MINUTES

OF

The Twenty-first Session

OF

THESYNOD

OF THE

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In Canada,

Held in Toronto, June 2-5, 1857.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD.

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I. PRESBYTERY OF LONDON,

	THE BEST TERT OF LONDON,	
MINISTERS. James Skinner. " " " 8 J.J.A. Proudfoot, Clk. John Logie John Fraser 10 William Cavan William Deas " " 9 Matthew Barr Alex. W. Waddell 8 Archibald Cross. John Hogg James Duncan 7 John Fotheringham " " " 9 William Inglis	ELDERS. CONGREGATIONS. POST OFFICES. James Fraser Rethel London. Thomas Waugh English Settlem't do. Adam Murray London do. George Thompson Warrensville Hay John Allison Thames Road do. James Bisset Goderich Goderich. Malcolm McCallum St. Mary's St. Mary's, Blanch'd James Thompson Adelaide. Wisbeach. Robert Gillieland Warwick do's James Grieve. McKillop Harpurhey. Andrew Leslie Harwich Ridgetown. James Hay Ingersoll Ingersoll. James L. Lyell Detroit Detroit, Michigan James Shaw Bayfield Bayfield Alex Duncan Hibbert Kirkton. Joseph Irwin Flat Creek do. Robert Fleming Westminster London. Robert Smith Chatham Chatham. William Graµt Grey Dingle. Edward McDonald Brucefield Brucefield John Gibson Nissouri, North St. Mary's, B. William Wester: Florence Florence. John Bain. Woodstock. Woodstock. James Muir Downie Avonbank. William Gardiner Tilbury Fibury East Grant Co, Wis.	
II	PRESBYTERY OF FLAMBORO,	
9 Thomas Christie 5 Andrew Ferrier, D.D. 44 44 Alex. Ritchie 10 John Porteous, Clk. 7 10 William M. Christie	James McMicken. Flamboro. West Flamboro. Henry Jackson Caledonia. Seneca. Indiana do. Oncida do. West Dumfries Ayr. Robert McQueen. Beverley Kirkwall. Charles McKenzie Chippawa. Chippawa. James Henderson Hamilton. Hamilton. James McCabe Thorold. Thorold. James Young. Ancaster village Ancaster. Ancaster, East do. Ancaster, West do. Robert Christie St. George Rosebank.	

III. PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO. 10 John Taylor, M.D.... 5 Charles Fletcher... 2nd Toronto Toronto. 10 William Fraser... John Goodfellow West Gwillimbury Bond Head.

James Speers Essa. Cookstown.

Roll of Synod.

9 David Coutts	Matthew Stewart Andrew Smith John Henry Andrew Riddell John Dalziel Thomas Foliott Andrew Buchan William Waddell Thos. R. Buckham Alex. Austin	CONGREGATIONS. POST OFFICES. Dunbarton & Canton Dunbarton. 1st Chinguacousy . Mayfield. 2nd Chinguacousy . do. 1st Toronto . Toronto. Vaughan . Coleraine. Albion . do. Richmond Hill . Richmond Hill. Erskine Ch. Picker'g Dunbarton. Claremont . Claremont. Brampton & Toronto Brampton. Tecumseth . [t'p. Penville. Caledon . Caledon.
IV.	PRESBYTERY OF	CANADA EAST.
	J. C. Becket William White	Montreal Montreal. Huntingdon Huntingdon. Madrid, U.S. Waddington, N.Y. Lachute Lachute. New Glasgow New Glasgow. Sherrington Sherrington.
	V. PRESBYTERY	OF LANARK.
William Aitken 9 Alex. Henderson, Clk. Thomas Watson	John Robertson	Smith's Falls Smith's Falls. Fitzroy Harbor Fitzroy Harbor. Torbolton do. Pakenham Pakenham. Arnprior do.
V	I. PRESBYTERY	OF DURHAM.
John Csote Gilbert Tweedie Gold Scote G	John Michael Nicholas Dodds John Hillen John McGill Thomas Best J. Dick Anthony Chenery A. Milligan Robert Hogarth S. Corbett Samuel Martin	Amherst Island. Amherst Island. Whitby. Whitby. Port Hope. Port Hope. Clarke. Orono. Prince Albert. Prince Albert. Emily Mt. Pleasant. Mariposa. Mariposa. Mariposa. Mariposa. Moserulam do. Verulam do. Ernest-town Bath. Newton Clarke. Newcastle. do. Perrytown. Oakhills do.
	PRESBYTERY OF	
10 William Barrie 10 Robert Torrance. Clk.		Elora. Elora. Eramosa Guelph. Guelph do. Esquesing Stewarton. Garrafraxa. Garrafraxa. Eden Mills. Galt. Galt.
	II. PRESBYTERY	
David Caw 8 George Murray	John Tennant	Paris

Roll of Synod.

MINISTERS. George Murray	William Ronald George Bryce John McKie	CONGREGATIONS Burford P Stratford S Shakspeare S Brantford B Tilsonburgh T Glenmorris G Mount Pleasant M Norwichville N Mornington W Elandford C	rincetown. tratford. hakspeare. rantford. ilsonburgh. lenmorris. ohawk. orwichville.
9 James Gibson	IX. PRESBYTERY Thomas Lunn James Colter Ebenezer Clarke William Brown David Smith	OF GREY	wen's Sound. wersdale. do. do. ith. alkerston.

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Official Members of Synod, for 1856-7.

Rev. JOHN PORTEUS, Kirkwall, Moderator.

Rev. WILLIAM FRASER, Bond Head, CLERK.

Rev. JOHN TAYLOR, M.D., Toronto, Professor of Theology.

Rev. THOMAS CHRISTIE, West Flamboro, TREASURER OF HOME SYNOD'S GRANT.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Esq., Rosebank, Treasurer of Synod.

Stated Collections ordered by the Synod.

- 1. MISSION FUND-Collection to be made in January.
- 2. SYNOD FUND-Collection to be made in April.
- 3. THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION FUND—Collection to be made in October.

Committees appointed or re-appointed, June, 1857.

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Subjects.	Conveners.	Post Offices.		Page.
1. Mission	Rev. Robert Torrance -	- Guelph -		- 227
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MINUTES

OF THE

SYNOD OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.

I. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, TUESDAY, June 2, 1857, 7 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada met, and, after sermon by the Rev. John Duff, Moderator, from 1 Cor. 1. 23, 24, was constituted.

The Presbytery of London reported that they had dissolved the Report of Lonconnexion between the Congregations of St. Mary's and Downie, don Presb'ry. and relieved the Rev. Mr Cavan of the pastoral charge of the latter, on August 13, 1856; that they had dissolved the connexion between the Congregations of Ingersoll and Woodstock, on 7th January, and relieved the Rev. Mr Cross of the pastoral charge of Woodstock, on April 1, 1857; that they had received the Rev. Mr Baird, on October the 1st, and the Rev Wm. Inglis on November 19, 1856, as Probationers, duly certified by the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland; that they had erected the Congregations of North Nissouri, on August 13, and of Florence on October 1, 1856, and Turnberry, on January 17, 1857; and that they had inducted the Rev. William Inglis into the pastoral charge of the Congregation of Westminster, on April 22, 1857.

The Presbytery of Flamboro' reported that they had inducted Report of the Rev. William Ormiston into the pastoral charge of the United Flambro' Pby. Presbyterian Congregation of Hamilton, on December 30, 1856.

The Presbytery of Toronto reported that they had received, on Report of Tothe 5th of August, 1856, by certificate from the Board of Missions ronto Pres' of the United Presbyterian Synod, Scotland, the Rev. Mr Gibson, and also, on the 4th November, Mr John Mark King, Probationer, and reported their names to the Committee of Distribution; and that they had, on the 14th April, 1857, inducted the Rev. John Baird into the pastoral charge of the United Presbyterian Congregations of Erskine and Claremont, Pickering, and had added his name to the Roll of Presbytery.

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Page. - 227 - 217 - 226 - 216

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- 218 - 228 Report of Wellington Presbytery.

The Presbytery of Wellington reported that the Rev. Mr Stuart had been loosed from the pastorate of Garrafraxa Congregation, on the 22d October, 1856; that, on the 7th April, 1857, Congregations were organised in Galt, and at the village of Edenmills, respectively; and that, on the 12th of May, 1857, Mr Robert Moffat was licensed, after due course of trials, to preach the Gospel.

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The Presbytery of Brant reported that, on the 5th August, 1856, Brant Presb'y, they had accepted Mr Rodgers' demission of the pastoral charge of the Congregation of Norwichville; that they had organised a Congregation at Stratford, on February 10, 1857, and another in Mornington, on April 7, 1857; that they had inducted the Rev. Thomas Stevenson into the united Congregations of Stratford and Shakspeare, April 21, 1857; and that the Rev. Joseph Scott had been removed by death, May 21, 1857.

Report of

The Presbytery of Grey reported that they had inducted the Grey Presb'y. Rev. James Gibson into the Congregation of Owen's Sound, on the 24th of September, 1856, and the Rev. Walter Inglis into the Congregations of Greenock and Culross, on 29th May, 1857; that the Station at Meaford had been organised into a Congregation, July 23, 1856: that, on the 3d February, 1857, a new Congregation was organised in the township of Brant, in connexion with the Congregation of Brant, the former to be called Brant, and the latter, previously Brant, to be called Walkerston; that a new station in Culross was received, and connected with the Congregation of Greenock, on the 3d February, 1857; and that, on the 29th of May, 1857, two new stations were formed, the one in Normanby and Bentinck, and the other in North-Greenock and

Report of

The Presbytery of Durham reported that, in November last, they Durham Phy, had inducted into the pastoral charge of the Congregations of Perrytown and Oakhills the Rev. A. C. Stuart, and that his name had been added to the Roll of Presbytery.

Report of

The Presbytery of Lanark reported that, since the last meeting Lanark Pby of Synod, they had ordained the Rev. Thomas Watson, and inducted him to the charge of the Congregation of Pakenham and Amprior.

Roll called.

The Roll of Synod was now called and marked.

Presbytery of London Roll, rect.

The Clerk here stated that he had received a letter from the Rev. Mr Waddell of Harwich, in the Presbytery of London, conorder to cor-taining information as to the representation of certain Congregations in Synod, and that the statements of that letter conflicted with the Roll of the Presbytery of London, furnished by the Presbytery Clerk.

It was agreed to remit to the Presbytery of London to correct their Roll.

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flicted PresA letter from the Rev. James Skinner was read, to the effect Mr. Skinner's that, in consequence of a serious accident, he was prevented from letter. being present at this meeting of Synod.

Proceeded to the election of a Moderator, when, on motion of Mr Moderator Torrance, seconded by Professor Taylor, the Rev. John Porteous chosen. was unanimously chosen. Mr Porteous took the chair, and addressed the Synod.

The Clerk laid on the table a list of the business left unfinished Unfinished last year, as also of Reports required from Committees appointed business, List at last Synod.

On motion of Mr Henderson, seconded by Dr W. Taylor, it was resolved—That the thanks of the Synod be recorded for the sertiring Moderator, and for the sermon delivered by ator.

The Rev. Messrs. Ormiston and Cavan were appointed to examine the accounts of the Synod's Treasurers.

The following Committees were appointed to examine the mi-audit nutes of Presbyteries namely of

nutes of Presbyteric	es, n	amely, o	f	
London	Rev.	Messrs.	Drummond and Dewar.	Minutes of
r lamboro'	"	"	Barr and Fotheringham.	Presbyteries, committees to
Toronto		"	W. M. Christie and Ormiston.	examine.
Canada East		"	Professor Taylor and Jennings.	
Lanark		"	Dr. W. Taylor and Mr Watson.	
Durham		"	Baird and Henderson.	
Wellington			Scott and Macintosh.	
Brant			Duff and Caldwell.	
Grey		"	Stevenson and Dunbar.	
Ordered That the	- D		1	

Ordered—That the Reports of the Auditors, and of Committees Reports to be to examine Presbytery minutes, be given in at the second Sede-given in. runt on Thursday.

The Rev. William Ormiston, and the Rev. Robert Montenth, Devotions, to were appointed to conduct the devotional exercises of the Synod conduct.

The Rev. Alexander Henderson was, on motion, appointed to Missions, Mr. give an address at the Synod's Missionary Meeting on Thursday Henderson to evening, in place of the Rev. Joseph Scott, appointed at last Synod, address on. but now deceased.

Adjourned, to meet at 9 o'clock to-morrow.

Closed with the benediction.

II. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY,

June 3, 1857, 9 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr Porteous,

Devotional exercises.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. Messrs. Monteath and Ormiston.

Roll called. The Roll was called, and the minutes of the last Sederunt were read and approved.

Report of The Committee of Bills and Overtures gave in their Report, to Committee of the following purport:—

Bills & Overtures.

- I. Reports of Committees and Presbyteries submitted by Clerk.
 - Report of Committee on the Letter from the Bureau of Agriculture and Statistics.
 - 2. Reports of Presbyteries on Superintendence of Students.
 - Report of Theological Education Committee.
 Report of Committee for Distribution of Preachers.
 - 5. Report of Committee on Union.
 - 6. Report of Mission Committee.7. Report of Committee on Foreign Mission.
 - 8. Report of Committee on Synod Funds.
 - 9. Report of Letter to the Free Church, United States.
 - Report of Committee to devise a Scheme for the Support of the Families of deceased Ministers.

II. Papers containing new Business.

- Mr. Livingstone's Letter applying for Certificate of Ministerial Standing.
- Overture of Durham Presbytery respecting a Foreign Mission.
- Mr. Kennedy's Overture respecting a Change in the Formula; also,
- 4. An Overture from the Durham Presbytery on the same.
- 5. Letter from the Free Church, United States.
- Reference from the Presbytery of Wellington respecting Mr. Clerihew's application to be received as a Minister.

Recaived and The Report was received, and its suggestions, as to the order of business, were adopted.

Bureau of Agriculture and Statistics, report on letter sideration and amendment, to be brought up at a future sitting.

Took up the Report of the Committee, appointed last year, on the Letter from the Bureau of Agriculture and Statistics. After reasoning, Statistics, report on letter is was agreed to re-commit the Report to the Committee for re-conrecommitted.

Called for Reports of Presbyteries on the inspection of Students spection of Theology.

The Presbytery of Toronto reported that they had had the follow-Toronto Pby. ing students under their inspection, namely, James Hanran, Wilreport. Stewart, John Turnbull, of the first year; William Donald,

Robert Hall, William M'William, of the second year; Thomas G. Chesnut, William Fletcher, David Waters, of the third year; and Robert C. Moffat, of the fourth year; that they had met with these students several times, and examined them on the several subjects prescribed by the Synod for students, under the inspection of Presbyteries, and that the students had performed their exercises, and acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery of Durham reported that they had had two students Durham Pby. under their superintendence during the past year, namely, Messrs. report. Tisdell and M'Faul; that they had exercises prescribed from time to time, in accordance with the plan adopted by Synod, all of which they performed to the great satisfaction of the Presbytery. One of the parties, Mr M'Faul, the Presbytery licensed on the 7th of April last.

The Presbytery of Brant reported that they had had one student, Brant Pres'y of the first year, under their inspection, namely, Joseph Whyte, and report. that he had performed the prescribed exercises to their entire satisfaction.

Called for the Report of the Committee on Theological Education. Theo. Educa-It was agreed to postpone the reception of the report to a future tion com. re-

The Committee for the Distribution of Preachers reported to the Distribution following purport:—That, during the months of July, August, and Committee re-September, 1856, there were six probationers on the list, namely, port. the Rev. Messrs. Clark, Gibson, Livingstone, Scott, Stevenson, and Walker, to supply 20 vacancies, affording the vacancies the very scanty supply of one Sabbath in every three or four, irrespective of the aid given by the Presbyteries. The Rev. Mr. Gibson was also unable, from sickness, during several weeks, to fulfil his appointments. He was called to Sydenham, Owen's Sound, and his settlement took place at the end of this quarter.

During the quarter, namely, from October to December, there were eight preachers on the list-the Rev. Messrs. John Baird, William Inglis, and John M. King, having arrived and entered on their labours. There were, during this quarter, 22 vacancies, giving a little over one-third supply from the services of the preachers to the vacant Congregations.

During the first quarter of the present year, namely, from January to March, there were 25 vacancies, and 9 probationers. _ The number of preachers was increased by the accession of the Rev. Walter Inglis, who had not taken appointments during the six months previous. Also, during this quarter there were several preachers stationed in particular Congregations, in accordance with the resolution of Synod in reference to the location of preachers. Stevenson was appointed to Stratford, in the bounds of the Presbytery of Brant; Mr Scott to Florence, in London Presbytery; and Mr. King in Galt, in Wellington Presbytery. The appointments of Messrs. King and Stevenson have been followed by very good

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results, in the formation of Congregations in Galt and Stratford. At the end of this quarter, the list of probationers was very much reduced. Mr Baird received and accepted a call from Erskine and Claremont Churches, Pickering; Mr Clark requested his name to be withdrawn from the list of preachers; Mr William Inglis accepted a call from Westminster Congregation; Mr Walter Inglis was called to Greenock, in the Presbytery of Grey, and accepted said call; Mr. Stevenson was called to, and was settled in, Stratford, in the Brant Presbytery; and Mr Walker was called to Chatham, in the London Presbytery-leaving only three preachers on the list, during the quarter from April to June, to supply twenty-seven vacancies.

The Committee have also to report that the Rev. Messrs. Thornton, Kennedy, Jennings, and Young gave, each of them, two Sabbaths' supply to the stations within the bounds of the Grey and London Presbyteries.

The Committee would respectfully suggest to the Synod, that some effort be put forth to obtain from the parent Church in Scotland additional preachers, to supply our continually increasing vacancies, and especially because the members of Presbyteries having each one or two Congregations of their own to supply, cannot give the vacancies the service which they require.

> (Signed) JAMES DICK, C.C.

Report approved and suggestions adopted.

The Report was received, the diligence of the Committee approved, and the suggestion, as to obtaining additional ministers from Scotland, adopted.

Distribution appointed.

On motion, the Committee for the Distribution of Preachers was committee re- re-appointed, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Dick, Jennings, and Ormiston-Mr. Dick, Convener.

Union Compostponed.

Called for the Report of the Committee on Union. It was agreed mittee report to postpone the reception of this Report in the meantime.

Adjourned, to meet at 2 o'clock. Closed with the benediction.

III. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, June 3, 1857, 2 o'clock P.M. m

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The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Porteous, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read, and approved.

Rev. Mr. Ross invited to correspond.

The Rev. Hugh Ross of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, being introduced by the Rev. Mr. Proudfoot, was invited to take his seat in Synod.

Theo. Ed., re-

The Report of the Committee on Theological Education was port of com. read by the Rev. Professor Taylor, Convener. The Report, after detailing the proceedings of the Committee during the past year, closed with certain suggestions which were recommended for the adoption of Synod.

The Report was received.

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Entered upon the consideration of one of its suggestions of the following purport, namely-"They would very respectfully sub- Consideration mit, however, that the Committee on Theological Education should of. be authorised to subject all the students to examination, and to arrange them according to their merit, and should also be empowered to require any student who may show himself very deficient in any department of the examination, to continue for another sesssion a student of the same year as that to which he last belonged, or, in case of one coming as a first year's student, to exclude him from the Hall, as a regular student, till he shall become better

After reasoning, several motions were proposed, all of which Reasoning. were withdrawn, with the exception of the following:-

Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Kennedy-

That the suggestion of the Committee be adopted, to the extent Motion on reof subjecting all students to an annual examination, with the view port of Ed. of testing their attainments, and securing a uniform status among committee. them, such as is usually ensured by their going through the same

Moved, in amendment, by Mr. Monteath, seconded by Mr. Amendment, Jennings-

Receive the Report from the Committee on Theological Education, return thanks for their diligence and labors, and send it down with the suggestions to Presbyteries, to report to next meeting of Synod; in the meantime the Committee to be appointed to have the powers of that of last year.

A vote being taken, 9 voted for the amendment, and 21 for the Decision-mo-The motion was declared to be carried, and the Synod tion carried. did and do decide in terms thereof.

On motion, the Committee on Theological Education of last year Theo. Educawas re-appointed, with the addition of the Moderator of Synod, tion com, re-The Committee will then be composed of the following persons, additions. namely:-The Rev. Professor Taylor, the Rev. Dr. Ferrier, the Rev. Messrs. Thomas Christie, Thornton, Dick, Barrie, Torrance, Ormiston, Kennedy, Duff, and Porteous. Professor Taylor, Con-

vener. Examiners Assistant, Messrs. Thornton and Ormiston.

Mr Ormiston read a letter from the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Chief Ryerson, Rev. Superintendent of Education, inviting the Synod, or individual Dr., invitation members thereof, to visit the Educational Museum, connected with museum. the Department of Public Instruction.

Reply to, clerk instructed.

The Synod instructed their Clerk to communicate to Dr Ryerson their cordial thanks for the kind invitation addressed to them.

Adjourned, to meet at 7 o'clock.

Closed with the benediction.

IV. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, June 3, 1857, 7 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Porteous, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of the last Sederunt were read and approved.

Theo. Educaport, consideration of.

Proceeded with the consideration of the other suggestion in tion com. re-the Report of the Committee on Theological Education of the tenor following, namely-"The Committee trust that the Synod will adopt some judicious method of securing the continuance of of students, already much too small, would be greatly diminished, and the Church would suffer accordingly."

Discussion.

The question was discussed at great length, and several motions were offered, all of which were subsequently withdrawn in favour of the following, proposed by Dr. Ferrier, and which the Synod unanimously adopted:-

Resolved, - That a Committee be appointed, consisting of Messrs. dents, decision Jennings, Dick, and Ormiston, to mature a scheme for raising and distributing a fund for the aid of Students; and that, for this year, the Theological Education Committee shall distribute among the Students the funds on hand, and whatever supplement may be made to them by Congregations which have not yet contributed.

Theo. Educaport, order to print.

Ordered,-That the Report of the Theological Education Comtion com. re- mittee be printed in the Appendix to the minutes. Read a Certificate from the Rev. Dr. Somerville, Secretary of the

Board of Missions of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland, Mr. J. James, to Mr. John James, Preacher of the Gospel, intimating the accepreception of as tance of Mr. James by the said Board, as a missionary to Canada. On motion, Mr. James was received as a probationer in the United Presbyterian Church in this country, and it was ordered that his name should be placed on the list of the Committee of Distribution.

Adjourned, to meet to-morrow at nine o'clock.

Closed with the benediction.

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V. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, June 4, 1857, 9 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Porteous, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read and approved.

Proceeded to fix the time and place for the next meeting of Synod. Synod, next It was agreed that the next meeting shall be held in the City of meeting of. Hamilton, on the first Tuesday of June, 1858, at 71 o'clock in the

The Clerk laid on the table an overture, transmitted by the Statistics, Committee of Bills and Overtures, from the Rev. David Coutts, in overture on.

Called for the Report of the Committee on a Foreign Mission. Mission, For-The Report was read by the Rev. Dr. Ferrier. eign, report of committee.

On motion, the Report was received, and the thanks of the Synod were tendered to the Committee, for the zeal and diligence with Received, and which they had attended to the duty intrusted to them.

Took up, in connection with this matter, an overture from the thanks to committee. Presbytery of Durham, representing the duty and consistency of Mission, Forformally relinquishing all aid from the Mission Fund in Scotland, on eign, overture the part of this Synod, before taking any further step towards engaging in a Foreign Mission.

Heard Mr. Thornton and Mr. Lawrence, on behalf of the Presbytery of Durham, in support of the overture.

After lengthened reasoning, the following resolution was submitted, on the motion of Mr. Ormiston, seconded by Dr. W. Taylor:

That this Synod rejoices to learn, from the Report of the Committee on a Foreign Mission, that the Congregations of the United Motion on Foreign Church in Court of the United Mission of the Uni Presbyterian Church in Canada are prepared to enter with so much eign Mission. zeal into a Foreign Mission to the Heathen, and also that there is a prospect of obtaining a missionary. Therefore, appoint a Committee to proceed with and mature the business, with as little delay as possible, and to correspond with the Churches on this important undertaking, with the view of enlisting the prayers and liberality of our people to a still greater extent; so that, at next meeting of Synod, we may have the man and the means ready for the work; that, as it is necessary that this Synod should first be independent of all aid from the parent Church in Scotland, therefore be it resolved, to relinquish all aid from Scotland in future, (without interfering with any arrangements which the Board of Missions at home have made, or may make, with ministers and preachers whom they send out to Canada); and that the minimum stipend shall be £125, and that it be left to the Committee on Missions to carry out this part of the resolution.

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motions in favour e Synod

Messrs. sing and his year, ong the may be outed. on Com-

ry of the cotland. accep-Canada. United that his ribution.

No vote was come to before the hour of adjournment arrived, and at noon the Synod adjourned to meet again at 2 o'clock.

Closed with the benediction.

VI. SEDERUNT.

Toronto, Thursday, June 4, 1857, 2 o'clock, P.M.

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The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr ${\hbox{\bf Porteous}},$ Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read and approved.

Minutes of Presbyteries, reports on. Flambre' Toronto. Wellington. Brant. London. Durham. Lauark, Called for the Reports of Committees appointed to examine the minutes of the several Presbyteries. Reports were handed in by the Committees on the minutes of the Presbyteries of Flamboro', Toronto, Wellington, Brant and Grey, setting forth that the records of those Presbyteries were accurately and carefully kept. The Reports received from the Committees on the minutes of the Presbyteries of London, Durham and Lanark, stated that those minutes were correctly kept, with the exception that they wanted the signature of the Moderator, and that, in the minute book of Durham Presbytery, a blank leaf occurred.

Canada East.

The Committee on the minutes of the Presbytery of Canada East reported that no records from that Presbytery had been put into their hands.

Accounts, audit in part.

The Committee appointed to Audit the Accounts of the Treasurers, reported, in part, that they had carefully examined the Accounts of the Rev. Thomas Christic, Treasurer of the Home Grant, and found them accurately kept, showing that, during the year, about £240, currency, had been received from home, and there remained a balance in hand of one shilling and sixpence hall-penny.

Ingersol peti-

The Clerk laid on the table two papers, transmitted by the Committee of Bills and Overtures, namely, a petition from the Rev. Mr. Cross and the Congregation of Ingersoll, praying to be disjoined from the Presbytery of London, and to be connected with that of

Music Instru-Brant; and also, an overture from the Presbytery of London anent mental, over-the employment of instrumental music in divine worship.

Music Over- It was agreed that the overture from the Presbytery of London be ture, first to- the first business taken up to-morrow morning.

Mission, Foreign, resumed. interrupted by the adjournment in the morning.

After further reasoning, the motion proposed by Lir. Ormiston at

the morning Sederunt was withdrawn, and the following, moved by Mr. Ormiston's Mr. Kennedy, and seconded by Mr. Gibson, was carried by a conmiston's motion withdrawn.

Resolved,—That, upon mature re-consideration of the whole sub- Decision; last ject of a Foreign Mission, the Synod agree to rescind the resolution year's resolution year, so far as concerns the particular field to be occupied.

The Rev. William Taylor, D.D., the Rev. Messrs. Archibald Dissent. Cross, John Jennings, James Watson, John Scott, William M. Christie, William Fraser, Matthew Barr and Patrick Greig, craved leave that their dissent from this resolution be marked in the minutes. Leave granted.

It was moved by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mr Dick, and un-Mission, Foranimously agreed:—That the Synod rejoice in the indications that eign, additionhave been given of the spirit in which the Church is prepared to al resolutions enter on the Foreign mission field, and resolve—

- To appoint a Committee to consider in what part of the field she shall engage in the work, said Committee to report at next meeting of Synod. Also,
- 2. That the said Committee be charged to make arrangements, during the current year, towards securing the entire independence of the Church in this country of all foreign aid, thus disposing of the subjects submitted in the overture from the Presbytery of Durham.

The Committee was then appointed by the Moderator, consisting Mission, Foroff the following persons:—Rev. Andrew Ferrier, D.D., Rev. Wileign, committiam Taylor, D.D., Rev. Messrs. Jennings, Thornton, Duff, William tee.

Inglis, Gibson and Ormiston, together with Messrs. Christie, Lunn, Dunbar and Henry, elders. Dr. Ferrier to be convener.

Called for the Report of the Committee on Funds. In the Funds, report absence of the Convener, the Report was given in by Mr Dunbar. of committee.

On motion, it was agreed that the Report of the Committee on Report rec'd. Funds be received and approved, and that the thanks of the Synod be tendered them for their diligence.

It was further agreed, that the Committee on Funds be re-ap-Funds compointed, consisting of Messrs. Drummond and Dunbar, and Robert re-appointed, Christie, Esq., and that they be instructed to correspond with the instructions Clerks of the several Presbyteries in which there have been defalcations, and to urge upon defaulting congregations the duty of making the collections enioned by the Svnod.

Read a letter from the Rev. Martin W. Livingstone, to the Convener of the Committee for the Distribution of Preachers, stating Revd. M. W., that he had united himself with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, application in connection with the Church of Scotland, and requesting a note for certificate. from the said Convener, or a certificate from the Synod, attesting

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P.M.Porteous,

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Certificate granted.

his ministerial standing in connection with this Church. It was agreed that Mr. Livingstone be furnished with a certificate of full ministerial standing in this Church, according to the request contained in his letter to the Committee of Distribution.

Free Church,

The Report of the Committee, appointed last year, to write a U.S., letter to letter to the Free Presbyterian Church of the United States, was given in by Mr. Barrie, in the absence of Dr. Ferrier, the Convener. The Report was received, and a copy of the letter, which had been sent, was read.

Free Church, U.S., letter from.

Read also a letter in reply, from the Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church in the United States, dated October 25, 1857.

Adjourned, to meet again at 7 o'clock.

Closed with the benediction.

VII. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, June 4, 1857, 7 o'clock. P.M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Porteous,

Mission Report read.

Entered on the exercises of the Synod's missionary meeting, when the Report of the Missions' Committee was read by the Rev.

Praise and prayer.

After engaging in praise by singing the 23d Paraphrase, v. 5-8, prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Monteath. An address on missions was then delivered by the Rev. Mr.

Address by Mr. Çavan.

Cavan. Again joined in praise by singing in the 23d Paraphrase, v. 13-15.

Address by

Praise.

The Rev. Mr. Henderson then delivered an address on the Si-Mr Henderson. militude of the Church, in her missionary character, with Christ the great missionary.

Thanks for addresses.

On motion, the thanks of Synod were tendered to Messrs. Cavan and Henderson for the excellent and appropriate addresses which they had delivered.

Praise.

Engaged in praise by singing the 5th and 6th verses of the 56th Paraphrase.

Deputation F. C. intimated.

The Clerk intimated that the Deputation from the Presbyterian Church of Canada were desirous of addressing the Synod to-morrow morning. It was agreed to receive the deputation first thing in the morning.

Adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 9 o'clock.

Closed with the benediction.

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VIII. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, June 5, 1857, 9 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Porteous, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read and approved.

The Clerk was, at his request, instructed to communicate to the Mission, For-Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, extracts from eign, instructhe minutes, containing the proceedings had, yesterday, in relation tion to clerk. to a foreign mission.

In relation to the mode of conducting the business of the annual Missionary missionary meeting of Synod, it was moved by Mr. Monteath, se- Meeting of conded by Mr. Thornton, and unanimously agreed-That, instead Synod, order of appointing any parties to give addresses on Missions, at next annual meeting, and seeing that, on several occasions, parties who had previously been appointed to give addresses were unable to fulfil their appointments, the Synod now and henceforth intrust the making of the necessary arrangements on the matter to the Committee on Missions.

The Rev. Dr. W. Taylor, from the Committee on the fund for Lowden Fund the family of the late Rev. Mr. Lowden, gave a highly gratifying report. report of the contributions to that object, showing the great liberality of the Church in this matter. The amount of the fund is £660 2s. 21d.

The Report was received, and the thanks of the Synod were Report receivgiven to Dr Taylor for the diligence and energy which he had shown ed, thanks to in this important business.

Took up the overture of the Presbytery of London anent the Musical inemployment of musical instruments in the worship of God, praying struments, the Synod to disallow and forbid such use of instruments of music, overture. in all our congregations, and to order their removal in any case in which they may have been introduced.

The overture was supported, on the part of the Presbytery of Overture sup-London, by the Rev. Messrs. Barr and Cross. Questions were ported by then put to Messrs. Cross and Barr, and were answered. Messrs.

At this point the deputation from the Presbyterian Church of Canada, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Ure and Laing, were Deputation introduced to Synod by the Rev. Dr. W. Taylor.

Messrs. Ure and Laing severally addressed the Synod in terms and Laing, adwarmly expressive of the desirableness of union between the dressed Synod Church to which they belong, and the United Presbyterian Church

and Cross.

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terian orrow in the in Canada, and conveying welcome intelligence of the progress made by the joint committee on union of the two churches.

Reply of Moderator. The Moderator replied, cordially reciprocating, on behalf of the Synod, the sentiments expressed by the Deputies.

Praise and prayer.

Engaged in praise by singing Ps. exxxiiii. 6-9, and at the request of the Moderator, the Rev. Mr. Barrie led in prayer.

Deputies invited to sit in Synod.

Overture re
The Deputies were then invited to take their seats in Synod.

Resumed the business interrupted by the introduction of the Deputation.

Dissentient of of the London Presbytery in adopting the overture on instrumental London Pres. music, was heard.

After long reasoning, the hour of noon having arrived, the Synod adjourned, to meet again at 2 o'clock, P.M.

Closed with the benediction.

IX SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, June 5, 1857, 2 o'clock, P.M. th

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The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Porteous, Moderator. $\,$

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained.

Overture on formula with-drawn.

Overture on same subject postponed.

Musical instruments, overture resumed.

Motions on.

. The Rev. Mr. Kennedy, by leave of Synod, withdrew the overture which he had laid upon the table, respecting alterations in the Formula for the ordination of ministers and elders. The Synod agreed also to postpone the consideration of an overture on the same subject, from the Presbytery of Durham.

Resumed consideration of the overture from the Presbytery of London, interrupted by adjournment.

Motions for the disposal of the said overture were proposed and seconded, in the order and in the terms following:—

1. Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Dewar-

That, without pronouncing judgment on the several points raised in the overture, the Synod adopt it so far as it declares the use of musical instruments, in the worship of God, contrary to the practice of this Church, and fitted to disturb the edification and harmony of its congregations.

2. Moved by Mr. Thornton, seconded by Mr. Coutts,-

That, in the opinion of this Synod, the introduction of instrumental music in the public worship of God is calculated to wound the feelings of many of God's people, is contrary to the well known and long established consuetudinary law of the United Presbyterian Church, and of the British Presbyterian Churches in general.

and is especially at variance with that spirituality of worship which is the great characteristic of the Christian Dispensation.

3. Moved by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Duff,-

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That the Synod, having heard the overture from the Presbytery of London, in respect to the use of instrumental music in one of the congregations within their bounds (the name of such congregation not being given); and whereas the Presbytery have not discharged their own constitutional duty in dealing with the session and congregation that are presumed, by the majority, to have acted contrary to the laws of the Church; and whereas no petitions or complaints have been presented to this Court by any congregation or persons, for or against the use of any kind of musical instruments in conducting the public worship of God,-refuse further to entertain the case as it is now presented to the Court.

4. Moved by Dr. W. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Barrie,-

That, inasmuch as there is no evidence before this Court that there is any party in the congregation referred to dissatisfied with the employment of instrumental music in leading the congregation in public praise, this Synod does not feel itself called on to give any deliverance on the abstract merits of the question which this overture involves, and therefore declines to entertain the overture. But enjoins all congregations to give good heed that no innovations in the mode of conducting this, or any other department of public worship, shall be made, to the hazard of the peace of the church, and affectionately entreats said congregation to remove this cause of offence, from a regard to the feelings of their brethren.

5. Moved by Mr. Monteath, seconded by Mr. Murray,-

That the Synod declare the overture of the Presbytery of London, in this matter, to have been irregular, inasmuch as they ought to have dealt with the session and congregation of London before proceeding to overture the Synod. It is, therefore, remitted to the Presbytery to deal with the session and congregation according to the rules of the Church. At the same time, it is hereby declared, by the Synod, that the use of instruments in public worship is at variance with consuctudinary law, and would prove adverse to the peace of the Church.

These several motions were voted on by the Synod in the reverse Votes. order to that in which they are above recorded, when only 2voted for that of Mr Monteath; the motion of Dr. W. Taylor was supported by 16 votes, and opposed by 16, and was lost by the casting vote of the Moderator; the motion of Mr. Jennings was voted for by 13, and 17 voted against it; the motion of Mr. Thornton was voted for by 24, and 12 voted against it; and the motion of Mr Gibson was voted for by 11, and 12 voted against it.

The motion of Mr. Thornton was declared to be carried, and the Synod did and do decide in terms thereof:-

That, in the opinion of this Synod, the introduction of instru-tion. mental music, in the public worship of God, is calculated to wound the feelings of many of God's people, is contrary to the well-known and long-established consuctudinary law of the United Freshy-

Deliverance music questerian Church, and of the British Presbyterian Churches in general, and is especially at variance with that spirituality of worship which is the great characteristic of the Christian Dispensation.

Dissent.

The Rev. Dr. W. Taylor, Rev. Messrs. Jennings, Barrie, Watson, Torrance, Kennedy and Scott, craved leave to dissent from this finding, so far as it declares the use of instrumental music at "variance with the spirituality of Gospel worship." Leave granted.

Union Com., report of,

Dr. W. Taylor, Convener of the Union Committee, gave in the Report of their proceedings, and of their conferences with the Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, the Report embodying a declaration of principles agreed upon by the joint committees, in relation to the questions on which differences of opinion have existed between the two Churches.

Union Report disposed of.

On motion of Mr Barrie, seconded by Mr Torrance, it was unanimously agreed.—That this Synod express their thanks to the committee on Union for their diligence in this very important service; that they are delighted with the measure of success which has already attended the efforts of the two committees; and that they will labour and pray for the speedy accomplishment of this union. Further, that those articles of agreement between the two committees be printed in the Addenda to the minutes, and published in the United Presbyterian Magazine, and lie over for discussion when the whole basis of union is on the Synod's table; and that the committee in the meantime be re-appointed, with the addition of the Rev. Mr. Gibson.

Union Com. re-appointed, with addition.

The Committee was then re-appointed, with addition, composed of the following persons, namely, the Rev. Dr. Taylor, of Montreal, the Rev. Messsrs. Jennings, Skinner, Proudfoot, Kennedy, Thornton, Ormiston and Gibson; together with Messrs. Lunn, Young, Christie and Robertson, elders. Dr. Taylor to be convener.

Deputation to Appointed Dr. William Taylor and Mr. Ormiston to be a depu-Free Church tation, on behalf of this Synod, to wait upon the Synod of the Synod. Presbyterian Church of Canada, meeting in Kingston next week.

F. C. Missionary Society, recommendation of.

At the request of Dr. W. Taylor, the Synod agreed cordially to recommend the French Canadian Missionary Society to the liberal support of the congregations of this Church.

Took up the Report of the Mission Committee, read last night.

MissionReport On motion of Mr. Monteath, it was unanimously agreed that the Report of the Committee of Missions be received, that the thanks of the Synod be given to that committee, and more especially to the convener, for the diligence and zeal which they have shown,

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and that the Report be printed in the Appendix to the Synod minutes.

The Committee of Missions was then re-appointed, consisting of Mission Com, the Rev. Thomas Christie, Professor Taylor, the Rev. Messrs. reappointed. Barrie, Jennings, Torrance, Drummond, Ormiston, Duff and Dunbar, together with Thomas Armstrong, James Armstrong, Robert Christie, Alexander Watt, Esqrs., Elders. The Rev. Mr. Torrance to be convener.

The Committee on Missions were instructed to make application Missionary on behalf of the Synod, to the Board of Missions in Scotland, for Committee, twelve additional missionaries to be sent out to Canada.

In reply to a question in the Report of the Mission Committee, Supplement to the Synod agreed, that any preacher, whose name is not on the preachers, books of the Distribution Committee, shall not receive supplement rule of. from the Mission Fund; and that, in reference to the case of the Rev. Martin W. Livingstone, submitted by the committee, they see no reason to depart from the general rule.

It was agreed that probationers be furnished with instructions, Supplement by the Committee of Distribution, as to the mode of applying for instruction,

Mr. Ormiston, from the Committee of Audit, reported that they had examined the accounts of the Treasurer, and found them kept Accounts, rein an accurate and orderly manner, showing a balance in favour of port on. the Mission Fund of £196 12s. 11d., and in favour of the Theological Institute of £27 19s. $7\frac{1}{2}d.$, and a balance against the Synod Fund of £41 9s. 51d.

Adjourned, to meet at 71 o'clock. Closed with the benediction.

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X. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, FRIDAY,

June 5, 1857, 71 o'clock, P.M. The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Mr. Porteous,

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained.

Took up a reference from the Presbytery of Wellington, as to Clerihew, Mr. the application of Mr. Clerihew to be received as a minister of the application of. United Presbyterian Church in Canada.

On motion, it was agreed to remit Mr. Clerihew's application to Remitted to the Presbytery of Wellington, to make all necessary inquiries Wellington respecting his license, ordination, and certified connection at first, Presbytery.

stone's not ex-

how to apply

with the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and report at next meeting of Synod.

Ingersoll, petition from.

Read a petition from the Rev. Mr. Cross, and the Congregation of Ingersoll, within the bounds of the Presbytery of London, praying to be disjoined from that Presbytery, and to be connected with the Presbytery of Brant.

Petition granted.

On motion, the prayer of the petition was granted: and the Congregation of Ingersoll was, and is hereby disjoined from the Presbytery of London, and united with the Presbytery of Brant.

Statistics, overture on.

Took up an overture, from the Rev. Mr. Coutts, on the statistical reports of congregations, representing the necessity of making certain changes in the headings of the Statistical Tables.

Referred to Miss. Com.

On motion, it was agreed that the matter of amending the Statistical Table be referred to the Committee of Missions to consider, and bring in a report by next meeting of Synod.

Thanksgiving Day, motion on.

It was moved by Dr. W. Taylor, seconded by Mr Jennings,-

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That a memorial be presented to the Governor in Council, requesting him to recommend that a day of Thanksgiving for public mercies, be observed annually in the Province, by Christians of all denominations, and that his Excellency nominate the day; the Moderator and Clerk to sign such memorial in the name of the Synod.

Amendment.

It was moved, in amendment, by Mr. Barrie, seconded by Mr.

That no such application be made to the Governor of this Province.

Decision

A vote was taken, and the amendment was carried by a large majority, and the Synod did and do decide that no such application be made.

Order for printing.

Ordered,-That 400 copies of the minutes of this meeting of Synod be printed, for the use of Ministers and Sessions.

21. 10s. to doorkeeper.

Ordered,-That the Church officer be paid £2 10s. for his attendance and services at this session of Synod.

gation.

The thanks of the Synod were then given to the minister, and Thanks to To- other office-bearers, and Congregation of the First United Presbyterian Church of Toronto, for the accommodation furnished by them for this meeting.

The Moderator then addressed the Synod.

After engaging in praise, the Moderator announced that the next meeting of Synod would be held in the City of Hamilton, on the first Tuesday of June, 1858, at 71 o'clock in the evening; and closed the session with the Apostolic benediction.

JOHN PORTEOUS, Moderator WM. FRASER, Clerk.

APPENDIX.

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REPORT OF MISSION COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED PRES-BYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA, READ AT THE MEETING OF SYNOD HELD JUNE, 1857.

Your Committee would introduce their Report by expressing their gratitude to the Father of Mercies, and the God of all Love and Comfort, who has graciously spared them during the past year, and who has allowed them now to appear before you with a brief statement of their transactions during their term of office. Nor would they fail to speak of the honour of being called to do something in connexion with the work of Missions, that noblest of enterprises in which any one can engage; which holds a high place in the counsels and determinations of the Divine mind; which comes recommended by the example of Immanuel, and enforced by his positive precept; which has for its object the social and moral amelioration of mankind, their deliverance from the pollution and misery of sin, their renewal after the image of God, and their exaltation to the enjoyment of his glory. Noble, and worthy of all commendation, must that work be, whether carried on among the inhabitants of heathen lands, upon which the Sun of Righteousness has but recently arisen with healing in his wings; or among the outcasts in cities of Christian nations, who have to be searched for in the lanes and the bye-ways, the repulsive abode of squalor and wretchedness; or among the immigrants from distant parts who have gone out to seek a settlement and a home, and whom the laws of benevolence and Christianity tell us to follow, that springs may break forth for them in the desert, and running streams in the wilderness. He is honoured who is called to engage in such work, whether in the province of giving of that substance with which God has blessed him, or in that of going forth to preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, or in that of occupying, as it were, a middle position between these parties, receiving from the one that he may administer to the support and comfort of the other, and receiving back from these accounts of their labors, trials and successes, that he may recount them to the former, thus enabling them to see the fruits of their liberality. Your Committee are sensible that it is in this position they stand by the appointment of Synod, and further, that nearly all of them are missionaries of the Gospel of Christ. May the day hasten when the Church we represent shall be a missionary Church, and when, instead of drawing from the mission funds of the parent body, which has cherished her so kindly and so long, she shall take her place beside her in efforts to Christianise

Your Committee have held three general meetings during the year—one about the middle of July last, to receive applications and to attend to other business belonging to the half-year which closed with June, 1856; this meeting was attended by six members; a second in January of the present year, which was attended by the same number of mem-

bers; and a third on Tuesday last, attended by eight members. At their first meeting a sub-committee was appointed, who have held six meetings, and materially facilitated the business of the general meeting. Although they were allowed a discretionary power, subject to the laws of Synod, in dealing with cases which might be presented, they have uniformly abstained from any absolute decision upon points which might allow of a difference of judgment, and have referred them to the Committee at large.

Mr Fraser, Catechist, has been continued, in the kind Providence of God, in his sphere of employment for Christ. Two reports have been received from him, breathing the same spirit of devotion that characterised former ones, giving evidence of the same laboriousness in the cause of his Lord, and of the same usefulness. He has good reason to thank God and take courage. During the year his receipts were £21 5s. 2d. According to the powers vested in them at last meeting of Synod, your Committee have made an increase to Mr. Fraser's salary. Before doing so they corresponded with the Presbytery of London, within whose bounds he labours, and requested their advice in the matter. By them it was suggested that £45 would be only an adequate sum. Your Committee have agreed to this for the present year, and till further action; but they have also agreed that Mr. Fraser should be paid at the rate of £40 for the preceding year. To this they think he is entitled, on account of the time and faithfulness he bestows in his labors.

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Your Committee have had before them them the case of the Rev. Mr. Devine, which, it will be remembered, came up at last meeting of Synod, by whom it was referred to them for action. Mr Devine was engaged 21 Sabbaths in Sherrington, for which he received £25 from the Presbytery of Canada East, nothing having been paid him by the congregation. The proper balance of £15 8s. 6d. was authorised to be paid, as the Committee understood they were expected to do so by the Synod.

Four letters have been received from the Rev. Dr. Somerville, Secretary to the Mission Board in Scotland. The first of these was dated 11th April, 1856, and announced that the Board had accepted the services of two missionaries, who were shortly afterwards among us, and are now settled in promising fields of usefulness; the second was under date of 30th May, and intimated that two other Missionaries were coming out, who are also now in the province. With regard to these letters, the following resolution was adopted:—"The Committee agree to express their satisfaction at this accession of laborers, instruct their Clerk to return their cordial thanks to the Board at home for the same, and to forward a copy of the resolution adopted by the Synod at their late meeting, that application be made for a further supply of probationers from the Church in Scotland." The third letter was in reply to this communication of your Committee, and contained a reference to arrangements that had been made to procure young men to come out as students, and prosecute their theological course in the Hall in this Province; but this matter will, we presume, be brought before you in the Report of the Theological Committee. Another letter has been since received from Dr. Somerville, announcing that there was another missionary on his way. No doubt the Synod will feel deeply grateful for this strengthening of their hands in the wide field for missionary effort which they occupy. Yet still there is a cry for more Only three or four names are at present on the Roll of Probationers, and there are about thirty vacancies, or stations, with the opportunity of commencing fully as many more if there was any prospect of being able to grant them supply. Will not the Synod, as the Supreme Court, take fresh action to press the wants of Canada upon the Church at home?

Preachers' reports have been received as usual. For the most part these have been handed over to the Sub-Committee for their inspection and judgment. Some of them reflect credit on the parties by whom they were prepared, and show that a considerable amount of labor has been gone through in the way of family visitation. By several of the probationers week-day services have been conducted, with commendable diligence and consideration, in destitute localities. Such services indicate that those by whom they have been performed are imbued with a missionary spirit, and that there is a longing for the Word in the particular districts. Others of the reports are far from being satisfactory, and the Committee cannot understand how they have been allowed by Presbyteries to pass, and much less how they have been recommended. In all, thirty reports have been received of labors performed within bounds of Presbyteries.

Your Committee have referred to the Synod the case of the Rev. Mr. Livingstone, who, without being on the roll of probationers, or subject to the appointment of the Distribution Committee, took appointments, we believe, from Presbytery Clerks, and who claims a balance due over the sums received in the vacancies where he preached. The following is a copy of the resolution adopted :- Agreed, that the case be referred to the Synod, with the request that the Synod lay down a definite rule for the guidance of the Committee, with reference to the applications of parties not on the list of probationers, or employed by the Presbyteries to labor within the bounds, without the cognizance of the

Proceeding to the financial affairs, your Committee have to report that there have been received by probationers (13 in number) in the respective vacancies, £488 6s. 9d. The total sum due to parties by The total sum due to parties by virtue of arrangements with Home Mission Board, was £348 5s. 2d. sterling, of which sum £229 18s. currency have been received by them in vacancies in the Province. Five congregations have received supplement to the amount of £162, to which must be added the case of one whose minister, being under arrangements with the Board at home, draws the balance between £70 16s. 8d. sterling, and £49 12s. currency. Your Committee would earnestly press upon the attention of Presbyteries the duty of urging forward congregations that are receiving supplement. Very few of them are making any advance in the amount of stipend raised, and the thought forces itself upon us that they are likely to allow themselves to be a burden upon the funds, and a hindrance to the spread of the Gospel in other quarters for a long time, unless special efforts are made by Presbyteries to incite them to do their utmost to become self-supporting. We would urgently recommend that, when another application for supplement by any such congregation is laid before a Presbytery, a deputation be appointed to visit it, or a meeting of Presbytery to be held at the place, for the purpose of awakening to a sense of duty and of interest.

Your Committee present the following abstract from the books of the Treasurers, respecting the Mission Funds of the Church for the past

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while there are at present liabilities to upwards of £270, or more than 251. in excess of the balance on hand,

Your Committee would only further detain you, to suggest that Clerks of Presbyteries apply to the Convener for forms of reports to be filled up by probationers for Presbyteries and the Committee. These forms have been considerably departed from during the past year, and in consequence, an unnecessary amount of labor has been entailed upon the Committee. They would also urge that parties prepare their applications and reports in a business-like manner. Papers have come to hand from which the Committee could not know that there was any application for money at all, and they learned the fact only on the receipt of letters, expressing wonder that the money had not been

ROBERT TORRANCE, Corener.



[No. II.]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION.

The Committee on Theological Education beg respectfully to report as follows :-

The Rev. the Moderator presided. There were present, of the Committee, the Rev. Messrs. Dick, Torrance, Kennedy, Ormiston, and Dr. Taylor. The Rev. Mr. Drummond was also present. After devotional exercises, an address was delivered from the chair, and Dr. Taylor read an introductory lecture. Several of the Ministers made a few remarks, and the meeting was closed with singing and the benediction. The number of students who entered was thirteen, viz .- Of the fourth year, Messrs. Stephen Balmer, Alexander McFaul, and Robert C. Moffat; of the third year, Messrs. Thomas G. Chesnut, William Fletcher, and David Maters; of the second year, Messrs. William Donald, Robert Hall, and William McWilliam; and of the first year, Messrs. James Hanran, George Irving, William Stewart, and John Turnbull.

The members of Committee appointed by the Synod as examiners, have given in the following Report:

"Toronto, 3d December, 1857.

"The Committee appointed by the Synod for examining the students met, the Rev. Mr. Ormiston in the chair, and proceeded to estimate the examination papers sent in by the students. These papers were written on the evenings of the 26th, 27th, and 28th November, under the superintendence of the Committee, the students being convened for

the purpose in the usual place of meeting, and the questions being then proposed to them simultaneously. The Committee having carefully considered the papers, agreed to arrange the competitors for Exhibitions in the following order of merit, namely,-Of the fourth year, Mr Moffat, Mr. McFaul; of the third year, Mr. Waters, Mr. Chesnut, Mr. Fletcher; of the second year, Messrs. Donald and McWilliam, who are bracketed, Mr. Hall; of the first year, Mr. Stewart. Mr. Turnbull, Mr. Hanran, Mr. Irving. Those bracketed are regarded as so nearly equal, that no attempt is made to distinguish them. The examiners consider all as of such merit that they do not feel called upon to award to any only £9, and neither have they seen cause to make any of the exhibitions higher than £10, which last sum accordingly is awarded to each. The distinction, for the present year, therefore, is purely honorary. The examiners are highly satisfied with many of the papers, and considerably so with all of them, but regret that some of the students entirely omitted some of the subjects prescribed. They regret, also, that one of the students did not submit to the examination.

(Signed) "W. ORMISTON."

The sum of £120 has thus been expended on Exhibitions, and the Committee feel satisfied that these examinations, apart from the awarding of the Exhibitions, are fitted to be very beneficial to the students.

The surplus of the sum raised in 1855, for aiding and encouraging students, after paying the Exhibitions of that year, was £178 0s. 0.d., to which was added interest at 5 per cent., from 16th October, 1855, till 3d December, 1856, say 12l. 9s. 114l.; also, £6 5s., received from the congregation of Blandford, making a total at the disposal of the Committee, on the said 3d December, amounting to £195 lbs., leaving, after paying the above £120, a balance of £76 15s., which will bear interest at 6 per cent. from that date. The Committee trust that the Synod will adopt some judicious method of securing the continuance of grants to the students. It is obvious that, without this, the number of students, already much too small, would be greatly diminished, and the Church would suffer accordingly.

The Committee beg to state that they can suggest no better plan of awarding the Exhibitions than that already adopted. They very respectfully submit, however, that the Committee on Theological Education should be authorised to subject all the students to examination, and to arrange them according to their merit; and should also be empowered to require any student who may show himself very deficient in any department of the examination, to continue another session a student of the same year as that to which he last belonged, or in the case of one coming as a first year's student, to exclude him from the Hall, as a

regular student, till he shall become better qualified.

The Committee feel it a duty to bring under the notice of Synod, what they cannot but consider a very painful fact, that, last year, our Church in Canada did not furnish one first year's student. Of the four who attended the Divinity Hall, three came directly from Scotland, and one was from the Presbyterian Church of Canada, having been formerly a student in Knox's College, Toronto; and of our whole thirteen students, seven came from Britain, either immediately or shortly before entering with us. It is proper to add, in the way of grateful acknowledgment to the Church at home, that its Mission Board paid the expense of four of these students in coming to Canada.

The Committee have expended £5 12s. 6d. on books for the Theolo-

gical Library, leaving a balance of 4l. 11s. 7d.

With regard to the exercises of the Hall, the students were examined on the first twenty-nine chapters of Dr. Dick's Theology, and the first five centuries in Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History. cally, in Greek, the 17th chapter of John's Gospel, and the First Epistle

of Peter; and in the Hebrew they read a number of Messianic passages in the Law of Moses, the Psalms, and the Prophets, together with the corresponding portions of the Septuagint. They also each delivered a discourse, and gave in three written exercises on subjects prescribed.

The Committee have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the dili-

gence and excellent deportment of the students.

Two winter sessions having how been held, the new scheme may be regarded as somewhat tested, and the result, each season, has been highly satisfactory. By the kindness of Divine Providence, good health has, with very inconsiderable exceptions, been enjoyed. The business of the Hall has consequently been regularly conducted.

The Committee rejoice in the prospect which the Church has of so many very promising young men as probationers for the ministry; and the increased attendance this session, ought to be matter of devout gratitude to God. But it is evident that, unless the Church is to continue drawing its supply of ministers chiefly from beyond its own borders, the most strenuous and persevering efforts must be made to induce suitable young men to devote themselves to the ministry.

The Committee are persuaded, that all reflecting persons must be sensible that the Divinity Hall has a very important bearing on the interests of the Church; and they carnestly commend it to the care of the Synod, and fervently implore for it the blessing of the exalted

Redeemer.

[No. III.] REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON UNION.

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Within Knox's Church, Toronto, this 4th day of June, 1857. The Committees on Union of the Presbyterian Church of Canada and the United Presbyterian Church, met. The meeting was opened with

Present,-The Rev. Dr. W. Taylor, J. Jennings, W. Ormiston, R. H.

Thornton, A. Kennedy, J. Proudfoot, and P. Lunn, Elder. Rev. R. Ure, T. Lowry, D. Inglis, J. Laing, and W. Heron, Elder. Mr. Lowry was appointed Chairman, and Mr. Laing, Clerk.

The minutes of the Synods of last year, re-appointing the Committees,

The Convener of the Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Canada then made a statement, explaining that, from unavoidable circumstances, he had been unable to give timely notice of this meeting to all the members of that Committee, which would account for the small number present, expressing the hope that any informality in this respect would be overlooked.

The joint Committees then proceeded to consider the matter which had been intrusted to them by the Synods, as contained in the Report submitted last year, namely :-

"To take additional steps to advance the union of churches holding "so many principles in common, and especially to propose a declara-"tion, which might afterwards be used as a basis of union, in which "the exclusive Headship of Christ over his Church, together with the "freedom of conscience on the one hand, and the duty of all men to be governed in their private and public relations, by the authority of "Christ in his Word, on the other, may be fully maintained."

After friendly conference, the Committee adjourned, to meet in the United Presbyterian Church, Bay Street, at half-past 8 o'clock, P.M. Eodem die, half-past 8 o'clock. The committee met, according to adjournment. Present as above, except Rev. W. Ormiston.

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Prayer having been offered, consideration of the important matter before the Committee was resumed. After mature deliberation, characterised by the greatest harmony and brotherly kindness, it was unanimously agreed to unite in bringing forward the following statements as a declaration in terms of the minute referred to above.

I. Of the Headship of Christ.

We maintain that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only King and Head of his Church; that the laws by which she is to be governed are contained only in the Inspired Scriptures; that Christ has made her free from all external or secular authority in the administration of her own affairs; and that she is bound to assert and defend this liberty to the utmost, and ought not to enter into any such engagements with any party whatsoever as would be prejudicial to it.

If. Of the Liberty of Conscience.

We maintain that "God is the only Lord of the Conscience," and that therefore every person ought to be at full liberty to "search the Scriptures" for himself, and to follow out what he conscientiously believes to be the teaching of Scriptures, without let or hindrance. But if any person, under the plea of liberty of conscience, presumes to disturb the peace of society, or to set aside the lawful authority of the magistrate, or to blaspheme the name of God openly and wantonly, or to disturb the public religious worship of his neighbor, we declare that these are abuses which the magistrate ought to repress, both for the glory

III. Of the Duties of the Civil Magistrate.

We maintain that while the Civil Magistrate, as such, is not an officer in the Church of Christ, and may not therefore assume any ecclesiastical functions, or claim power to act as an interpreter of the Word of God, or as an administrator in matters spiritual and ecclesiastical, he has yet an important part to act in his official capacity in relation to the kingdom of Christ; that it is his duty in his public, as well as in his private capacity, to acknowledge the authority of Christ as the supreme governor among nations: and that in this view, without taking cognizance of offences against morality considered as sins against God, he ought to see that, in aiming to promote the social wellbeing in subordination to the Divine Glory, the laws of the land, in their enactment and administration, are avowedly in accordance with the principles of justice and morality inculcated in the Scriptures.

At the present time we think it necessary especially to declare, that he is bound to acknowledge the divine authority of the Christian Sabbath, and to secure all his subjects their right to enjoy the sacred

Note. It is to be understood that the sections in the Westminster Confession of Faith, bearing upon the relation of the civil magistrate to matters of religion, are received by us in accordance with the above given statements.

The Committees would also here take occasion unitedly to record their gratitude to God, who, they believe, has thus graciously guided them in their deliberations; and the satisfaction they feel in the prospect of success about to crown their unworthy efforts: And further, they would earnestly recommend to their respective Synods the prosecution to completion of the object contemplated, fraught as they conceive it to be with the prosperity and success of the Presbyterian Church, and with the glory of God, in these lands.

No. III.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.

Charge against the Treasurer.

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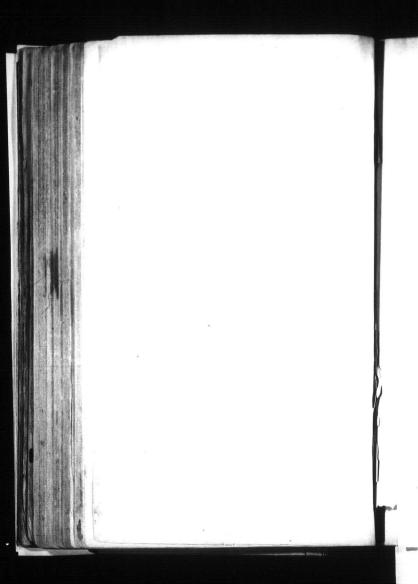
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Ten Congregations have contributed for the South Sea Mission, £75 8s 7d.

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