, your Committee are happy to say, has been adopted so generally throughout America; and which in its issue for 1874, has the prospect of very general acceptance in Great Britain, and throughout the several Churches on the continent of Europe. 2nd. The Scheme as adapted for the use of Sabbath Schools within the bounds of the Synod, is published in Halifax with suitable texts to be committed to memory, questions in the Shorter Catechism and doctrines to be proved. The Committee are happy to be informed that the Scheme as prepared has been very generally used by our Sabbath Schools. 3rd. With regard to the notes for the use of the teachers, it has been agreed that each Committee become responsible for two months alternately, and that they should appear in the pages of both *Records*. For the further benefit of Sabbath Schools, the Committee would casually refer to a weekly lesson leaf, prepared in Philadelphia for the use of scholars, and which has been found eminently useful, where it has been introduced.

III. In connection with the interesting Report prepared by the venerable Convener of the Synod's former Committee on Juvenile Foreign Missions, the Committee beg to say that it found from the statistical return, and other information given in Synod, in the great majority of Sabbath Schools within the Synod's bounds, the missionary spirit has been very generally cultivated. The principal objects of this missionary enterprize have hitherto been :—

1st. The Synod's Mission to the South Seas.

2nd. The Orphanage Scheme of the Mother Church.

3rd. The support of the "Dayspring," the mission vessel of the Sister Church.

The Committee strongly recommend that this missionary spirit be carefully fostered among the youth of our Sabbath Schools, it being a recognized fact in this as

in other matters, that as the child is being trained so to a large extent will his after character for good or evil, for liberality or penuriousness, even a giving for religious purposes, be moulded.

Before closing, your Committee would again refer with satisfaction to the efforts made by Sabbath School Unions, and Conventions to encourage and stimulate the teachers in their noble work. Although organized in independence of any particular branch of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, yet the Committee would hail them as very valuable auxiliaries, and would further extend to them that prayerful sympathy which it is within their province to bestow.

In conclusion, your Committee would earnestly and affectionately remind parents and Sabbath School teachers of the gracious assurance given by our Lord to them as much as to the ordained ministry of the Gospel, "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world"; and the further declaration and experience, that "he that goeth forth, weeping" for very consciousness of his own infirmity, and discouraged by the difficulty of his task, "bearing precious seed" of God's truth, yet shall he doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. God's promise must be realized, "My word that goeth forth out of my mouth, shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." The task may, and must in most cases, be arduous, but the promises are fully commensurate with the necessities of the case, and the rewards are beyond all comparison, so much so that even "a cup of cold water given to a disciple in the name of Christ, shall not lose its reward." And our Lord assures us His verdict will be and is now, "Verily, I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my disciples, ye have done it unto me." (Signed)

THOMAS DUNCAN, *Convener.*

The Rev. W. Stewart moved, and it was agreed to—"That the Synod having heard the Report, approve of the same, and thank the Committee for their exertions particularly in providing notes for a uniform Scheme of Lessons.

The Synod is rejoiced to learn that the missionary spirit is so generally cultivated in our Sunday Schools, and would recommend specially the support of any mission vessel that may take the place of the *Dayspring*. The Synod hereby reappoint the Committee, with instructions to continue the work they have commenced, and specially to ascertain the number of Sunday Schools scholars and teachers, in connection with the church; and in how many districts Union Sunday Schools are in existance, and obtain such further information as may seem desirable. The Synod is glad to hear of the Conventions referred to in the Report, and commend these to the Sabbath School teachers of the Church."

The Synod resolved that the consideration of the Sabbath School Scheme and Report be the first subject to-morrow morning.

UNION.

The Rev. Messrs. McDonald and Ross, Delegates from the Synod of Canada, now spoke on the condition of the church in Canada and on the subject of Union. The addresses were listened to with deep interest, and afforded great satisfaction to the Synod; and the Moderator, on motion, conveyed the thanks of the Synod to these gentlemen for their excellent addresses.

On the subject of Union Rev. G. M. Grant moved, and A. Robertson, Esq., seconded, the following resolution:—

"That the Synod having heard the Report of the Union Committee, and having had before it the minutes of the meetings of the Joint Committee during the past year, and the Basis of Union and accompanying resolutions, records its approbation of the action of the Committee, and its satisfaction with the results of the labors of the Joint Committee, while it expresses its thankfulness to the great Head of the Church for the unanimity of sentiment manifested by the negotiating churches. Having accepted the principle of Union, when the negotiations were entered on by the Synod at its meeting in 1869-70, and having adopted the basis in 1870-71, and having expressed its unabated desire for union in 1871-72, the Synod does now cordially accept the basis and accompanying resolutions, as finally agreed upon by the Joint

Committee, and transmits them to Presbyteries, that they may ascertain the mind of the congregations within their bounds, in the course of the present Synodical year, so that at next meeting the Synod may be in a position to take final action on the subject, it being understood that all Presbyteries and congregations not reporting before the meeting in June, 1874, shall be considered as consenting to the well understood mind of the Synod on the subject. The Synod would also record its extreme gratification that the Basis of Union is in accordance with the ancient Standards of the Church of Scotland; and that, at the meeting of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland last month, the Basis and proposed action of the churches in the Dominion were explained by Principal Snodgrass, and cordially approved by the Venerable Court of our Mother Church; and that at the meeting, this month, of the Synod of Old Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, the Basis and resolutions were unanimously adopted, and sent down to Presbyteries and congregations."

A full expression of the mind of the Synod having been given on the whole subject of this resolution, it was most cordially and unanimously passed.

After devotional exercises of praise and prayer by the Rev. Alex. McLean, and appointment of the Rev. Duncan McDonald to conduct the opening exercises of Divine worship to-morrow morning, the Synod adjourned.

FOURTH DIET.

The Synod met according to adjournment, and after devotional exercises conducted by the Rev. Duncan McDonald, was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

The Roll of the Synod was called, and the minutes read and sustained.

The Sabbath School Committee's Report and Resolution thereon were brought up according to appointment, as the first business before the Court, when the Resolution was unanimously agreed to.

The Rev. John McMillan, for the Convener of the Committee on Presbytery Records gave in their Report as follows:—

The Committee appointed to examine Presbytery Records beg to state that they have attended to that duty, and find as follows:—

1st. That the Records of the Presbytery of Pictou are accurately and correctly kept with the exception that there are no minutes of the meetings for Presbyterial visitation appointed on 27th November, 1872, except that held at New Glasgow on 18th March.

2nd. That the Records of the Presbytery of Halifax are correctly and accurately kept, with the exceptions that the minutes of the meetings held on 23rd October, 11th November, and 28th November, 1872, are not signed by the Clerk. The Presbytery having explained that the Rev. Mr. Wilkins, who acted as clerk, *pro tem.*, left the Province before the minutes were approved and engrossed, ask the Synod for instructions on the matter.

3rd. The Records of the Presbytery of St. John are accurately and correctly kept, with the exceptions that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th June, 1872, are not signed by the moderator, and that the word "Presbytery," on the 6th line from the bottom of second page of the minute held on 23rd October, 1872, should be "Sessions"

4th. That in the Records of the Presbytery of Restigouche the minutes of the meetings held on the 1st July, and 18th December, 1872, and 18th February, 1873, are not signed by the moderator; and that as the meeting appointed for 4th June, 1873, did not take place, a quorum not assembling, the Presbytery is defunct.

5th. That in the Records of the Presbytery of Miramichi, which were examined for two years, the places to which several meetings were adjourned, are not mentioned in the minutes; that although on 15th November, 1871, the Presbytery adjourned to meet on the first Wednesday of February, 1872, the next meeting is minuted as held on the 14th of February; that in the minutes of the meetings held on 9th April, and 8th May, 1872, the Sederunts are not given; and that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th June, 1872, are not complete.

6th. That in the Records of the Presbytery of P. E. Island, the minutes of the meeting held on 27th June, 1872 are not reported as having been read and sustained;

that the meeting of 30th October, 1872, at Charlottetown is not given as a *pro re nata* meeting, and yet there is nowhere any mention that the Presbytery adjourned to that place and time; and that no meeting was held on the second Wednesday of March, 1873, as appointed, and consequently the Presbytery became defunct; and the meeting held on the 28th May, 1873, cannot strictly be called legal as the Presbytery cannot resuscitate themselves.

In submitting this Report your Committee would respectfully suggest that the Synod enjoin; that the minutes of Presbytery meetings held immediately before the meeting of Synod, should be engrossed in the Records, so that among other things, it may be known whether the Records of Kirk-Sessions are annually called for and examined.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed),

JOHN McMILLAN,
On behalf of Committee.

The Clerk of the Presbytery of Restigouche which Presbytery had become defunct through want of a quorum at an adjourned meeting requested the authority of the Synod to meet again in Dalhousie on the last Wednesday of August, which was granted.

With regard to the Records of the Presbytery of Halifax, in which the minutes of three meetings were not signed by the Clerk, the Presbytery having explained that the Rev. Mr. Wilkins, who acted as clerk *pro tempore*, left the Province before the minutes were approved and engrossed, asked the Synod for instructions on this matter, Whereupon, "The Synod instructs the Clerk of the Presbytery of Halifax to sign these with the name of the previous clerk, with a note of explanation why this was done."

The Presbytery of Prince Edward Island, having also become defunct, requested authority of the Synod to meet at Charlottetown on the last Thursday of July (D. V.), which was granted.

Thereafter it was agreed to, that the Report be received and adopted, and the Presbytery Records be attested.

The names of the Revs. J. Campbell, James W. Fraser and Walter Ross, were added to the Committee on Addresses.

The Report of the Fund for Aged and Infirm Ministers was next called for. It was found that no organization having been made to carry out the object of this Fund, only one collection had been made and no further steps taken.

The Synod then proceeded to appoint days for the congregational collections for the schemes of the church. when it was resolved that these be the same as last year, viz. :—

The Young Men's Bursary Fund,	the last Sabbath of July.
The Foreign Mission	" " " October.
The Home Mission	" " " January.
The Synod Fund,	" " " April.

The Synod now took up the subject of the appointment of Delegates to the Synod of our Church in Canada and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, when it was agreed to, that the Clerk be instructed to give Commissions to any members of Synod who may find it convenient to attend those meetings of the sister churches before next Synod.

The Overture on Christian Life and Work having passed the Committee on Bills and Overtures, now came up. It was as follows:—

"Whereas, The promotion of Christian Life and Work is believed to be the great purpose of the church on earth, and whereas, although some branches of the work of the church, such as Home and Foreign Missions and Sabbath Schools, are specially under the care of committees, and are found thereby to be promoted, there is much which is not thus watched over.

And whereas, It is believed that an inquiry into the general life and work of the church would be useful in many ways, such as by bringing to the notice of ministers and people particular departments to which it may be desirable to give greater attention, obtaining for the benefit of all the experience of individuals, and stirring up congregations to more activity; and

Whereas, It has been found by the experience of other churches, particularly in the Church of Scotland and in the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, that the appointment of a committee on Christian Life and Work has been productive of great good ;

It is therefore humbly overtured that the Synod take such steps as in its wisdom may seem best suited for the promotion of the end in view.

(Signed)

THOMAS DUNCAN,
JAMES FRASER CAMPBELL,
PETER KEAT,
JOHN McMILLAN,
GEORGE M. GRANT,
ARCH. KENNEDY,
HUGH FINLAY.

M. M. LINDSAY,
PETER MELVILLE,
JAMES ANDERSON,
WILLIAM JACK,
WILLIAM WILSON,
WILLIAM P. BEGO,

Whereupon Mr. Duncan moved, and Mr. Anderson seconded, that "the Overture be adopted, and a committee appointed with instructions to obtain information on the Christian Life and Work of the church; render such aid in the way of correspondence, deputations and otherwise, as may be desired by ministers and sessions, and as may be in their power, and report to the next meeting of Synod." It was agreed that this be the first subject at the evening sederunt.

The Revs. James W. Fraser and W. McMillan were appointed a Committee to revise the minutes of Synod for publication.

The Synod resumed consideration in the evening, according to appointment, of the Overture on Christian Life and Work. Before the Synod had concluded this subject, the Rev. L. M. Miller, D. D., of Ogdensburg, U. S. and the Rev. C. L. Thompson, D. D., of Chicago, U. S., Commissioners from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, entered the Court; and, having been introduced by the Rev. Robert McCunn, were cordially welcomed by the Moderator in name of the Synod, and were requested to sit, deliberate and vote with the Synod, and their names were added to the roll and sederunt. The rev. Commissioners delivered addresses to the Synod, conveying the fraternal greetings of the great church they represented to this Synod and church. These addresses were received with great applause; and it was moved by the Rev. G. M. Grant, seconded by the Rev. Alex. McLean, and unanimously agreed to, "That the thanks of the Synod be conveyed by the Moderator to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, for their great kindness in sending Commissioners of such ability to convey their fraternal greetings, and express their Christian regard towards this church and Synod; and to these reverend gentlemen themselves, that they had accepted the Commission, had come so far, and had delivered to us such interesting and cheering addresses. The reverend gentlemen were requested to assure the General Assembly of the very high Christian regard and affection which this Synod cherishes towards them; of our admiration of their noble efforts to advance the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ at home and abroad; and of our earnest prayer that the power of the Spirit of God may be ever abundantly manifest in their midst, and that the blessing of the great Head of the Church may ever be with their abundant labors and unparalleled liberality in His cause."

The Rev. Dr. Thompson, of Chicago, was now requested to offer prayer: and, after the appointment of the Rev. Robert McCunn, to conduct devotional exercises to-morrow morning, the Synod adjourned.

FIFTH DIET.

The Synod met according to adjournment, and, after devotional exercises, was constituted. The Synod Roll was called, and the minutes read and sustained.

The Moderator read a telegram from the Clerk of the Synod of the P. C. L. P. intimating the appointment of the next meeting of Synod to take place in Halifax (D. V.) on the last Tuesday of June, 1874.

The consideration of the Overture on Christian Life and Work was then resumed when it was agreed to, that the Overture be received and adopted; and that it was also agreed to that the following gentlemen be a Committee to carry out the object of the Overture, viz., Rev. Thomas Duncan, Convener; Rev. J. F. Campbell, Vice Convener; Revs. J. Anderson, W. McMillan, James Murray, Geo. J. Caie, and Messrs. M. M. Lindsay, Hugh Finlay, Alexander Robertson and W. Jack.

The Report of the Synod Fund was submitted by Rev. W. P. Begg, as follows:—

In absence of our respected Convener Rev. George J. Caie, your Committee beg leave to submit the following Report:—

The Collections, which have been received from thirty-three of our forty congregations, amount in all to	\$432 70
Balance from last year.....	50 00
From Joseph Hart, Esq., as acknowledged in Record....	5 00
Total... ..	\$487 70

EXPENDITURE.

Travelling Expenses of Ministers and Elders to and from Synod at Pictou	\$179 28
Paid Rev. R. McCunn, as delegate to Montreal	36 00
Synod Clerk's Salary, \$80; Printing, Postage, &c., \$6.78	86 78
Paid expenses of Rev. D. M. Rae, as member of Union Committee.....	12 50
Convener's Bill for printing Statistical Tables, postage, &c.	5 00
Church Officer, \$5, and telegram to Truro, 25 cents	5 25
Bill at St. Lawrence House for American Delegates	2 00
Total... ..	\$326 81
Total Receipts	\$487 70
Expenses	326 81
Balance	\$160 89

We may mention that, as in former years, the Rev. George M. Grant and J. J. Bremner, Esq., have travelled at their own expense.

In name of the Committee,

WILLIAM P. BEGG.

Whereupon it was agreed to that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Committee, and especially to the Convener and Mr. Begg, for their services in the management of this Fund.

The Rev. Mr. McLean moved, it was seconded and agreed to that the salary of the clerk be henceforward \$120.

The Rev. R. J. Cameron, Convener of the Synod's sub-committee on the Appeal from the deliverance of the Presbytery of Halifax reported to the Synod their decision in the case.

It was agreed to, that the Report be adopted, and accepted as the deliverance of the Synod in the case of the appeal.

Several members asked and obtained leave of absence from the Synod.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Synod adjourned to meet on Monday, at 2 P. M.

SIXTH DIET.

The Synod met according to adjournment; and, after devotional exercises conducted by the Rev. Neil Brodie, was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes read and sustained.

The Rev. Gavan M. Lang, of Montreal, having entered the Court, and been introduced by the Rev. Mr. Herdman, was most cordially welcomed by the Moderator in name of the Synod, and was requested to sit, deliberate and vote in the business of the Synod, and his name was added to the roll and sederunt. The reverend gentleman addressed the meeting on the subjects of Union, Presbyterian and Protestant, to the gratification of Synod, when it was moved and agreed to unanimously, that the cordial thanks of the Synod be conveyed by the Moderator to the Rev. Mr. Lang for his excellent address, which was done accordingly.

The Moderator laid before the Court a letter from the Rev. Geo. Patterson, of the sister Synod, regarding their Insurance Scheme, proposing the formation of a Joint Committee of the two Synods on this subject.

It was agreed to, "That this Synod co-operate with the sister church in this matter, and appoint a committee, to consist of J. J. Bremner and W. Menzies, Esqrs., with the Rev. J. F. Campbell, to confer with the Committee of the other church, and report to next Synod."

The Report of the Committee on Addresses was now called for, and given in by the Rev. J. Campbell, who read drafts of addresses to the Governor General and the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, which were ordered to be engrossed, and signed in name of the Synod and transmitted.

Rev. J. F. Campbell moved, that the names of Messrs. M. M. Lindsay, W. Menzies and Arch. Kennedy, be added to the Sabbath School Committee. Agreed.

The claims of the British American Book and Tract Society having been brought before the Synod, it was resolved to recommend that the members bring this matter most favorably before their congregations.

The Rev. Mr. Herdman gave in the Report of the Committee on the Missionary Meeting, with the arrangements made, which were approved of.

It was unanimously agreed, that the thanks of the Synod be most cordially given to the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Herdman, and the families of the congregation, who have entertained the members of Synod during their attendance in Pictou, for the generous hospitality and kindness they have shown; and also to those Railway and Steamboat Companies who have granted complimentary terms of fare to members going to and returning from Synod.

The business of the Synod being now concluded, the Moderator, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the alone King and Head of the Church, dissolved this Synod; and appointed the next annual meeting to take place in St. Andrew's Church, Halifax, on the last Tuesday of June, 1874, (D. V.) at 8 o'clock, P. M.; and, with devotional exercises and the Benediction by the Moderator, this Session of Synod was closed.

PETER KEAY, SYNOD CLERK.

HOSPITAL SUNDAY.

Sunday, the 15th June, witnessed a remarkable sight in London—a sight worthy the day of that Lord whose characteristic, while on earth, was that “He went about doing good.” Almost all the churches of the great city, the Established, the Non-conformist, and the Roman Catholic, Plymouth Brethren, Quakers, and Jewish Synagogues, united on that day in “collecting” for the hospitals and dispensaries that are so prominent a feature in the metropolis of the Empire. Her Majesty was at Balmoral, but the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh attended the service in St. Paul’s; and the scene there was almost of the same national character as when the Queen went to give thanks for the recovery of her son. The collection taken up at St. Paul’s was over £500 stg., and the sum total from all the churches was about £30,000—a right royal contribution, to be divided among the London institutions for relieving the sick, the diseased, the maimed and the halt.

London is not the first city that has adopted this plan. The credit of the initiative has to be given to Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, or some other of the Provincial towns, where it has been tried for some years with signal success. When the plan was proposed for the metropolis, almost every one was disposed to throw cold water on it. Ecclesiastical dignitaries thought it was Utopian. Some said that too much money would be raised. Others, that it would dry up the present sources of revenue, especially the individual contributions that most of the hospitals have to depend upon. Some were sure that London was too big a city to get all in it of one mind. Others, that the churches were too hostile to each other to engage in any common work. Some, that the money would not be fairly divided. Others, that, even if it were, jealousies would be aroused. But while critics carped, a few earnest men worked. A Council was formed, presided over by the Lord Mayor, who threw himself heart and soul into the movement, and containing representatives of the different churches. It fixed on the day for the collection, and it appointed a committee of sensible business-like laymen to examine all the institutions that desired to be put on the list as in need of assistance, and to report upon them, their work and their claims. And, to the astonishment of even the most sanguine supporters of the plan, on the first trial, the success has been such as we have stated. The London churches were filled as they have not been filled for years. Men and women who do not usually attend the House of God, some who had never attended in their lives before, were drawn by the uniqueness and loveliness of the idea to go and to take an offering with them. The Bishop of London in St. Paul’s, the Archbishop of Canterbury in Lambeth, Archbishop Manning in his Pro-Cathedral Southwark, Dr. Cumming in the National Scotch Church, Dr. Parker in Exeter Hall, Henry Allon in Islington, Thain Davidson in the Agricultural Hall, Newman Hall in the Surrey Chapel, the Grand Rabbi in his Synagogue, all preached from different texts on the one great subject. For the first time in its history, the beautiful Temple Church had a collection taken up in it, and the lawyers did well, giving £344. But it is not the amount of money collected that surprises and delights the Christian heart most, but the notable demonstration given to the world that, underneath all our differences, there is a grand basis of unanimity, common feeling, common thought, and common worship. The *Times* truly says:—“Among the operative classes especially, whose Sunday leisure often seems to them too precious to be given up to churches or chapels, and who, in many instances, listen eagerly to the professors of very shallow forms of disbelief, the spectacle of this union of all denominations of worshippers in the performance of an act of charity, would exert a most powerful effect. The overflowing congregations must have included hundreds, nay thousands, of persons to whom the interior of a church would be unfamiliar, and who would be attracted thither by blended feelings of curiosity and of kindness—feelings eminently helpful to any preacher who could pierce through the crust of habitual apathy in others by some loosening of the chains of convention

from himself." In the close of His great intercessory prayer, the Lord implies that it is only when His Church presents the spectacle of an united body that the world will believe in Him. Here we have an instance of the effect of united effort for one object, that object the relief of those classes who were His special care when he was on earth. Is this not an omen and harbinger of greater things to come?

Why should not this movement be taken up in our cities, such as Halifax and St. John. In Halifax, we have a Hospital and a Dispensary not at all supported as they should be. We require a hospital for convalescents, and a childrens' Hospital. If the churches united on a "Hospital Sunday," existing institutions would be greatly benefitted, and others, for which there is a crying need, would probably be stimulated into existence.

OUR CONTENTS.

This month's RECORD last year contained only the minutes of Synod. This year we anticipated that the state of the case would be similar, and therefore gave orders not to keep on hand the notes for the month of the S. S. lessons. But thanks to condensation, and the non-receipt of the financial statement of the F. M. Scheme, &c., &c., we have a little room which we gladly give to other subjects of general interest. By next month, we trust that the new Editor appointed by the Synod will be with us and at the helm.

THE SYNOD'S ADDRESS TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

The Synod appointed a Committee to draw up an address to the Governor General, and knowing that His Excellency would be in Halifax this Summer—appointed the members of Presbytery resident in the city to present it to him. They invited a few friends of the Church to accompany them, including the Chief Justice, the Custos, The President of the Legislative Council, The Recorder, James McDonald, M. P., Dr. Avery, Hon. W. A. Henry, James Thompson, G. P. Mitchell, John Doull, &c., &c., and presented it to His Excellency on the 5th inst., in the Province Building.

We have much pleasure in giving both the Address and the Reply :

ADDRESS.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF DUFFERIN, K. P., GOVERNOR GENERAL
OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA, &c., &c., &c.

May it please Your Excellency :

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland, in Synod assembled, beg respectfully to welcome your Excellency, as the Representative in this Dominion of Her Majesty the Queen.

The warm and considerate interest which your Excellency manifests for all that concerns the welfare of this Dominion, secures the increasing regard of our people.

We congratulate your Excellency upon the rapid progress already made under your Excellency's administration in the work undertaken by your predecessors; and upon the prospect that, ere long, all Her Majesty's North American possessions shall be united under one Government. Convinced, however, both from the sacred word of God, and from human experience, that Righteousness exalteth a nation, and that no mere material greatness can secure permanent prosperity, we will ever strive to promote the cause of enlightened Christianity throughout the land, mainly for its own sake, but also for its connection with the social well-being of the people. Grateful to the Giver of all good, for the national peace and just government, which we enjoy, we pray that God, in His mercy may long preserve to this land its present civil and religious

privileges; and that His abundant blessing may rest upon your Excellency's person, family, and administration.

Signed, in name and by appointment of Synod, at Pictou, this Thirtieth day of June, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Three, by

D. MACRAE, A. M., *Moderator.*

PETER KEAY, *Clerk of Synod.*

St. Andrew's, New Brunswick.

REPLY.

To the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces, in connection with the Church of Scotland.

GENTLEMEN,—

It has been my fortune on many previous occasions to have the honor of receiving deputations from the Presbyterian Churches in this country. From all these deputations I have heard with deep satisfaction expressions of loyalty to the Crown, and contentment with the political constitution under which they live.

Owing to the fortunate circumstances of my life, I have passed many years in the midst of a Presbyterian population, and I can only repeat what I have said on other occasions, that I have had frequent opportunities of observing the beneficial influences which the Presbyterian Church exercised on its congregations, and of remembering to how great an extent industry, Christian charity, and other virtues which adorn high civilization flourish under the effects of its teaching. I feel certain that similar good influences will be found to exist in the Churches of Halifax and the Maritime Provinces generally.

I thank you, as Her Majesty's Representative, for your expressions of attachment to the Crown, with which I feel that all sections of religious denominations will cordially concur with you, although I may, without any prejudice to other communities, repeat that among none do loyal sentiments show themselves in a more satisfactory manner than among those who have had the benefit of belonging to the Presbyterian Church.

In conclusion I beg to return you my sincere acknowledgments on behalf of Lady Dufferin and myself for the cordial welcome you have accorded us, and to assure you of the pleasure we both feel in visiting so important a city as Halifax, and of becoming acquainted with the people of Nova Scotia.

Halifax, N. S., August 6th, 1873.

REPORT OF REV. MR. SUTHERLAND'S LABOURS FROM FEB.
9th TO JULY 10th, 1873.

Friday, February 7th—Went to Musquodoboit, where I was appointed to labour for three months. Within the bounds of our congregation there, there are three places in which their Pastor was accustomed to preach, viz., (1) Little River, which is the central district and has a nice church; (2) New Antrim where there is a small church; and (3) South School house section, where Divine Services are conducted in the school room. During my stay there I preached once each Sabbath in the central church at Little River, and once a fortnight in each of the other two sections. The last two Sabbaths I preached in each of the three sections—in Antrim in the forenoon, Little River in the afternoon, and South School house in the evening.

By the advice of the Session I preached one Sabbath day for Revd. Mr. Sedgwick.

I revived a Bible Class which the former minister had conducted. It met once a week and was well attended. Besides these services I was enabled by the kindness of the Elders and other members of the congregation in driving me round to visit and get acquainted with nearly all the people connected with the congregation. During my stay, there happened to be much illness among them. I visited those who were ill, frequently, and officiated at six funerals.

My appointment of three months at Musquodoboit was completed on Sabbath, May 4th. Having been duly notified by the Convener of the Home Mission Board that my next appointment was one month at Pugwash, I went there during the week. On May 11th, I preached in the forenoon in our church in Pugwash village; in the afternoon in the Hall six miles up Pugwash river. May 18th, forenoon, I again preached in the village church, and in the afternoon in a school house on River Philip. The third Sabbath I preached in the forenoon in the Schoolhouse in Victoria settlement, and in the afternoon in the Baptist Church in the village of Oxford on River Philip. The fourth Sabbath, services were in the Church and Hall as on the first. During this month I visited and got acquainted with most of our people in the Pugwash congregation. Owing to their being scattered over so many settlements they have been long without enjoying much clerical oversight; yet they are very anxious to have a minister of their own, and are willing to contribute liberally to his support. Their scattered and necessitous condition made me sympathize deeply with them. My appointment of four weeks to Pugwash was fulfilled on Sabbath, June 1st.

I was appointed for the next four weeks to Bathurst, N. B. Left Pugwash expecting to be in Bathurst on the 8th, but was recalled to Pictou by tidings of the illness of a brother. On Sabbath, the 8th, the Rev. Mr. McMillan, of Salt Springs, being from home, I preached in his church in the forenoon, and in the School house at the Six Mile Brook in the evening.

My first Sabbath at Bathurst was June 15th. On that day and each of the three following Sabbaths, I preached forenoon and evening in the church in Bathurst. My appointment here has been prolonged for two weeks more. On July 20th, my last Sabbath, it is arranged that I shall preach in Belle Doon in the forenoon, and Bathurst in the evening. I also hold a service occasionally on week days in school houses.

JOHN M. SUTHERLAND.

Bathurst, July 10th, 1873.

To the Rev. G. M. Grant, Convener of the Home M. Board, Halifax, N. S.

CONGREGATIONAL REPORT.

We give the following Report, not as some our readers may suppose—because it is that of a Halifax congregation, but because such reports are the best kind of statistics; and we shall be happy to publish similar printed statements from any or all of our congregations:

REPORT OF THE KIRK-SESSION OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, HALIFAX, FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1873, ADDRESSED TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION.

1. Last September 7 names were added to our Communion Roll; In November, 21; and in April 22;—or in all 50, while during the year we lost 30, as nearly as can be estimated, by deaths, or departures from the city or congregation. It is a matter of deep regret that a large number of Communicants attend on the ordinance of the Lord's Supper very irregularly. Slight excuses are often considered sufficient, and thus it happens that a considerable proportion come only once in the year on an average to the Lord's Table. Such a state of things shows spiritual indifference, even deadness,—for no Christian who loves to obey the Lord's dying command can think three times a year too often to do so. No doubt there would be greater regularity if the minister or elders called to ask for the reasons of absence, and expostulated with those guilty of neglect; but it is so great a privilege to be allowed to sit at the Table, that everything that looks like pressing people on this point is avoided. But that it is a specially aggravated sin, *thus* to forsake the assembling ourselves together, there can be no doubt. It is the sin of contempt as well as of unbelief. They who love much, will not let little things keep them back.

2. The Sunday School, the Ladies' Working Society, and the Schemes of the Synod were never before so well supported by us, but as special reports are published on these, nothing need be said here. The condition of the Sunday School calls for special gratitude. The interest taken in its work and teaching by so many of our best men and women is a good augury for the future. Any member of the Church who wishes to see with his own eyes what is doing, should step into the basement some Sunday morning about 10 o'clock. He is likely to see so much doing, so much order and enthusiasm combined, that the question will probably arise in his mind, 'why am not I here as teacher or scholar?' Is it a great grief and a great loss that all the children and all the young men and women of our congregation are not in the Sunday School; for though not intended to take the place of parental teaching, it is surely a help to the best Home School, and besides, it is the only place where the minister can become acquainted with the young people as they grow up.

3. The only religious meetings held regularly during the year on evenings other than Sunday have been the Monday evening Bible Class for both sexes, the Wednesday evening prayer-meeting at 7.30—not at all as well attended as it should be, the S. S. Teachers preparation meeting on the same evening at 8.30, and two district meetings, one at Tower Road on Thursday, and one in City Street Mission building on Friday evening. Very likely one-half of the congregation does not know of the existence of those meetings for instruction, devotion, and mutual edifying. At least from their non-attendance at any of them, so it may be supposed. Is it seriously believed now-a-days by any that religion ought to be manifested only on Sundays, or that their religious life is so strong and assured that it needs no helps of Bible study, conference, and common prayer through the week. Four or five hours of an evening are given uncomplainingly by professing Christians to social gatherings at which the Lord's name is never mentioned, but one hour seems to be too much to spare for calling upon His name, provoking one another to love and good works, and for strengthening the things that remain but that are ready to die. There is great inconsistency here, a great discouragement to all earnest Christians who are bound up with us in the same bundle of congregational life, great injury inflicted on our own souls, and a bad example set to our children. Is it too much to ask of all the members and adherents of the church, that they should attach themselves to one or other of these week day meetings? Some good they are sure to get by merely attending, and more good by taking an active part in them. And where this is done, the minister will be encouraged to try such new schemes for quickening spiritual life, and developing greater unity among the members of the church, as are sure to be suggested in a time of zeal and among a people who are in earnest.

4. During the past year. Dr. Gordon and Mr. Montgomery resigned their position in the eldership. This fact, along with the death of Mr. Watt, and the departure of Mr. John McLean to labour as a catechist in Cape Breton, is enough to suggest the necessity for an addition to our present number at no distant date. The attention of the members of the congregation should be directed to this, so that when called upon to elect men to the office, they may not be at a loss, but be ready to select the most fitting men.

5. Our City Missionary having gone to Cape Breton, we were able to respond to an application from the North-end City Mission for help. The minister, and the elder of the district having satisfied themselves that that mission was doing good work, and that it could not be sustained in the meantime without our assistance, it was agreed to co-operate in it until we could find a suitable successor to Mr. McLean. But if we are to have a City Missionary of our own, our subscriptions must be largely increased; for we need not expect to get another man at the salary we paid Mr. McLean.

6. The table appended shows what our liberality has been during the past year, as a Church. Of course we do not report anything as to the revenue of

the Trustees. That cannot be called liberality for it is for ourselves; nor do we take cognizance of what individual members give, either as citizens or as private christians, to good objects. The sum we now report shows a somewhat commendable liberality, though we are convinced that if we all believed the word of the Lord Jesus that "it is more blessed to give than to receive," it would be incredibly greater. Still we have reason to "thank God and take courage."

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

(Signed) GEORGE M. GRANT, *Moderator of Sessions.*

The Trustees' report follows; and tables, showing that during the year collections were made in connection with the Session for 14 different objects, and that there was given about \$2500 for the 5 Synod Schemes, and \$2300 for the poor, and other congregational and city schemes of benevolence; and that the revenue of the Trustees for the year amounted to \$3796; the sum total thus being about \$8600.

UNION.

The most cheering fact in connection with this great subject to many of our people is that the Church at Home has expressed itself this year so decidedly in favour of our proposed Union in Canada. This is only what was well known by all of us who knew the mind of the leading men of the Church of Scotland, and the past and present policy of the Church, but we had no right to look for such a strong expression of opinion beforehand, and we would not have received it had it not been for the presence and the speech at the General Assembly of Principal Snodgrass. He went into the whole matter before the Assembly; explained the Basis proposed, and the steps that had been taken; and showed that he was anxious to hear the mind of the Church on it. What was then spoken, both by the representative of the Colonial Committee, and by the Moderator, with the unanimous consent of the whole Court, gives as the mature counsel of our Mother Church.

The Church of Scotland tells us that it is our duty to reunite in this Dominion. Nay more, the Church of Scotland itself would rejoice if the F. C. and U. P. Churches in Scotland would but consent to an union on our basis. *She is the only Presbyterian Church in Scotland now that has a Committee on Union.* She prays for union, for she knows that nothing else will save the great principle of establishment. We can help her best and prove ourselves her true children by taking her advice. There is no love if we keep not the commandments of the one we profess to love.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

FOREIGN MISSION FUND.

Col. River John, per Rev. R. McCunn. \$10 50
 J. J. BREMNER, *Treasurer.*
Halifax, 5th August, 1873.

SYNOD'S HOME MISSION.

Rec'd Col. in Dec., 1872, from River
 John, per Rev. R. McCunn. \$ 4 50
 Col. from Belfast, P. E. I. 15 00 19 50
 GEO. P. MITCHELL, *Treas.*

YOUNG MEN'S BURSARY FUND.

Rec'd from Rev. P. Melville, George-
 town, P. E. I., June 9. \$ 6 25
 St. James, Charlottetown, per A. L.
 Brown, June 13. 10 00
 Remitted Geo. Murray, Student,
 Glasgow, Scotland, £20.9.0 stg. ... 100 00
 P. O. O. and Postage. 2 31
 Remitted Alex. McLeod, Teacher,
 Salmon River, near Truro. 30 00
 P. O. O. and Postage. 23
 JAMES HISLOP, *Treas.*

LAY ASSOCIATION, PICTOU PRESBYTERY.

Col. at Roger's Hill:

By Miss C. McKay \$2 00
 " M. A. Fraser 6 37
 " M. McIntosh 1 80
 " E. J. Murray 5 85
 " E. McKenzie 3 50
 " 1 50

Total \$21 02

JAMES HISLOP.

PAYMENTS FOR "RECORD."

Daniel Cameron, Antigonish. \$0 60
 Rev. D. McMillan, LaHave. 70
 C. M. Murray, Malder, Mass., U. S. . . 85
 Mr. Miffin, L. Water St., Halifax. 50

W. G. PENDER, *Secretary.*

18 Blowers St., Halifax, July 29, 1873.