

MINUTES OF SYNOD

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

HELD IN

CALVIN CHURCH,

SAINT JOHN, N. B.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tuesday

JUNE 20, 21, 22, 23, 25 & 26, 1860.

SAINT JOHN, N. B.

PRINTED BY GEORGE W. DAY, 4 MARKET STREET.

1860

LIST OF MINISTERS
OF THE
Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick.

ST. JOHN PRESBYTERY.

Wm. Ferrie,		St. John.
Andrew Donald,	Campbell Settlement.	
Lewis Jack,	Springfield, K. C.	
James Bennet,		St. John.
James Baird,	Carleton, Sr. John.	
Wm. Alves,		St. John.

ST. STEPHEN'S PRESBYTERY.

John Turnbull,		St. James.
Wm. Miller,	Bailie Settlement.	
Wm. Elder,		St. Stephen.
Wm. Bennet,		St. George.

YORK PRESBYTERY.

Hector McKay,		Salmon River.
Alexr. Smith,	Prince William.	
Thomas Nicholson,	Campbleton.	
James Salmon,	Woodstock.	
Alexr. Stirling,	Fredericton.	

MIRIMACHI PRESBYTERY.

Angus McMaster,		New Mills.
James Law,	Richibucto.	
Thomas Johnston,	Blackville.	
James Fowler,	Black-river, Glenelg.	

MISSIONARIES, J. G. Forbes, J. Morton, J. W. McDonald.
EDUCATION AGENT, C. G. Glass.

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MINUTES.

SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, N. B.

SAINT JOHN, 1860.

FIRST SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, CALVIN CHURCH, 20th June, 1860. }
7 o'clock, Evening. }

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick met according to adjournment, in Calvin Church St. John, on the 3d Wednesday of June at 7 o'clock, evening, in pursuance of the provisions of "An Act of Assembly passed in the 22d year of the reign of her present Majesty Queen Victoria, entitled, an Act for Incorporating the Synod of the Church known as the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick, and the several congregations connected therewith," when after praise and prayer the Rev. James Bennett, by request of the Moderator, whose late illness unfitted him for the office, preached the usual opening discourse from Ecclesiastes 7 chap. 29 verse—"God hath made man upright, but they have sought out many inventions." The Synod was then constituted with prayer by the Rev. William Ferrie, who, subsequently as Convener of Committee of ex-Moderators, proposed the Rev. John Turnbull as his successor in office, which was unanimously agreed to. The usual order of making out Synodical list and other business being suspended as uninteresting to the congregation assembled, the Rev. William Ferrie proceeded, with approval of the Synod, to read his report as Convener of the Committee on Popery, which was ordered to lie over for further consideration. Mr. Ferrie then brought forward overture from the Presbytery of Saint John to the effect that a day be appointed to celebrate the tricentenary of the Reformation. After considerable discussion it was moved and agreed to to defer further consideration of the overture till future sederunt.

It was then Resolved that the time for devotional exercises be from 9 till 10 o'clock in morning of each day.

The following Ministers and Elders attended :—

SAINT JOHN PRESBYTERY.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Andrew Donald,	Robert Patten,	Londonderry and Campbell's Settlement.
Lewis Jack,		Springfield.
William Ferrie,	Doctor Patterson,	St. David's Church.
James Bennet,	Robert Kedey,	St. John P. Church.
James Beard,		Carleton.
William Alves,	Robert M'Laughlin,	Calvin Church.
James Gray,	James Stark,	Norton, &c.

SAINT STEPHEN PRESBYTRY.

John Turnbull,	Peter Morrison,	St. James.
William Elder,		St. Stephens,
William Bennett,		St. George, &c.

YORK PRESBYTERY.

Alex. Smith,	Alex. Moodie,	Prince William.
Hector McKay,	John Frazer,	Salmon River.
James Salmon,	James Savage,	Richmond.
Alex. Stirling,		Fredericton,

MIRIMACHI PRESBYTERY.

James Law,	Richibucto.
T. G. Johnstone,	
James Fowler,	Kichiboucuac.

Com. Bills. Roll of Synod having been made up, Committee of Bills and Overtures was appointed, consisting of the Moderator, Clerk of Synod, Clerks of Presbyteries and Conveners of Committees; said Committee also to arrange order of business (ex-Moderator Convener) and to report at next sederunt.

Hours of Meeting. It was then Resolved, That the hours of meeting and adjournment be as formerly, viz: To meet for business at 10 o'clock, A. M.; adjourn at 1, P. M.; meet at 3, P. M.; adjourn at 6, P. M.; meet again at 7½, P. M.

Supply of Preachers. Synod then proceeded to appoint the places of preaching for the several members on next Sabbath, viz: The Moderator to supply Fredericton; Mr. Johnson St. David's Church in morning, Mr. Jack in evening; Mr. Donald Calvin Church in morning, Mr. McKay in afternoon; Mr. McKay Carleton in morning, Mr. Johnston in afternoon; Mr. Fowler St. John Church in morning, Mr. Sterling in evening; Mr.

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Baird, Pisarinco ; Mr. Alves, Redhead ; Mr. Law, Musquash and Lepreaux ; Mr. Ferrie, Golden Grove ; Mr. James Bennet, Nerepis.

Synod then adjourned to meet next morning at 9 o'clock for devotional exercises, and at 10 for business.

SECOND SESSION.

Calvin Church, 21st June, 1860,
10 o'clock, A. M. }

Synod met according to adjournment and having been constituted with prayer, Minutes were read and sustained. Committee of Bills gave in their report recommending Synod to take up subjects in following order.

1. Minutes of Synod of past year.
2. Overture regarding tercentenary of the Reformation.
3. Overture relative to change of Conveners and Members of Committees.
4. Report on Popery.
5. Forbes' Book of Procedure.
6. Report of Committee on Union.

Order of
Business.

Moved and agreed to adopt the order of business as recommended by the Committee of Bills.

In accordance with order of business, Synod proceeded to review the Minutes of last year. Certain corrections were ordered to be made.

Overture from Presbytery of St. John regarding the tri-Tricentenary centenary of the Reformation, was taken up, viz :

" That this Synod be overtured to fix the most appropriate day for the observing of the Tercentenary of the Reformation in Scotland, and at the suggestion of Mr. Ferrie were added the words " at its first meeting."

Rev. Mr. Alves suggested that subject should be taken up as overturing, 1st. The propriety of celebrating the Tercentenary of the Reformation ; and 2nd. In the event of affirming the propriety of said celebration to appoint a day for the purpose, and persons to prepare addresses for the occasion ; which suggestion was agreed to. After consideration the propriety of celebrating Tercentenary was affirmed, when it was moved by Mr. Ferrie, seconded by Mr. Law, and unanimously agreed to, that a Committee of this Synod be appointed to confer with other Presbyterian bodies in this Province with a view to secure their co-ope-

ration in observing Tercentenary of the Reformation in Scotland on some convenient day, and to make all the necessary arrangements as regards time, place, speaking, and subjects, and to give all due publicity to said arrangements before meeting.

It was then moved and carried unanimsly, that the Ministers and Elders of the Presbytery of St. John be the Committee for this object, and that Mr. Ferrie be the Convener.

Change of
Conveners.

Overture from Presbytery of St. John requesting Synod to change annually the Conveners of Committees, and also the members of committees, was read, when it was moved by Mr. Ferrie, and seconded by Mr. J. Bennet, that the overture be adopted. Rejection of the overture was moved by Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. W. Bennet. On the vote being taken the overture was rejected.

Synod adjourned with the Benediction.

THIRD SESSION.

Calvin Church, 21st June, 1860,
3 o'clock, P. M.

Opening Ser-
mon.
Thanks.

Synod met according to adjournment, and was opened with prayer. Minutes were read and sustained, when it was moved by Mr. Ferrie, and seconded by Mr. Gray, and unanimously agreed to, that a vote of thanks be given to Mr. Bennet for his admirable opening sermon.

Rep't. of Com
on Popery.

Report of Committee on Popery was then taken up and received and approved by the Synod.

Ecclesiastical
Precedence.

It was moved by Mr. Ferrie, and seconded by Mr. Donald, and agreed to, that the Moderator be appointed to write a letter to his Excellency the Governor, requesting to know the order of Ecclesiastical Precedency of the different denominations in this Province.

It was moved by Mr. McKay, and seconded by Mr. Law, that a Committee on Popery be appointed, consisting of Messrs. Ferrie, Alves, Stirling, Turnbull, and Gray, Ministers, and Dr. Patterson, Elder—Mr. Ferrie being re-appointed Convener.

The Court adjourned at 5½ P. M., to allow Committee of Bills to meet, and for other business.

Closed with the Benediction.

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FOURTH SESSION.

Calvin Church, 21st June, 1860, }
7 1-2 o'clock, P.M. }

Synod met according to adjournment, and being opened with prayer Minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained. Order of Business Committee arrangements was then read and adopted by the Synod.

Committee of Books was then appointed, consisting of Messrs. Gray, Johnston, Wm. Bennet, and Smith—Mr Gray Convener, to meet next morning to examine the records of Presbyteries. Com. of Books.

Overture from St. John Presbytery recommending Synod to adopt Forbes' Book of Laws for the several Ecclesiastical Courts of the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick.—It was moved by Mr. Ferrie, seconded by Mr. Donald, that the overture do pass. When Mr. Elder moved as a counter motion, seconded by Mr. J. Bennet, that the overture be rejected. Upon the vote being taken the overture was adopted by a majority of 7 to 5. Forbes' Book of Laws.

Subject of union with other Presbyterian bodies was then taken up, when the Clerk read report submitted by Mr. Stevens as Convener of the Committee on Union. The report was ordered to be received, and Mr. Stevens thanked for his interest and exertions in this matter. Presbyterian Union.

Subject of Union with other Presbyterian bodies was continued, and opinions of several members were expressed on the principles which should be adopted by us in our negotiations for union with other Presbyterian bodies, when the motion for adjournment was made and carried; Synod to proceed with same subject at next sederunt. Closed with the Benediction.

FIFTH SESSION.

CALVIN CHURCH, 22nd June, 1860. }
10 o'clock, A. M. }

Synod met according to adjournment, was opened with prayer, and Minutes read and sustained, when the subject of Union with other Presbyterian bodies was taken up for further consideration, when it was moved by Mr. Elder, and seconded by Mr. McKay. Union with other Pres. bodies.

Resolved,—1. That this Synod in terms of its resolution of

last year heartily recognizes the duty and advantage of promoting and effecting a Union of Presbyterian bodies, when this can be done on Scriptural grounds and without compromise of principle.

II. That it appears to this Synod that the basis of Union agreed upon by Presbyterian bodies in Australia now constituting the Presbyterian Church of Victoria is well adapted to the purposes of such union.

III. That this Synod appoint a Committee consisting of the Moderator, Messrs. Elder, McKay, Law, J. Bennet, Alves, and Gray, Ministers, with W. Parks, Peter Morrison, and J. Mann, Esqs., Elders, (Mr. Elder Convener.) On the subject of union, whose duty it shall be to correspond with other Presbyterian bodies in this Province with a view to union, should their views on this matter be found to correspond with those of this Synod.

As a counter motion it was moved by Mr. Ferrie, and seconded by Mr. Jack.

That, however well adapted for providing for union upon Scriptural ground without sacrifice of principle the basis of union agreed upon in Australia may be among persons far advanced in Christian Grace, yet as our experience teaches us that persons not so far advanced have signed the very standards alluded to in that basis, and still have vindicated Erastian tenets to the utmost, it is not expedient that this Synod which is the Supreme Court of a Church which owes its origin to the anti-erastian spirit of its founders, and seems, therefore, specially called upon to see to it that the crown rights of Christ be recognized in its formulas should adopt such a brief and vaguely worded basis as the one in question, and seeing that the basis of union first proposed in Australia seems to declare the doctrines of Christ's headship alike over the Church and over the Nations, the Synod shall adopt that basis as its platform in proposing union with other Presbyterian Churches in New Brunswick.

The two motions being put to the Court, the resolutions proposed by Mr. Elder were carried by a majority of twelve to two over those proposed by Mr. Ferrie.

Mr. Ferrie craved leave to dissent from the above resolutions and to assign reasons therefor in due time.

Mr. Jack also signified dissent and resolve to assign reasons.

Leave granted to Mr. Ferrie and Mr. Jack.

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Synod also appointed Committee on union to answer the reasons of dissent of Mr. Ferrie and Mr. Jack.
Synod closed with the Benediction.

SIXTH SESSION.

CALVIN CHURCH, 22nd June, 1860. }
3 o'clock, P. M. }

Synod met and was constituted with prayer, Minutes were read and sustained.

Overture from Presbytery of St. John relative to Charter Overture on Charter.
was withdrawn with permission of Synod.

Overture relative to support of Free Church College at Halifax was then read, viz:— Overture on F. C. College.

“Whereas it appears that the current expenses of the Free Church College of Halifax are not fully met by the collections made on behalf of them by the Free Synod of Nova Scotia, and also that subscriptions towards the Endowment of the College promised by parties in N. B., are in several cases unpaid; and whereas New Brunswick has derived and will derive many advantages from this institution, and for this and other reasons ought to aid in its support; the Presbytery of St. Stephen humbly overture the Synod that the above facts be taken into its consideration with a view to such aid being rendered in the premises as to the Synod may seem best.”

Adoption of Overture was moved by Mr. Elder, seconded by Mr. Turnbull, and agreed to. Synod further resolved that an appeal be made to our people to increase the Incidental Fund by Congregational collections and individual subscriptions, and that should the state of the fund at the next meeting of the Synod enable the Synod so to do, a portion of the fund shall be allocated to this object; and that the Clerk of the Synod be Treasurer of the Incidental Fund, and that he be instructed to endeavour to advance its interests. Lastly, the Synod recommends to Presbyteries to correspond with the Secretary of the College Board with a view to co-operation with him in the gathering in of such subscriptions as may be available.

Overture of York Presbytery on Registering Baptisms was then taken up, viz:— Overture on Baptism Registeries.

“Whereas we find that there is no regular system pursued by our Congregations in registering the names of those who

have been baptized, and, Whereas, it is desirable that a uniform system of registration be observed by all the congregations within the bounds of the Synod.

It is, therefore, humbly overtured that the Synod take this subject into its serious consideration, and devise such measures thereanent as will secure a regular and uniform system of registration throughout all the congregations within the bounds.

Moved and agreed to that the Overture be received and approved, and that sessions which have not proper baptismal registers be enjoined to procure them, and that Presbyteries be entrusted to see that this injunction be complied with.

Report of Foreign Missions was then submitted by the Convener, Mr. Turnbull, when it was moved and agreed to, that the report be received and approved, the Convener re-appointed and instructed to transmit the amount of contributions to Rev. John Stewart, New Glasgow, towards the support of Mr. Constantinides, and that contributions of the ensuing year be applied to the same object.

Sederunt closed with the Benediction.

SEVENTH SESSION.

CALVIN CHURCH, June 22nd, 1860. }
8 o'clock, P. M. }

HomeMission Report. Synod was opened with prayer, Minutes were read and sustained, when report of Home Mission Committee was called for, which was read by the Convener, Mr. Alves. Report was remitted to Convener to make certain additions suggested, and to Committee to have abstract of accounts audited to be received at future Sederunt.

Missionary Reports. Mr. Wm. Bennet then gave in report of a journey to Grand Falls detailing the prospects of Presbyterianism in that place.

Mr. Stirling, being requested to give a report of his late visit to the Northern part of the Province, and of the revival of religion of which he was a witness in that locality, gave a most interesting account of the very remarkable manifestation of the outpouring of the spirit in the congregation of Mr. McMaster. Mr. Stirling's statement occupied the attention of the Court up till a late hour, when special prayer was offered up by Mr. Smith, at request of Synod. Synod adjourned with the Benediction.

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EIGHTH SESSION.

CALVIN CHURCH, 23rd June, 1860. }
10 o'clock, A. M. }

Synod met according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer by Mr. McKay, in absence of the Moderator. Minutes of last meeting were read and sustained.

It was then moved and agreed unanimously that Synod records its gratitude to God for the remarkable manifestations of his Sovereign Power in the wonderful work of revival in Mr. McMasters' Congregation, Restigouche, prays for its continuance and spread in the midst of us. Synod also appoints a Public Meeting to be held on Monday evening at 7½ o'clock in St. John Presbyterian Church, that Mr. Stirling may have an opportunity of addressing our people on this important subject.

After some conversation on Home Mission Report, Report of Sustentation Committee was called for, and was read by the Convener, when it was moved and carried unanimously that the report be received and approved, and the Convener thanked for his attention to the business of the Sustentation Fund. Sustentation Report.

It was also moved that in calculating the income of Minis-What income. ters with a view to arrange the scale of distribution of the Sustentation Fund "income" shall include the amount to be received from the Sustentation Fund and the annual value of Manse or other source of local income.

Convener having signified his resolution to resign the Sustentation Convener. Convener of the Sustentation Committee, Mr. Baird was appointed Convener for the ensuing year.

Reasons of dissent from decision of Synod relative to Basis of Union with other Presbyterian bodies, were handed in by Messrs. Ferrie, and Jack, and remitted to the Committee on Union for answer.

Report of Presbytery of Miramichi was then read, viz:—Rep't of Pres-
The Presbytery of Miramichi have to report that they bytery Mira-
have held five meetings during the past year, but that owing michi.
to the great distances that Ministers have to travel in order
to be present, the attendance has not been so full as could
be desired. Very little business of importance has been
transacted, the great distance, by which members are se-
parated, cut them off from all personal communication with
each other, and render independent action absolutely neces-

ary. That meetings of Presbytery may accomplish the end designed by them, a regular attendance must be secured ; in the present unsettled condition of our Presbytery, however, this must be regarded as an impossibility. Some members could not attend and return to their congregation in the same week.

We have, however, to report the addition of the Rev. Thomas Nicholson, to our number who was inducted into the Congregation of Escuminac on the 19th July last. His labours are scattered over a wide field extending more than one hundred miles in length along the banks of the Restigouche, and the Bay Chaleur. The congregation of Richibucto have also restored their church on a much larger scale, and are now in possession of a building which is at once a noble monument of their own liberality, and one of the finest edifices belonging to our body in the Province. Mr. Nicholson's congregation have also put forth laudable efforts to secure suitable buildings for worship.

The Synod is also aware that during the last two or three months a remarkable revival has been going forward in the Congregation of New Mills, and that many so far as men can judge have been made partakers of that peace of conscience, and joy in the Holy Ghost which result from a full reception of the offers of grace. Our Church has been highly honoured by Christ in this visible manifestation of his power to save, the tribute of heartfelt gratitude should rise to him for the past, and an earnest prayer that the showers of his grace may descend yet more copiously till every wilderness and solitary place in our Province shall be glad for them, and rejoice and blossom as the rose.

As no meeting of Presbytery has been held since the beginning of the revival we can furnish no details but must refer the Synod to the oral Reports of those who have mingled with it and shared its influence.

They have to report further that the Rev. Mr. Forbes has been labouring in Buctouche, as a Missionary, during the past year. His labours have been highly acceptable to the people, and much greater interest than formerly is now exhibited in religious matters. Rev. Mr. McDonald also laboured during the winter in Bonaventure, and Gaspé, and will submit a report of his labours to the Synod.

It was moved that the foregoing report be received and approved, and that in future reports of Presbyteries be entered on the Minutes of Synod. Agreed.

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The Presbytery of St. John Report that during the past year the regular work of the Ministry has been prosecuted by the Ministers of their bounds; that a new Church is in process of erection in Upper Norton, that a new Church also has been opened in Pizarinco; that no new stations have been established but that there are many districts which are without the means of grace which will soon become important stations especially one in Sussex to which Synodical attention should be directed, that the collections for the various schemes of the Church have been only partially made, that they herewith submit Overtures to which they crave the attention of the Synod. In addition to the foregoing relative to erection of Churches they have to report that the congregation of Lower Norton, although a very small one, have, through a highly creditable effort on their part, got their Church completed in a handsome manner, and that they are now able to worship in it with comfort.

Moved and agreed that the Report of the Presbytery of St. John be received, and that the Presbytery be instructed to see that the collection for all the schemes of the Church be duly taken, and that with regard to Sussex it be referred to the H. M. Committee.

Presbytery then adjourned at 1 o'clock, to meet again on Monday at 10 o'clock, A. M.

NINTH SESSION.

CALVIN CHURCH, 25th June, 1860. }
10 o'clock, A. M. }

Synod met according to adjournment, and was constituted with Prayer in the absence of the Moderator by Rev. Mr. Donald. Minutes were read and sustained.

The Presbytery of St. Stephen report was submitted, viz: Report of St. Stephen Presbytery.

That this Presbytery held five meetings during the year, selected certain districts for Home Missionary labour, and appointed a day for general humiliation in reference to the revival in Ireland, and for prayer that this Province might be visited by similiar influences of the Spirit of God, which day was generally observed. The Presbytery are able to state that Prayer Meetings are on the increase within the bounds, that a spirit of inquiry has been aroused in various quarters, that several Bible Classes are being taught in Bailie, that a permanent place of Worship is being provided at

St. George, a new Manse has been undertaken at St. James and a new Church at Little Ridge to be open to Presbyterian and other Ministers, and that a new Church of tasteful architecture has been nearly completed at St. Stephen. The collections ordered by the Synod have been made with great regularity. The Presbytery has taken Mr. P. M. Morrison student in literature and philosophy under their care, and prescribed to him subjects of Essay and Examination. His certificates from Professor Lyall, for the two seasons he attended there have been quite satisfactory.

All which is respectfully submitted.

It was then moved and agreed that the report be received and approved.

Report on Widow's Fund. Convener then read report on the Widow's Fund, when it was moved and agreed to that Report be received, and Mr. Ferrie be thanked for his interest and exertions in the matter.

Mr. Ferrie then proposed that Rev. Mr. Smith be appointed Convener of the Committee of this Fund for the ensuing year. Agreed.

Treasurer of Widow's Fund. It was then moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to that W. Park, Esq., be requested to act as Treasurer of the Widow's Fund, and that the Clerk be appointed to write for copies of the regulations of the Widow's Fund of various ecclesiastical bodies for guidance. He and Convener and Treasurer to be a Committee to manage the fund, and to make draft of principles and rules for the management thereof to be submitted for the consideration of Synod at its next annual meeting.

Synod adjourned with the Benediction.

TENTH SESSION.

CALVIN CHURCH, 25th June, 1860. }
3 o'clock, P. M. }

Collection for Widow's Fund. Synod was constituted with prayer by Mr. Gray, Moderator, pro tem, in absence of the Moderator. Minutes were read and sustained when it was moved and agreed to that order for collection for Widow's Fund be renewed, and that Committee endeavour to obtain private subscriptions to lay a good basis for this fund.

York P. Rep't Report of the Presbytery of York was then called for.

Com. of books Report. Committee of Books report that they examined all the Presbyterial Records for the past year, that the books so far

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ns they have been able to discover have been carefully kept and they recommend that the Synod instruct the Clerk to attest them.

The Report of the Home Mission was again submitted when it was moved that it be received and approved, and entered on the Minutes, and that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Convener for his labours. Report of H. Mission.

Report of Home Mission Committee to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick, June 1860.

Your Committee beg leave respectfully to submit their report for the past year which as usual will embrace a brief narrative of Missionary labour in consequence of the action of the Committee, together with an outlay of the statement of the money placed at its disposal. They would further submit considerations implying the necessity of continued and enlarging effort for the supply of a pure gospel in destitute localities. Appended to the report is a financial statement, shewing the state of the Home Mission Fund at the present date, and which the Committee would desire to be published for the information of the Church at large.

First then with reference to Missionary work, discharged throughout last year, it will be in the recollection of all that Mr. Stirling, and Mr. Nicholson, having accepted of permanent charges previous to last Synod the Committee were then left with only Mr. Forbes, our licentiate, and Mr. Moodie, Catechist, as labourers in the Mission Field.

Mr. Forbes has continued during the whole of last year at Buctouche, and connected settlements. He expressed his desire to remain there for a year, and he was allowed to do so in the hope of his not only being useful for the time, but of his being enabled to advance that Mission towards the position of a settled charge. In a letter to the Convener he states that after last Synod he commenced giving evening services at Shediac, Cocaigne, and Douglas' Settlement, in addition to his regular ministrations at Buctouche, and he speaks favourably of the religious earnestness and attention of the people in these places. He afterwards discontinued, however, his services at Shediac. At Buctouche his attendance has been very encouraging both on Sabbaths and at prayer meetings. There, and also at Mill Creek, Sabbath Schools are kept up superintended by Mr. Forbes. It may be mentioned also that a considerable debt was on the Church at Buctouche, which through the exertions of Mr. Forbes on the spot, and in St. John, and

Nova Scotia, has been greatly reduced. He states that collected about £100 in aid of the church there which enabled the Managing Committee to purchase two stoves, build a flue, plaster the walls, erect a pulpit, and reduce the cost of £155 to about £70. From statements made to the Convener by parties belonging to the district, Mr. Forbes appears to be highly acceptable to the people, and on the whole may be concluded that he has done valuable service to the church, and been instrumental in effecting a tangible good in the quarter where he has been stationed. It is understood that the people took on themselves the obligation of his support, and it should be mentioned to their credit that they cheerfully endeavouring to discharge their duty in this respect.

Mr. Moodie continued from last Synod until the end of September last to act as Missionary Catechist in and around Prince William, vacated by Rev. Mr. Glass. He states in his report that his time was apportioned to Prince William and Poquic Settlements, one Sabbath; to Lake George and Maguadavic another; and the third to the Caverhill and Southampton districts. In these parts, it is believed, Mr. Moodie discharged his duties with his usual conscientiousness and was, no doubt, eminently useful as far as lay in his power as a Catechist. His meetings were well attended giving evidence of the acceptability of his ministrations among the people, and of their desire to wait on the ordinances of religion. Mr. Moodie, at the beginning of October left for Scotland to attend the Divinity Hall in Edinburgh and after a narrow escape from shipwreck on the coast of Ireland has in the good providence of God reached his destination, and has finished another session of his course. The Committee follow Mr. Moodie with their earnest prayers that God for a blessing on his studies, and that he may be preserved to return to this church after another year, or perhaps two, as a fully equipped minister of the gospel where some suitable and permanent sphere of labour may await his coming.

The Committee, previous to last Synod, wrote through the Convener to Dr. Bonar, desiring him to send us an additional Missionary, and as there appeared to be means sufficient in its funds offering to pay his salary, if necessary, for three years; and in answer to this request the Rev. Alexander MacDonal, licentiate of the Free Church of Scotland, was

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sent out and arrived in the Province about the beginning of August last. Dr. Bonar in writing concerning him, gave him a most excellent character saying that he was a man of vigorous mind and body, great devotedness and energy, and a very superior preacher, and that he felt sure that he would prove most suitable to the Province. Mr. McDonald proceeded soon after his arrival in St. John to the Grand Falls on the St. John River, where he continued about three months. In his report he states that he visited as a minister, preaching both on Sabbaths and on week days in the following places, viz:—Grand Falls, where he would have a congregation of about 50 or 60 people. Tobique, where the attendance would amount to 40, and at Greenfield and Williamstown, where there were similar audiences. Mr. McDonald, however, after the time specified, believing that an ampler field, and one more in need of a minister of the gospel presented itself on the North shore of the Province, left the Grand Falls with the consent of the Convenor and proceeded to Restigouche, and has continued to labour there ever since. It is satisfactory to know that there he found ample scope for his exertions. His field of labour, he says, extends over twenty miles. He preached every Sabbath in three townships, viz: Port Daniel, Hopetown, and Carlisle. Each of these embraces an area of ten square miles. In each of these there is a goodly number of hearty Presbyterians, and excellent congregations waited on his services. At Port Daniel there are about 19 Presbyterian families, many of which are large so that on the Sabbath the church has more the appearance of a good Sabbath School than a congregation of adults. About a year and a half ago they commenced to build a church which is now so far completed that divine worship can be held in it with considerable comfort, and so far as they have gone it is entirely free of debt. This effort they have made in the hope of obtaining a number to settle among them in course of time.

Hopetown, an older settlement than Port Daniel, embraces a population of Scotch, Irish, and French. Here the congregations attending Mr. McDonald were even larger than those in Port Daniel, and the Presbyterian portion of the people are resolved that if they obtain a minister they will build a church. The largest congregation is at Carlisle where there would be an attendance of 150, and that too increasing, and many would hail the settlement of a Presby-

terian minister, who for the present belong nominally to other denominations.

In some of these settlements it is said there have not been a dozen sermons preached by Presbyterian ministers for a number of years.

Socially and geographically these townships where Mr. McDonald has been labouring belong to Canada, but ecclesiastically and from old association they belong to New Brunswick, and it therefore becomes our duty to do what we can for the supply of Religious Ordinances to the people, and in truth they look to us for it, now that they have been supplied by our Missionaries.

Besides these labours which have been thus briefly narrated in our Mission field, your Committee would simply state that several stations have been supplied more or less regularly and frequently by ministers who have settled charges. In this way the outfield is as it were to some extent ploughed up and the good seed of the gospel has been sown in it. It is unnecessary here to enter on details, but it may be stated that during the past year ministrations of the word have been given to congregations not reckoned part of their regular charges and contributing to their support by the Rev. Messrs. Salmon, Donald, Smith, McKay, Mullen, Stirling, Fowler, Baird, Ferrie, and Gray. The Committee have also to report that Rev. William Bennet, in accordance with a provision made at last Synod, made a Missionary visit to Grand Falls in September last for the period of six weeks, and found many opportunities of preaching the gospel and visiting Presbyterian and other families. He was deeply impressed with the importance of the locality, and convinced that it ought to be provided for as far as possible by the Home Mission and that with some encouragement and support for a time it might become a self-sustaining charge. Mr. Bennett made collections amounting to £14 which was sufficient to cover the appropriation made by the Synod within £4.

Lastly, the Committee at its meeting on the 20th inst., took into connexion with it Mr. Morton, Student of Divinity from Halifax, who is to labour as a Catechist at Harvey Settlement during the Summer months, and who gives every promise of being most serviceable in that capacity. He is recommended as possessing the highest character both for scholarship and general ability, and seems to be highly appreciated by the people of that quarter.

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In conclusion the Committee would earnestly press on the Synod the claims of this scheme as indeed one of the most important of the objects of a Christian and benevolent nature which it can prosecute. It is our duty so long as there is spiritual destitution in the Province, and so long as total errors prevail and occupy the ground to keep this scheme before our eyes and the eyes of the people, but many localities may still be found where the means of grace are wanting altogether, or lamentably deficient.

The Church is indebted at present to the liberality of the Irish Presbyterian Church for the substantial grant which it has made to the Home Mission, and also still more to the Free Church of Scotland for having responded to our call for an additional Missionary, and whilst we continue heartily to promote our Home Mission work we have the assurance that these parent churches will not fail us, however much they may have already done so long as we absolutely stand in need of their aid.

In name of the Home Mission Committee,

WILLIAM ALVES, Convener.

St. John, June 22nd, 1860.

P. S.—The Committee having been appointed by the Synod to make appropriations of money during its sitting, drew up the following Minute:

Rev. Mr. Glass for preaching in connexion with the Home Mission is considered entitled to	£12	10	0
Rev. Mr. Salmon,	7	10	0
“ Smith,	7	10	0
“ Ferrie, for expenses to Golden Grove,	3	7	6
“ MacKay,	7	10	0
“ Millen,	9	0	0
“ W. Bennet,	7	10	0
“ Forbes,	15	0	0
“ Donald,	5	0	0

Mr. Forbes is appointed for another year to Baetonche, on the understanding that the money allocated to him be no precedent for future years. W. A.

Mr. Alves having signified his desire not to be re-elected as Convener of H. M. Committee for the ensuing year, it was moved by Mr. Elder, and seconded by Mr. Johnston, that Mr. J. Bennet be appointed Convener of this Committee for the ensuing year. Motion adopted.

It was then moved and agreed that Presbyteries be instructed to choose previous to the next annual meeting of

Synod the members to serve on the various Committees for the succeeding year, names of such members to be embodied in the Presbyterian Report sent in to Synod.

Appointment of Committees. It was also moved and agreed that Presbyteries be instructed to meet after this Sederunt to appoint members to serve on the various Committees for the present year.

On motion, leave was given to the Presbytery of St. John and York to meet and fix the next day of meeting.

J. and F. M. Convener. Mr. Turnbull having intimated his intention to resign the Convener'ship of Committee of the Jewish and Foreign Missions for the ensuing year, it was moved and carried that Rev. Wm. Bennet be appointed Convener of said Committee.

Days for collection. The days on which the collections for the various funds of the church are to be taken shall be same as last year, viz :

1st.—Sustentation, last Sabbath in August.

2nd.—Widow's Fund, second Sabbath in October.

3rd.—Home Mission, last Sabbath in November.

4th.—Jewish and Foreign Mission, second Sabbath of February 1860.

5th.—Incidental Fund, third Sabbath in May 1861.

Synod then appointed its next Annual Meeting to be held in St. David's Church, St. John, on the 3rd Wednesday of June 1860, 7 1-2 o'clock, P. M.

Synod closed with the Benediction.

ELEVENTH SESSION.

CALVIN CHURCH, 26th June. }
10 o'clock, A. M. }

Synod met and was constituted with prayer. Minutes were read and sustained.

Resolution on Revival. The Synod referring to statement made at former meeting of this Court, and to further details given at Public Meeting in St. John Presbyterian Church last evening by Mr. Stirling in relation to the Revival at Restigouche, instructs its Moderator to write a letter to the Rev. A. McMaster, assuring him and his co-labourers of the deep interest felt by the Synod in the work in which they are engaged, and of our earnest prayers that the Divine Blessing may be poured forth upon them in more abundant measure.

Education Report. Mr. Salmon, Convener of Committee on Education gave in an oral report relative to the Woodstock College, whereupon it was moved and agreed to that the Committee be re-appointed, Convener instructed to make himself acquainted with the state of the accounts including liabilities, and avail-

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able subscriptions, and to submit this information to Meeting of Committee to be called as soon as practicable, further that this Committee shall take the entire management and control with reference to the completion of this building. Mr. Glass as agent to act under the instructions of the Committee.

Reasons of dissent by Messrs. Ferrie and Jack against basis of Union adopted by Synod with reply of Committee on Union were submitted, viz:—

We the undersigned ministers of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick in our own behalf and in the behalf of all others who may adhere to us hereby dissent from the finding of the Synod at its yesterday's meeting in regard to proposed basis of Union with the other Presbyterian bodies in this Province. Reasons of dissent.

1st. The basis they have adopted is too brief and quite insecure inasmuch as it neither states what is the Magistrate's duty to do nor plainly declares the incompetency of appeals to the Civil Courts against findings of ecclesiastical judicatories legislating on purely spiritual questions.

2nd. Because virtually all the satisfaction demanded of the Moderator is simply this, that they declare the proposed Colonial Church independent of the Church of Scotland, and it appears to us to be as unsafe as it is felt by us to be both distasteful and undutiful to contemplate incorporating with us ministers, who, it is supposed would demur, (even when resolved to become independent of the Church of Scotland) to sign any basis of union recognizing the paramount doctrine of the Headship of Christ over His Church.

3rd. Because we consider a Coalition Church composed of Free Church men, Voluntaries and Erastians, an institution less likely to advance the interests of Evangelical religion than a Free Church acting by itself in the face of all others.

4th. Because by making no mention of the Headship of Christ in its basis this Synod which originated in consequence of the power of an Anti-Erastian spirit, has in our opinion virtually lowered its distinctive flag, and ceased to be eminently a witness in behalf of one of the most important doctrines of the Word of God, and one which no Church can slight with impunity.

WILLIAM FERRIE, A. M.,
Minister of St. David's Church, St. John.

LEWIS JACK, Minister of Springfield.

The following reply drawn up by the Committee on Union was adopted by Synod as sufficient to meet all these brethren's objections, viz:—

Reply to reasons of dissent.

The Committee on Union having considered the articles of dissent signed by Messrs. Ferrie and Jack, and referred by Synod to this Committee, answer as follows.

1st. It is true that the articles of Union which are advantageously brief, but not vague in the sense of not being clear do not define the duties of the Civil Magistrate, but they obviously devolve on him all duties set forth in the Westminster Standards, it being understood that these are not to be construed as approving persecuting or intolerant principles. In like manner the Civil Magistrate is shut out from all interference with the spiritual and ecclesiastical liberties of the Church by the assertion in said Standards of a government for the Church distinct from that of the Civil Magistrate and in the said articles of Union by the assertion of Ecclesiastical Supremacy of the Church, such supremacy clearly involving the incompetency of an appeal from the decisions of the Supreme Ecclesiastical Court to any other tribunal whatever, and the making of such appeals being the most direct and practical mode of denying the Church's Supremacy in spiritual things. It is true that in some cases the law of the land might sustain such appeals by doing violence to the Constitution of the Church, but the Synod possesses no other means of preventing that result than by asserting its own supremacy. It is further to be borne in mind that little danger is to be apprehended from this quarter, the complicated relations of patronage and Church and State in Scotland alone having suggested a different construction of the Westminster Standards.

2nd. The Synod having, as already shewn, asserted its independence and supremacy. A supremacy and independence derived only from the Lord Jesus Christ as the only King and Head of the Church, it is evident that no person can intelligently subscribe such articles without recognizing such Headship. In the amendment moved by the brethren who have signed the reasons of dissent, it seems to be admitted that in the case of a Union formed between persons far advanced in Christian grace the articles of Union would be sufficient, and it is evident that this Synod cannot assume the want of such an amount of Christian grace on the part of its own members as would disqualify them for entering such Union; nor can it with any due degree of Christian charity make

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such a supposition in regard to the members of other Presbyterian bodies of the Province. The idea that something in the nature of "satisfaction" whatever may be meant thereby should be exacted from the members of the Synod who are at present connected with the Church of Scotland is deemed unsound in principle and unwise in policy.

3rd. The statement implying that the newly organized Synod of Victoria has originated in a Coalition, as distinguished from a Union is a pure assumption destitute of all evidence. It is not affirmed that the basis of Union contains what the brethren who have signed the reasons of dissent would regard as Voluntary and Erastian errors, if indeed it were at all likely that it should embrace such opposing errors, and no person can have a right to say or to assume that it was not signed in all sincerity by the subscribers, or that subscribers held the erroneous views imputed to them. It is evident that all the parties to the Union were held in high esteem both as regards their principles and their piety by their brethren, and it must be evident that they are best qualified to judge in these matters. Hence it is deemed matter of regret that the terms "Moderate," "Voluntary," and "Erastian," should be applied by the brethren who have signed the dissent to any of the parties to the Union, and the same principles and observations apply with equal cogency to any other similar Union which might be effected in this Province.

4th. It is maintained that the resolutions in which this Synod originated are in entire harmony with the formation of a Union such as that which has been consummated in Australia. Two of the fathers of the Synod, parties to those resolutions are now present in Synod and their entire approval of the proposed basis of Union affords a strong presumption that this interpretation of the resolutions in which the Synod originated are correct.

The Session closed with the Benediction.

TWELFTH SESSION.

CALVIN CHURCH, 26th June. 3 o'clock, P. M.

In the absence of the Clerk, Mr. Fowler was appointed Clerk, pro. tem.

The Synod having been constituted, Minutes were read and sustained. Mr. McKay, Convener of Committee on Statistics gave in report which was received, Convener re-
Report on Statistics.

pointed, and thanks of Synod conveyed to him for his diligence. The Synod observing that several returns have not been made, also that several of the collections ordered by Synod have not been taken, enjoins the members of the Synod that these returns be regularly made in future, and that the collections ordered by the Synod be taken. Further, the Synod recommends to all Sessions that where a collection ordered by the Synod has been made, the entire sum received for that particular object shall be transmitted to the Synod without any deductions.

Correspondence with Foreign Churches. The Synod called for report of Committee in correspondence with Foreign Churches, when Committee and Convener were reappointed with instructions to watch over the Union reported to be now in progress in Nova Scotia, in order to understand the terms thereof, and to furnish information to this Church on the subject with a view to further progress in the matter of Union with Nova Scotia, should the circumstances seem to warrant such action.

Committee on F. C. Grant. On the subject of the grant from the Free Church of Scotland the Synod appoint Messrs. Ferrie, Bennet, and Alves, a Committee on this subject, Mr. Alves, Convener, to draw the money as soon as official information is received on the subject, which money shall be allocated by the Committee on the principles formerly agreed to by the Synod.

It was then moved and agreed to that the ministers of St. John be a Committee to make arrangements for the accommodation of members of Synod during the next meeting—
Mr. Alves, Convener.

Address to P. of Wales. It was also moved and agreed to that the Moderator, Mr. Ferrie, and Mr. Elder, be a Committee to draw up an address to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on his arrival in this Province. The Moderator Convener by whom the address shall be presented.

The Synod took up the subject of Temperance, and appointed the following Committee, viz:—Messrs. Jack, Donald, Law, Stirling, Johnston, and Fowler, Mr. Fowler, Convener.

After the address of the Moderator, and Prayer, the Synod re-announced the time and place of next meeting as before fixed, 3rd Wednesday of June 1861, in St. David's Church, St. John, at 7 1/2 o'clock, P. M. Closed with Benediction.

JAMES BENNET, Clerk.