

AN ABSTRACT  
OF THE  
MINUTES OF THE SYNOD  
OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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MINUTES OF THE SYNOD  
OF THE  
SESSION XII.  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA,  
HOLDEN AT MONTREAL, 11th-12th JULY, 1842.  
AT  
MONTREAL, 1842.

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TORONTO:  
PRINTED BY HUGH SCOTT, 137 KING STREET.

1842

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MONTREAL 1942

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SESSION XII.

HOLDEN AT MONTREAL, 7th—12th JULY, 1842.



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The Synod  
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Moderator fo

Attested B  
by the Clerk  
and read as f  
of the Memb

MINISTERS

\*John McKen  
Coll. Reg.,  
\*Hugh Urquh  
Coll. Reg.,  
John McIsaac  
Daniel Clark  
\*John McLau  
Glasg. ....  
John Dickey.  
Isaac Purkis .  
.....  
.....

MINISTERS

\*Robert McGil  
George Cheyne  
James Smith .  
Mark Y. Stark  
\*Alexander G  
Coll. Mar., A  
Donald McKen  
John Bayne .  
Angus Mackin  
Daniel Allan .  
William McK  
Duncan McMi  
William Meldr  
William King  
John Bryning .  
George McClat

# AN ABSTRACT, &c.

## SESSION XII.

### DIET I.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MONTREAL,

Thursday, July 7th, 1842.

THE Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, met this day, according to appointment, and was constituted with prayer by the Reverend James George, Minister of Scarborough, Moderator for the preceding year.

Attested Rolls of the several Presbyteries were produced by the Clerk of Synod, and the Synod Roll was made up and read as follows. [An asterisk is prefixed to the names of the Members who were present in the Synod]:

#### 1. Presbytery of Glengarry.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*John McKenzie, A. M., Coll. Reg., Aberd., . . .	*Hon. John McGillivray	Williamstown.
*Hugh Urquhart, A. M., Coll. Reg., Aberd., . . .	Hon. Justice McLean	Cornwall.
John McIsaac, A. M., Glasg.		Lochiel.
Daniel Clark		Indian Lands.
*John McLaurin, A. M., Glasg. . . . .		Martintown.
John Dickey		Williamsburgh.
Isaac Purkis		Osnabrock.
		Lancaster.
		Finch.

The Rev. JOHN McKENZIE, Presbytery Clerk.

#### 2. Presbytery of Hamilton.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Robert McGill		Niagara.
George Cheyne		Amherstburgh.
James Smith		Guelph.
Mark Y. Stark	William Craigie	Dundas and Ancaster.
*Alexander Gale, A. M., Coll. Mar., Aberd. . . .	Alexander Drysdale	Hamilton.
Donald McKenzie		Zorra.
John Bayne		Galt.
Angus Mackintosh		Thorold.
Daniel Allan		Stratford.
William McKillican		St. Thomas.
Duncan McMillan		Williams.
William Meldrum		Puslinch.
William King		Nelson.
John Bryning		Mount Pleasant.
George McClatchy		Clinton.



**Presbytery of Hamilton.—CONTINUED.**

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Daniel Eastman .....		<i>Grimsby.</i>
Alexander McColl .....		<i>Aldboro'.</i>
.....		<i>Fergus.</i>
Ordinary Meetings—held at Hamilton—on the second Wednesday in January, May, and October.		
The Rev. MARK Y. STARK, <i>Presbytery Clerk.</i>		

**3. Presbytery of Quebec.**

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
John Clugston .....	John Munn .....	<i>St. John's, Quebec.</i>
*John Cook, D. D., Glasg. ....	John Thomson .....	<i>St. Andrew's Quebec.</i>
*John McMorine .....	David Mathieson .....	<i>Melbourne.</i>
James Geggie .....	William Brown .....	<i>Valcartier.</i>
The Rev. JAMES GEGGIE, <i>Presbytery Clerk.</i>		

**4. Presbytery of Bathurst.**

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*John Cruikshank, A. M., } Coll. Reg., Aberd. ....	Hon. Thos. McKay ...	<i>Bytown.</i>
Thomas C. Wilson .....		<i>Perth.</i>
William McAllister .....		<i>Lanark.</i>
*John Smith .....		<i>Beckwith.</i>
*George Romanes, A. M., } Edin. ....	Russell Bartlett .....	<i>Smith's Falls.</i>
William Bell .....	Donald McDonald ...	<i>Perth.</i>
*William Smart .....	John McCrady .....	<i>Brockville.</i>
*Robert Boyd, A. M., Glasg. ....	Robert Campbell .....	<i>Prescott.</i>
John Gemmell .....	George Easton .....	<i>Lanark.</i>
*Joseph Anderson, A. M., } Glasg. ....		<i>South Gower.</i>
*Alexander Mann, A. M., } Coll. Reg., Aberd. ....	John Robertson .....	<i>Pakenham.</i>
*David Evans .....		<i>Richmond.</i>
The Rev. THOMAS C. WILSON, <i>Presbytery Clerk.</i>		

**5. Presbytery of Kingston.**

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*John Machar, A. M., } Coll. Reg., Aberd. ....	William Fergusson ...	<i>Kingston.</i>
*James Ketchan .....	Peter Graham .....	<i>Belleville.</i>
John M. Roger, A. M., } Coll. Mar., Aberd. ....		<i>Peterboro' and Cavan.</i>
Thomas Alexander .....	Andrew Jeffery .....	<i>Cobourg.</i>
Archibald Colquhoun .....		<i>Dummer and Otonabee.</i>
Henry Gordon .....		<i>Gananoque.</i>
Robert Neill .....		<i>Seymour.</i>
William Reid .....	Robert Johnston .....	<i>Grafton and Colborne.</i>
James Douglas .....		<i>South Cavan.</i>
James Rogers .....		<i>Demorestville and Hillier.</i>
William Findlay .....		<i>Fredericksburgh.</i>
Thos. Liddell, D. D., Edin., Principal and Professor of Divinity .....		<i>Queen's College, Kingston.</i>
*Peter C. Campbell, A. M., Edin., Professor of Classical Literature .....		<i>Queen's College, Kingston.</i>
The Rev. WILLIAM REID, <i>Presbytery Clerk.</i>		

MINISTERS.
*William R. Edin. ...
*Andrew Be...
Peter Fergus...
William Rit...
*James Geo...
Peter McNar...
*William T. Edin. ....
Thomas Joh...
John Tawse, Mar., Aber...
George Gall...
Alexander L...
James Lamb...
John McMun...
Ordinary M...
May, August...

## MINISTERS.

*Henry Esson...
Coll. Mar.,
*Alexr. Math...
Glasg. ....
*Edward Blac...
Andreas ...
Duncan Mood...
William Main...
*Walter Roac...
W. Montgome...
*John Taylor
*James Ander...
*James C. Mu...
*Thos. McPh...
Coll. Reg.,
*David Black...
*William Sim...
David Shanks...
*John Marlin
*Emile Lapelle
*Thomas Henr...
*Henry Taylor

## Presbyter

# Minutes of the Synod at Montreal, 1842.

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## 6. Presbytery of Toronto.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*William Rintoul, A. M., Edin. ....	} Ephraim Steen .....	<i>Streetsville.</i>
*Andrew Bell, .....		
Peter Ferguson .....	Edward W. Thomson ..	<i>Toronto Township.</i>
William Ritchie .....	John Burns .....	<i>Esquesing.</i>
*James George .....	Andrew Telfer .....	<i>Newmarket.</i>
Peter McNaughton .....	Donald Cameron .....	<i>Scarboro'.</i>
*William T. Leach, A. M., Edin. ....	} Peter Brown .....	<i>Toronto City.</i>
Thomas Johnson .....		
John Tawse, A. M., Coll. } Mar., Aberd. ....	} .....	<i>Chinguacousy.</i>
George Galloway .....		
Alexander Lewis .....	John Canning .....	<i>Markham.</i>
James Lambie .....	.....	<i>Mono.</i>
John McMurchy .....	Hugh Steele .....	<i>Pickering and Whilby.</i>
Ordinary Meetings—held at Toronto—on the third Tuesday in February, May, August, and November, at three o'clock, P. M.		

The Rev. ANDREW BELL, *Presbytery Clerk:*

## 7. Presbytery of Montreal.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Henry Esson, A. M., Coll. Mar., Aberd. ....	} *Thomas Blackwood ..	<i>St. Gabriel's, Montreal.</i>
*Alexr. Mathieson, D. D., Glasg. ....		
*Edward Black, D. D., Andean .....	} *Hugh Brodie .....	<i>St. Andrew's, Montreal.</i>
Duncan Moody .....		
*William Mair .....	} *John Bruce .....	<i>St. Paul's, Montreal.</i>
*Walter Roach, .....		
W. Montgomery Walker .....	.....	<i>Dundee.</i>
*John Taylor .....	*James Lang .....	<i>Chatham.</i>
*James Anderson .....	.....	<i>Beauharnois.</i>
*James C. Muir .....	.....	<i>Huntingdon.</i>
*Thos. McPherson, A. M., Coll. Reg., Aberd. ....	} John Ainslie .....	<i>Lachine.</i>
*David Black .....		
*William Simpson .....	.....	<i>Ormestown.</i>
David Shanks .....	.....	<i>Georgetown.</i>
*John Marlin .....	.....	<i>Beech Ridge.</i>
*Emile Lapelletrie .....	.....	<i>St. Therese.</i>
*Thomas Henry .....	.....	<i>Cowan's Mills.</i>
*Henry Taylor .....	.....	<i>St. Eustache.</i>
.....	.....	<i>Hemmingsford.</i>
.....	.....	<i>French Cong'n Montreal.</i>
.....	.....	<i>Lachute.</i>
.....	.....	<i>Missisquoi.</i>
.....	.....	<i>Laprairie.</i>

The Rev. WALTER ROACH, *Presbytery Clerk.*

## SYNOD ROLL—1842.

<i>Presbytery of Glengary</i> .. . . .	7	<i>Ministers.</i>
..... <i>Hamilton</i> .. . . .	17	.....
..... <i>Quebec</i> .. . . .	4	.....
..... <i>Bathurst</i> .. . . .	12	.....
..... <i>Kingston</i> .. . . .	13	.....
..... <i>Toronto</i> .. . . .	13	.....
..... <i>Montreal</i> .. . . .	18	.....
		84 <i>Ministers.</i>

Moderator chosen

The Synod proceeded to the election of a Moderator for the ensuing year, when the Reverend Henry Esson, Minister of St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal, was unanimously chosen, and at the Synod's desire took the Chair.

The Minutes of last Session of Synod, and of the Commission of Synod, were read.

Mr. George reported arrangements for special religious exercises during the present Session, which were amended and adopted, and the order of business and devotional exercises was agreed on.

Documents given  
in by late  
Moderator.

The following documents were given in by Mr. George, viz:—I. Answer of His Excellency the Governor General to Synod's Address at last Session, and acknowledgement by His Excellency of Synod's memorial and petition in regard to Sabbath desecration, and use of the Holy Scriptures in schools. II. Despatch signifying Her Majesty's gracious reception of the Synod's petition in behalf of the rights of the Church of Scotland. III. Letter from the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to the Presbyterian Churches in the Colonies. IV. Letter from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States to the Synod. V. Copy of Resolutions passed by the General Assembly in the United States, in regard to the present contentings of the Church of Scotland, and the commemoration of the Second Centenary of the Westminster Assembly. VI. Various Communications from Government Office respecting the appropriation of the proceeds of the Clergy Reserves, under the Imperial Act; the Charter of Queen's College, and the claim for a Theological Professorship in King's College in connexion with the Synod, as also in regard to allowance to Presbyterian Clergy for services to the Military. VII. Communication from Government Office, requiring list of Ministers enjoying Government allowance, with Moderator's reply. VIII. Letter of Moderator, respecting the application of Government allowance in case of the death or removal of Ministers, with reply of His Excellency the Governor General. IX. Communication from Government Office respecting the appointment of Commissioners by the Synod, for the distribution of the Clergy Reserve Fund, &c., under the Imperial Act. X. Letter of Moderator to Colonial Committee of General Assembly, soliciting farther aid in behalf of

unendowed  
Moderator  
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## Minutes of the Synod at Montreal, 1842.

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unendowed Ministers. XI. Letter of Moderator to the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, soliciting aid in behalf of unendowed Ministers.

The foregoing documents were read. No's. I. and II. were ordered to be kept in *retentis*. No's. III., IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., IX., X., were referred to a Committee for the arrangement of business.

Committees were named for Bills and Overtures—for revising Records of Presbyteries—for Synod Accounts, &c. Committees named.

Leave was granted to Presbyteries to meet in Montreal, during the Session of Synod.

Adjourned till to-morrow at ten o'clock, A. M.—it being intimated by the Moderator, that the Synod Sermon will be preached this evening at seven o'clock. Adjournment.

### DIET II.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MONTREAL,

Friday, July 3th, 1842.

THE Synod met and was constituted. Divine Service was conducted by the Reverend George Romanes. The Minutes of yesterday's diet were read;—and, it was ordered to be recorded, that the Reverend James George, Moderator of Synod for last year, preached before the Synod yesterday, from John i. 13. Synod Sermon.

The Report of the Committee for Bills and Overtures and the Arrangement of Business, was called for, read, and received. Report of Committee of Bills, &c.

On a motion, the Synod unanimously resolved, to record the satisfaction they derive from the affectionate and interesting letters received from the Parent Church, and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States,—and their cordial desire to maintain correspondence with these and other Churches. The Synod appointed the following members a Committee on the correspondence of the Synod with other Churches, with instructions to report their views generally on this matter, as also, on the course which the Synod ought to pursue, in regard to the commemoration of the Second Centenary of the Westminster Assembly, and to draft a letter in reply to Centenary of the Westminster Assembly.

Committee on  
temporalities  
appointed.

that of the General Assembly of the United States, viz:—  
Mr. Robert McGill, Convener, Doctor Mathieson, Mr.  
John Machar, Mr. James George, and Mr. Robert Boyd,  
Ministers, and Mr. John Bruce, Ruling Elder.

On a motion, the Synod appointed the following members  
a Committee to take into consideration all matters before the  
Synod, respecting the temporalities of the Church,—and  
especially the documents given in by the late Moderator,  
marked VI., VII., VIII., IX. and X., viz:—Mr. William  
Rintoul, Convener, Doctor Cook, Mr. Hugh Urquhart, Mr.  
John Cruikshank, Mr. George Romanes, and Mr. Robert  
Boyd, Ministers, and Mr. Thomas Blackwood, and Mr.  
Hugh Brodie, Ruling Elders.

Overture respect-  
ing admission of  
Principal and  
Professors of  
Queen's College  
to seats in  
Presbytery and  
Synod.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee  
of Bills and Overtures, an Overture signed by several  
members of the Synod,—“That every Professor in Queen's  
College, Kingston, being an ordained Minister of this Church,  
shall be a constituent member of the Presbytery of  
Kingston, and as such, entitled to sit in all meetings of  
Synod.” The Overture having been considered, it was  
moved by Dr. Mathieson, and seconded by Dr. Cook,—That  
the Synod ordain in terms of the Overture. It was also  
moved by Mr. Rintoul, and seconded by Mr. McGill,—That  
the Principal of Queen's College, and the Professor of  
Divinity therein—when he is distinct from the Principal,  
shall be ex-officio Members of the Presbytery within whose  
bounds the College is situated, and of this Synod; and that  
the Senate of Queen's College be, and hereby are authorized,  
to commission a Minister or Elder to represent them in  
Presbytery and Synod. After reasoning, the vote was  
called for, and taken,—when the first motion was carried by  
a large majority. The Reverend P. C. Campbell, Professor  
of Classical Literature in Queen's College,—being present,  
—then took his seat in Synod, on the invitation of the  
Moderator.

Overture on  
Baptism,

referred to a  
Committee.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee  
of Bills and Overtures, an Overture from the Presbytery of  
Bathurst, respecting the due observance of the Law of  
the Church, in regard to the public administration of the  
Ordinance of Baptism—and the necessity of enjoining uni-  
formity in the public dispensation of this Sacrament, on all  
Presbyteries and individual Ministers. This Overture,  
having been read and considered, was referred to a  
Committee, to prepare a minute on the subject thereof.

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The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, a scheme for the more effectual temporal support of Missionaries; drawn up by Mr. John Bruce, Ruling Elder, which was referred to the Standing Committee on Home Missions. A petition from the Presbyterians of Belmont, respecting their religious destitution—also transmitted and referred to the Committee on Home Missions.

Scheme for support of Missionaries, and petition from Belmont referred to Home Mission Committee.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their Committee for Bills and Overtures, a reference from the Presbytery of Hamilton, for advice respecting the subject of a petition addressed to them by Mr. Alexander Ross, formerly Minister at Aldborough, praying for the removal of the act of suspension formerly passed against him, by direction of the Synod, and his restoration to the exercise of the Ministry. Parties being called, Mr. Gale appeared, and was heard for the Presbytery of Hamilton. The reference and petition, together with various certificates from the Kirk Session of Aldborough, and several Ministers, testifying in favourable terms, as to Mr. Ross' deportment, were read,—it was thereupon moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to,—That the Synod, having considered the reference from the Presbytery of Hamilton, in the case of Mr. Alexander Ross, and having heard with satisfaction the various favourable statements and testimonials adduced in regard to his deportment—instruct the Presbytery of Hamilton to deal further with Mr. Ross as they shall see meet,—and authorize them to restore Mr. Ross to the exercise of his functions as a Minister of the Gospel—before the next meeting of Synod, should they find it expedient to do so.

Reference from Presbytery of Hamilton.

Mr. A. Ross.

Deliverance thereon.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, a reference from the Presbytery of Hamilton, for advice in the case of Mr. J. F. A. S. Fayette—an applicant for admission as a probationer within their bounds. The reference, with relative documents, having been read,—it appeared that Mr. Fayette had been admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts, by the College of the Western Reserve, Ohio, and licensed as a preacher of the Gospel by the Presbytery of Cleaveland; that he possesses a satisfactory Presbyterial certificate, up to the date of his leaving the bounds of the Presbytery of Cleaveland, for Canada,—where he has now resided, for nearly three years, within the bounds of the Presbytery of Hamilton—

Reference from Presbytery of Hamilton.

Mr. J. Fayette.



Referred to a  
Committee.

Report on  
Ministers stipends

Referred to  
Home Mission  
Committee.

Vote of thanks to  
Dr. Cook.

Address to the  
Queen.

Address to  
Governor General.

Adjournment.

Address on Mis-  
sionary Labour in  
new settlements.

maintaining, so far as is known to that Presbytery, an irreproachable character, and that he is now taking the necessary steps to obtain an Act of the Provincial Legislature for his naturalization. The Synod appointed the following Members a Committee to consider the case of Mr. Fayette, and any similar cases that may be brought up by Presbyteries, during the present Session, viz.:—Professor Campbell, Convener, Mr. James C. Muir, Mr. John McMorine, and Mr. Walter Roach.

The Synod next called for the Report of the Committee to consider the means employed for raising Ministers stipends. The Report was given in by Doctor Cook, the Convener, and read,—and after reasoning, was referred to the Home Mission Committee. The Committee was authorised to print such portions of the Report as they may see meet for the use of Members. Doctor Cook and Mr. Bruce were added to the Home Mission Committee. On motion by Mr. Urquhart, seconded by Mr. McGill, and unanimously agreed to, the thanks of the Synod were given to Doctor Cook and the Committee for the valuable Report submitted by them.

On a motion, the Synod unanimously resolved to present an Address to Her Majesty the Queen, and appointed Doctor Mathieson to draft the same.

On a motion, the Synod unanimously resolved to present an Address to His Excellency the Governor General, and appointed Mr. George Romanes to draft the same.

The Moderator intimated, that according to arrangement, an address would be delivered this evening by the Rev. Mr. George, on the best modes of Missionary labour in the more recent and destitute settlements in this country.

The Synod adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock, A. M.

### DIET III.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MONTREAL,

Saturday, July 9th, 1842.

The Synod met and was constituted. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Joseph Anderson. The Minutes of yesterday's Diet were read. The Hon. John McGillivray, Ruling Elder, appeared and took his seat. It was ordered to be recorded, that an address was delivered last evening by the Rev. James George, on the best modes

of Mission settlements seconded by thanks of highly interested evening, with for publication.

The Synod Bathurst, on of a former of Church M other bodies reported ver the Synod a

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of Missionary labour in the more recent and destitute settlements in this country. On a motion by Mr. Mann, seconded by Mr. Evans, and unanimously agreed to, the thanks of the Synod were given to Mr. George for the highly interesting and able address delivered by him last evening, with a request that he would prepare his address for publication.

Vote of thanks to Mr. George.

The Synod called for the Report of the Presbytery of Bathurst, on the Overture referred to them as a Committee of a former Session of Synod, respecting the withdrawing of Church Members, and their reception into communion by other bodies without certificate. Mr. John Cruikshank reported verbally for the Presbytery, and after reasoning, the Synod agreed that the Committee be discharged.

Report on withdrawing of church members, &c.

Committee discharged.

The Synod next took up the Reports of Presbyteries on the scheme of Ordinary Presbyterial Visitations. Reports by the Presbyteries of Hamilton, Quebec, Bathurst, Kingston, Toronto, and Montreal, were given in and read. After long reasoning, the Synod appointed the following Members a Committee to prepare an Act on the subject of Presbyterial Visitations for the consideration of the Synod, viz:—Mr. Robert McGill, Mr. William Rintoul, Doctor Mathieson and Mr. Alexander Gale.

Reports on Presbyterial visitation

The Synod called for the Report of the Home Mission Committee. An interim Report was given in by Mr. Gale, the Convener, and read, whereupon it was ordered, that all Reports and Documents connected with the business of the Home Mission Committee, be given in to the Convener forthwith—and that the consideration of that Report be deferred till Tuesday next.

Interim report of Home Mission Committee.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on the Synod Library, as to the transference of the books and funds to Queen's College. Mr. Andrew Bell reported verbally, and it was ordered that the books and funds belonging to the Library be transferred forthwith by the Committee to Queen's College, as formerly directed.

Report on Synod Library.

The Synod next called for the drafts of an Act of Incorporation, and of a Constitution for Churches, ordered to be prepared at last Session of Synod, and the same were given in by Professor Campbell, and read. Professor Campbell and George Malloch, Esquire, Barrister, who, at the request of the Synod, assisted in the preparation of the drafts, were heard in explanation of the same. Thereafter, on a

Drafts of act of Incorporation and of constitution for Churches.



Vote of thanks  
to Professor  
Campbell and  
Judge Malloch.

motion by Doctor Cook, seconded by Doctor Mathieson, and unanimously agreed to, the thanks of the Synod were given to Professor Campbell and Mr. Malloch, for the efficient manner in which they have discharged the duty entrusted to them. It was ordered that the printed copies of the drafts provided by the Committee, be distributed among the Members of Synod, and that the consideration thereof be resumed on Monday next, at one o'clock, P. M.

Reports of  
Presbyteries on  
grants for Church  
building.

The Synod had read the Reports of Presbyteries on the expediency of grants of money from the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, for the building of Churches in the Colonies, and the following deliverance thereon was unanimously agreed to : The Synod find that the majority of the Presbyteries are of opinion that in the present condition of the funds at the disposal of the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly, and the urgent necessity existing for the extension of Missionary labour in the Colonies, the application of these funds to church building is inexpedient. The Clerk was instructed to communicate a copy of this deliverance to the Secretary of the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly.

Deliverance  
thereon.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, a reference from the Presbytery of Kingston, for advice in the case of the Rev. Archibald Colquhoun, Minister at Otonabee and Dummer. The reference having been read, and parties heard, the Synod remitted the case to the Presbytery of Kingston, with instructions for their guidance therein.

Reference from  
Presbytery of  
Kingston.

Mr. Colquhoun.

Injunction respecting public  
baptism.

The Convener of the Committee, to whom the Overture on the public administration of Baptism was referred, presented a Report, which was read and received. Whereupon it was moved, seconded, and, after reasoning, agreed to,— That the Synod renew, as they hereby do, their injunction to Presbyteries, to see that the laws of the Church, in regard to the public administration of the Sacrament of Baptism, be duly observed throughout their respective bounds.

Act for visitation  
of Churches.

The Committee appointed to draft an Act on the Visitation of Churches, presented a draft, which was read and considered. After long reasoning, the draft was variously amended, and, on the votes being taken, adopted by a large majority, as follows :

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The Reports from Presbyteries, on Ordinary Presbyterial Visitations, having been called for and read, the Synod find that a majority of the Presbyteries are adverse to any scheme of ordinary Presbyterial Visitation in the present circumstances of this church,—but inasmuch as it is desirable and necessary, in order to the better administration of our discipline, and to a greater unity of operation in our Ecclesiastical measures that Presbyteries and the Synod acquire a more perfect knowledge of the state of every individual congregation under our care than has hitherto been attained, the Synod authorise and enjoin the Presbyteries of this Church severally,—to appoint annually, at their first Ordinary Meeting after the Ordinary Annual Session of the Synod, one or two of their members as Visitors for their respective bounds,—whose duty it shall be to visit every congregation under the care of the Presbytery by whom they are respectively appointed, due notice having been given by the Visitor, or Visitors, of the time when such Visitation is to be held in each congregation; to address congregations on the relative duties of pastor and people; to meet with the Session,—deacons, trustees, or managers; to inspect their records, to enquire generally as to the discharge of duties by the office-bearers and members of the congregations, and in particular to ascertain the state of Sabbath Schools and classes for the spiritual training of the young, and other modes of pastoral agency—and the amount of annual contributions for Home and Foreign Missions; to obtain answers on the various points embodied in the Statistical Schedule; to direct attention and obtain information in regard to all matters respecting which special duties have been devolved on Sessions and Congregations by the Synod or Presbytery; to give counsel as the Visitor or Visitors shall see cause in any matter affecting the interests of congregations that may be referred to them, and in conjunction with the Minister to prepare a Report on the state of religion in each congregation, to be laid before the Presbytery of the bounds for their deliverance thereon at the meeting thereof next preceding the Annual Session of Synod, such Report including all particulars above specified, together with said deliverance, to be transmitted to the Synod along with the Records of the Presbytery.

Mr. Romanes presented the draft of an Address to His Excellency the Governor General—which was read, amended and adopted, and ordered to be engrossed for the signature

Address to His  
Excellency the  
Governor General.

## Minutes of the Synod at Montreal, 1842.

of the Moderator.—(See Appendix for the Address.) The Synod appointed the members of the Presbytery of Quebec as a deputation to present the Address to His Excellency the Governor General.

Devotional exercises.

Various documents referred to Committee on Temporalities.

Adjourned till seven o'clock, P. M. The Synod met at seven o'clock, P. M., and, according to previous arrangements, was for some time engaged in devotional exercises, which were conducted by the Reverend Messrs. Machar, McMorine and Campbell. Thereafter the Synod proceeded to business. An Overture from the Presbytery of Toronto, in regard to the condition of the unendowed Ministers of the Synod: a Memorial from the Trustees of St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, respecting the future disposal of the Government allowance, heretofore enjoyed by the Ministers of that Church: and a Memorial from the Elders and Trustees of the Congregation of Osnabruck, respecting the Government allowance heretofore enjoyed by Mr. Lyle; transmitted to the Synod by the Committee of Bills and Overtures—were read and referred to the Committee on Temporalities.

A letter addressed to the Synod by the Honourable William Morris, was read.

Adjournment.

On a motion, it was ordered that the Committee of Bills and Overtures meet on Monday, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Adjourned till Monday, at twelve o'clock, noon.

## DIET IV.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MONTREAL,

Monday, July 11th, 1842.

THE Synod met and was constituted. The devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend James Anderson. The Reverend E. Lapelletrie, Minister, and Mr. James Lang, Ruling Elder, appeared and took their seats in Synod. The minutes of Saturday's Diet were read. The Synod resumed consideration of the Draft of a Constitution for Churches. The same was read clause by clause—maturely considered, and variously amended.

Draft of constitution for Churches amended, &c.

It was then moved, seconded, and agreed to,—that the draft of a Constitution for Churches, as now amended by the Synod, be transmitted to the Presbyteries,—in order that they may consider the same, and report their observations thereon to the Synod at next session.

## Minutes

On a motion the Constitution of the Clerk, &c. the Synod.

The Synod Bill to provide for the Church,

On a motion of the draft

Adjourned

The Synod exercises were Minutes of year

The Synod appointed to serve Canada East, the Reverend

It was motioned that the Synod generally; re Montreal a Co the Mission, I the Committee in the Report Report, or such printed for general were given to diligence, zeal conducted this

On a motion collection to be in aid of the F an early collection which this has b

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## Minutes of the Synod at Montreal, 1842.

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On a motion, it was ordered, that the amended draft of a Constitution for Churches, be printed under the direction of the Clerk, and a copy thereof furnished to each Member of Synod.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the draft of a Bill to provide for the management of the temporalities of the Church, and several clauses were read and amended.

*Draft of Temporalities Bill considered.*

On a motion, it was agreed, that the farther consideration of the draft be deferred till to-morrow evening.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

*Adjournment.*

### DIET V.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MONTREAL,

Tuesday, July 12th, 1842.

The Synod met and was constituted. The devotional exercises were conducted by Reverend John Marline. The Minutes of yesterday's Diet were read.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to superintend the French Protestant Mission in Canada East, which was given in and read by the Convener, the Reverend Doctor Mathieson.

*Report on French Mission.*

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to, that the Synod approve of the Report on the French Mission generally; re-appoint the Members of the Presbytery of Montreal a Committee to conduct the farther operations of the Mission, Doctor Mathieson to be Convener; authorise the Committee to carry into effect the suggestions contained in the Report as they shall find expedient, and to cause the Report, or such portions thereof as they may deem fit, to be printed for general circulation. The thanks of the Synod were given to Dr. Mathieson and the Committee for the diligence, zeal and prudence with which they have hitherto conducted this interesting and important enterprize.

*Committee re-appointed.*

On a motion to that effect, the Synod appointed an annual collection to be made in all the congregations of this Church in aid of the French Protestant Mission—and enjoined that an early collection for it be made in those congregations in which this has been omitted for the past year.

*Annual collection appointed.*

The Synod next called for the Report of the Committee appointed to examine the references from Presbyteries respecting Students for the Holy Ministry and Candidates

*Report on Students and Candidates for License.*



for License, and the same was given in by the Convener, Professor Campbell, read and received. After reasoning, the Synod adopted the following resolutions, viz. :—

1. That the case of Mr. Fayette be entrusted to the Presbytery of Hamilton, to dispose of it as they shall see fit.

2. That Mr. William Bain, Teacher of St. Andrew's School, Quebec, who has been studying for upwards of two years, under the Presbyteries of Glengary and Quebec, be permitted to enter the Divinity Hall in Queen's College on condition of his attending also the Literary and Philosophical Classes, as he may be directed by the College Senate ; and that any Presbytery be permitted to take him on trials for license, on his producing evidence of having attended the Hall during three Sessions.

3. That the Presbytery of Bathurst be permitted to take Mr. J. Corbett on trials for license, on his producing evidence of having attended one Session at Queen's College, studying such branches, in addition to Divinity, as may be enjoined by the Senate.

4. That Mr. Peter Gray be permitted to continue his studies under the Presbytery of Bathurst for two years ; to be then admitted, if found prepared, to the Divinity Hall ; but that during his attendance at the Hall he shall attend the Literary and Philosophical Classes, under the direction of the Senate.

5. That Mr. John Davidson, who has attended two years at the Divinity Hall in Glasgow College, be admissible to trials for license by any Presbytery, on producing evidence of having attended one Session at the Divinity Classes in Queen's College.

6. That Mr. Thomas Henning and Mr. Alexander Wallace be permitted to enter the Divinity Hall after one year's attendance on the Literary and Philosophical Classes at Queen's College, under the direction of the Senate.

7. That all the above-mentioned Students, before being taken on trials, be required to conform to the regulation of last year with respect to examination before the Synod.

8. That Presbyteries be enjoined to take such steps as to them may seem meet for the establishment of Bursaries at Queen's College for deserving Students for the Ministry.

The Synod on Temporal William Rind recommending of nine Commissioners to Parliament, whereupon the Synod elected and appointed in behalf of the Synod in connexion with the Reverend Theologian and University of Edinburgh, Mathieson, Montreal ; The Reverend Peter Latin Language Kingston ; The James Morris Merchant at Montreal.

A series of resolutions in connexion with the Synod's operations ;—to the Synod's missioners.

The Synod appointed to prepare a report for securing the Synod's keeping and recording the report given by the Synod's authorities on the Church,—on the circumstances of the Synod's re-appointed the Synod's suggestion into the Synod, completed, to submit to the Synod, a

The Synod on Home Missions, Gale, and read the operations

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on Temporalities, which was given in by the Convener, Mr. William Rintoul,—read and received. In accordance with a recommendation thereof, the Synod proceeded to the election of nine Commissioners as required by the Act of the Imperial Parliament, III. and IV., Reg. Vic. Cap. LXXVIII;—whereupon the following individuals were duly nominated, elected and appointed as Commissioners under the said Act, in behalf of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, namely:—The Reverend Thomas Liddell, D.D., Principal of Queen's College and University at Kingston; The Reverend Alexander Mathieson, D.D., Minister of St. Andrew's Church at Montreal; The Reverend John Machar, Minister at Kingston; The Rev. Hugh Urquhart, Minister at Cornwall; The Reverend Peter C. Campbell, Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages in Queen's College and University at Kingston; The Honourable John Hamilton, of Kingston; James Morris, Esq., of Brockville; John Mowat, Esq., Merchant at Kingston, and John Smith, Esq., Merchant at Montreal.

Report on Temporalities.

Nine Commissioners under Imperial Act III. and IV. Vic. c. 78.

A series of Resolutions was then unanimously adopted in connexion with the Report of the Committee on Temporalities;—to be communicated by the Clerk to the Commissioners.

The Synod next called for the Report of the Committee appointed to prepare rules for the ordering of business, and for securing uniformity and correctness in the manner of keeping and revising records—which was given by the Convener, Mr. Andrew Bell, and read. The Synod approved of the report generally;—and in particular, as to the suggestion contained therein as to the compilation,—from the standard authorities on the government, discipline, and worship of the Church,—of a book of forms and directions, adapted to the circumstances of the Church in this country;—re-appointed the committee, with instructions to carry this suggestion into execution as soon as possible, and, when completed, to submit their compilation to the Commission, or to the Synod, at next Session.

Report on Rules, &c.

approved.

Committee re-appointed

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on Home Missions,—which was given in by the Convener, Mr. Gale, and read. The Synod approved of the report, and of the operations of the Committee generally—re-appointed

Report on Home Missions

approved, and Committee re-appointed.

Presbyteries  
enjoined to  
transmit Mission  
Returns to  
Convener.

Instructions to  
Committee.

the same, and added the Rev. James George and the Rev. James Lambie to the Committee. And, in particular, the Synod approved of the suggestions issued by the Committee in October last, and enjoined Presbyteries to proceed with all diligence in carrying them into effect, in so far as circumstances will permit, both as to the arrangement of the Missionary ground, within their respective bounds, into Missionary stations and districts, as detailed in said suggestions, and as to the establishment of Home Missionary Associations in each of the organized congregations under their care—authorizing the Home Mission Committee to correspond with Presbyteries, in regard to their procedure in this matter, and to communicate such farther suggestions as may from time to time occur,—and to require from Presbyteries such information as may seem to them necessary for the more effectual working out of the scheme. The Synod farther agreed to record their regret, that several Presbyteries had failed to furnish to the Home Mission Committee, the returns and statements required by the act of Synod at last Session; and that, in consequence, a synopsis of Home Missionary operations, throughout the bounds of the Synod, is not submitted—enjoined the Presbyteries which have failed in this respect, to transmit forthwith to the Convener of the Committee, their answers to the queries issued by that Committee, with such other statements as they may be able to draw up, respecting the religious destitution within their bounds—and authorized the Committee to prepare and publish the synopsis as originally contemplated, and renewed the injunctions to Presbyteries to furnish similar returns and statements to the Mission Committee, as directed at last Session, in order that the Synod may have submitted to them, at next Session, a full view of the religious destitution and Missionary operations throughout their bounds. The Synod, in view of the distressing insufficiency of Missionary labour, authorize and instruct the Committee to apply their utmost efforts to obtain a more adequate supply, and for this purpose to avail themselves of the services of the Rev. John Bayne, of Galt, in such manner as they may find practicable and expedient. The Synod referred to the Committee the document prepared by Mr. Bruce, respecting the support of Missionaries,—and instructed the Committee to collect information, and mature their views, in regard to the obtaining of manse, glebes, and schools, in

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## Minutes of the Synod at Montreal, 1842.

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connection with the organized congregations of the Church  
 —and to report on this and other matters entrusted to them,  
 at the next Session of Synod.

On a motion, after reasoning, it was resolved,—That it  
 be an instruction to the Visitors, who may be appointed by  
 Presbyteries in terms of a preceding act of Synod, to use  
 their utmost exertions to stir up the congregations they  
 respectively visit—so that every communicant, and such  
 adherents as may choose to do so, may be induced to  
 contribute something according to their means, towards a  
 general Synodical fund for the support of the Gospel, to be  
 applied in aid of the weaker congregations of the Church—  
 and that the contributions for this object be obtained in the  
 manner suggested by the Home Mission Committee—and  
 that in the preparation of their Statistical Reports, the  
 Visitors avail themselves of the third section of said sug-  
 gestions,—and farther, that they shall forward to the  
 Convener of the Home Mission Committee, statements of  
 the religious destitution passing under their observation,  
 and of the success of their efforts in promoting the estab-  
 lishment of the proposed fund.—(See Appendix for copy  
 of suggestions issued by Home Mission Committee.)

Instructions to  
 Visitors.

On a motion, the Memorial from Belmont, was ordered  
 to be transmitted to the Presbytery of Kingston, and was  
 recommended to their favourable consideration.

Belmont  
 Memorial.

The Synod had transmitted to them by their Committee  
 of Bills and Overtures, an Overture respecting the estab-  
 lishment of a Religious Newspaper—and the same having  
 been read and considered, the following resolution was  
 unanimously adopted:—That the Synod having had brought  
 under their consideration, the subject of a Religious News-  
 paper, express their unanimous conviction of the great  
 importance of such a vehicle of Christian instruction and  
 information,—and while the Synod do not feel themselves  
 warranted directly to originate such an undertaking, they  
 do yet earnestly recommend to the Members of the Court  
 from Montreal, together with the Ministers of Quebec,  
 to form themselves into an association with such other  
 Members of the Church, as they see fit to associate with  
 them, for commencing and carrying on the same,—fully  
 confiding in their zeal and discretion to call a competent  
 editor, and to make all necessary arrangements for the  
 efficient management of the paper. And farther, the Synod

Overture  
 respecting  
 Religious  
 Newspaper.

recommend the Office-bearers and Members of the Church generally, to give, as they severally can, all countenance and assistance to these brethren in the prosecution of this important undertaking.

The Synod called for the reports of the Committees appointed to revise the records of Prebyteries,—and the same were given in, read and received. It was ordered that the records of the Presbytery of Glengary be attested *cum nota*,—and that the records of the Presbyteries of Hamilton, Quebec, Bathurst, Kingston, Toronto and Montreal, be attested in the usual form. It was further ordered that the records of the original Presbytery of Quebec, be attested up to the period of the division of that Presbytery; and that said record remain in the custody of the Presbytery of Montreal—open to the inspection of the Presbytery of Quebec.

Queen's College  
nomination for  
Trustees by  
congregations.

On a motion, the Synod resolved—That the attention of the several Congregations of this Church be directed to a clause in the Royal Charter of Queen's College, respecting the nomination by them, of persons eligible in succession as Trustees of said College, which will now come into operation, and ought to be acted upon before the next meeting of Synod. The clause is as follows:—"Each Congregation admitted on the Roll of the said Synod, and in regular convention therewith, shall, at a meeting to be specially called from the pulpit, for that purpose, in every third year, nominate one fit and discreet person, being a member in full communion with the said Church as eligible to fill the office of Trustee of the said College; and, the persons' names so nominated, being duly intimated by the several congregations, to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, in such form as the said Board may direct, shall be enrolled by the said Board, and constitute the list from which lay Trustees shall be chosen, to fill the vacancies occurring at the Board during each year."

Report on  
correspondence.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on Correspondence with other Churches,—which was given in by the Convener, Mr. McGill,—read and received. After deliberation, the Synod approved of the suggestions contained in the Report generally; appointed a Standing Committee for Correspondence with other Churches, and referred to them the Report with the documents accompanying it, authorising and instructing them to prepare forthwith, for the signature of the Moderator, and in accordance with the

tenor thereof to the following of the General to the General Ireland; to England; to the Church in the Reformed Presbyterian to the Synod State of New the Standing Moderator, William Rind Professor of

In accordance Correspondence the Rev. John Ruling Elder next meeting Brunswick, and present at the

In accordance Report, the resolutions, v

1. That the profit from the being persuaded Correspondence Christian Church annually; and due care and pendency to Churches, to be

2. That the minutes recorded struggle which against the en concurring in passed by the their meeting municated to the pendency to gr



tenor thereof, letters to be transmitted by the Moderator to the following Churches, viz.,—to the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly of the Parent Church of Scotland; to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland; to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in England; to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States; to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America; and to the Synod of the Associate Reformed Church of the State of New-York. The following members constitute the Standing Committee of Correspondence, viz.,—the Moderator, Doctor Mathieson, Mr. Robert McGill, Mr. William Rintoul, Mr. James George, Mr. Robert Boyd and Professor Campbell.

Letters to be transmitted.

Standing Committee of Correspondence

In accordance with a recommendation of the Report on Correspondence with other Churches, the Synod appointed the Rev. John Cook, D. D., and John Thomson, Esquire, Ruling Elder, as a Deputation of this Synod, to attend the next meeting of the Synod of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and to invite a Deputation of that Synod to be present at the next Annual Session of this Synod.

In accordance with further recommendations of the Report, the Synod unanimously adopted the following resolutions, viz. :—

1. That the Synod, having derived great satisfaction and profit from their Correspondence with other Churches, and being persuaded that the maintenance and extension of such Correspondence is conducive to the best interests of the Christian Church, resolve that it be continued on their part annually; and in order that this may be accomplished with due care and regularity, instruct the Committee of Correspondence to prepare drafts of Letters to the before-named Churches, to be submitted to the Synod at its next Session.

Resolutions adopted on correspondence.

Drafts of letters to be prepared by committee.

2. That the Synod, continuing to cherish the sentiments recorded by them during last Session respecting the struggle which the Parent Church is at present maintaining against the encroachments of the Civil power, and cordially concurring in the great principles asserted in the resolutions passed by the Commission of the General Assembly, at their meeting held on the 25th of August, 1841, and communicated to this Synod, instruct the Committee of Correspondence to give unequivocal expression to the views of the

Church of Scotland.



Synod in this respect in the letter which is now to be transmitted to the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Commemoration  
of Second  
Centenary of  
Westminster  
Assembly.

3. That at a time like the present, when there is so much reason to apprehend an alarming defection from the principles and doctrines of the true Protestant faith, on the part of many who have hitherto held a place among the Churches of the Reformation, this Synod judge that the Presbyterian Church is specially called upon to bear a distinct and united testimony in behalf of these principles and doctrines, to defend them from the numerous misrepresentations which are daily heaped upon them, and to set forth their conformity with the oracles of God : and farther, as the meeting of the Assembly of Divines at Westminster forms a memorable era in the history of the Reformation, and the Second Centennial Anniversary of that Assembly is approaching, the Synod receives with the utmost satisfaction the resolutions on that subject transmitted by the General Assembly of the United States, judges the occasion most appropriate for a full, simultaneous exposition and vindication of the principles and doctrines of the Reformation as held by the Presbyterian Church, and appoints the first day of July, 1843, for the commemoration of the said Anniversary of the Westminster Assembly, and enjoins on all its Ministers and Sessions to make suitable preparation for its solemn and religious observance, and that Ministers shall so frame their discourses to the occasion, that gratitude to God for the blessings of the Reformation may be awakened, and the Church aroused to a proper feeling of its obligation to promote this grand work : and farther, that this Synod shall at all times be ready to unite with the different branches of the Protestant family in testifying against the heresies and corruptions of the Romish Apostacy, and in earnest prayer to God that he may be pleased to restore the Church to truth and purity, that everywhere throughout the world she may become a faithful witness for the Glory of His Name.

Committee on  
Centenary.

On a motion, the Synod, with reference to the third resolution now passed by them, appointed the following members a Committee to prepare and publish an Address to the Office-bearers and Members of this Church, on the subject of the contemplated commemoration, conveying therein such suggestions as they may deem necessary for the suitable improvement of the occasion : and farther, to invite the co-operation, in this matter, of such other Bodies

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## Minutes of the Synod at Montreal, 1842.

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in this Province as acknowledge the standards agreed upon by the Assembly of Divines at Westminster,—viz. : Principal Liddell, Mr. John Machar, Mr. Robert McGill and Mr. William Rintoul, Ministers, and the Honourable John McDonald, the Honourable Thomas McKay, and William Fergusson, Esquire, Ruling Elders.

Adjourned till seven o'clock, P. M.; at which hour the Synod resumed.

The Synod called for the draft of an Address to Her Majesty the Queen, which was given in by Doctor Mathieson, read, amended and adopted, and ordered to be engrossed for the signature of the Moderator. The Moderator was instructed to transmit the Address to Her Majesty the Queen to His Excellency the Governor General, with a request that His Excellency will be pleased to cause it to be laid before Her Majesty.—(See Appendix.)

The Synod next called for the Report of the Committee on Psalmody, which was given in by the Convener, Mr. McGill, and read; after long reasoning, it was moved by Doctor Mathieson, seconded by Mr. George, and agreed to without a vote,—that inasmuch as no Correspondence has been had by the Committee with the Parent Church on the subject entrusted to them, the Synod take no farther proceedings in the matter for the present. The Committee was accordingly discharged.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, a Petition from the Presbytery of Bathurst, for leave to divide themselves into two Presbyteries—the one to comprehend the townships now under the pastoral charge of Messrs. Cruickshank, Evans, Smith and Mann, and the township of Ramsay—together with the county of Russell, presently within the bounds of the Presbytery of Glengary, as also the townships on the north side of the Ottawa, commencing with the township of Buckingham, and extending upwards so as to include that of Mansfield, and the newly surveyed townships adjoining—this Presbytery to be named the Presbytery of Bytown, and to have Bytown as its seat: the other to comprehend the remaining portion of the bounds of the Presbytery of Bathurst, and to remain in other respects as it is at present constituted. Members of the Presbyteries of Bathurst and Glengary having been heard in regard to the petition, it was moved, seconded and agreed to, that the particulars specified

Petition for a  
division of the  
Presbytery of  
Bathurst.

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thereon.



therein be entered in the minutes; and that the Presbytery of Bathurst be authorized to make the proposed division, in terms thereof, whenever they deem it expedient to do so.

Overtures to be transmitted to Presbyteries.

The Synod had transmitted to them, by their Committee of Bills and Overtures, an Overture respecting the administration of Church Discipline: and, an Overture respecting the instruction of Catechumens, and their admission to the fellowship of the Church, and, the same having been read and considered—it was, on a motion, agreed, that these Overtures be transmitted to Presbyteries, in order that they may report their views thereon to the Synod at next Session.

Report on Synod Fund.

The Synod next called for the report of the Committee on the Synod Fund, which was given in by Mr. Bruce, read and received. The Treasurer was instructed to furnish Presbytery Clerks with statements of the arrears due to the fund, by the Congregations within their respective bounds, and enjoined them to use diligence in the collection of the same, and to remit to the Treasurer as soon as possible. It was ordered that the accounts as examined and now presented by the Committee be paid by the Treasurer; and that half the travelling expenses of members attending the meeting of Synod be paid, in the case of those Congregations which have duly contributed to the Synod Fund. (The Treasurer will transmit a separate printed statement of the Synod Fund Accounts to each Congregation.)

Temporalities' Bill

referred to committee.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the draft of a bill, to provide for the management of the temporalities in Congregations, and thereafter appointed the following members as a Committee, with authority to take the necessary steps for obtaining the sanction of the Legislature to the same, viz.:—Mr. John Machar, Convener, Principal Liddell, Doctor Mathieson, Mr. Alexander Gale, and Professor Campbell; the Hon. John McDonald, the Hon. Thomas McKay, and Edward W. Thomson, Esquire.

The Synod appointed the following members as their Commissioners to watch over the general interests of the Church, and for conducting such business as has been devolved on the Commission, during the present Session, viz.:

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John Clugston  
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John Machar,  
James Ketchan  
John M. Roger  
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Andrew Bell,  
James George,  
William T. Lea  
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## Minutes of the Synod at Montreal, 1842.

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**Mr. HENRY ESSON, Moderator ; and,**  
**Mr. ALEXANDER GALE, Clerk of Synod.**

### AND FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF GLENGARY:

John McKenzie,                      Hon. John McGillivray,  
Hugh Urquhart,—*Ministers.*      Hon. Justice McLean,—*Elders.*

### FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON:

Robert McGill,                      William Craigie,  
Mark Y. Stark,                      Alexander Drysdale,—*Elders.*  
William Meldrum,  
William King,—*Ministers.*

### FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF QUEBEC:

John Clugston,                      John Munn,  
John Cook, D. D.,—*Ministers.*      John Thomson,—*Elders.*

### FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF BATHURST:

John Cruikshank,                      Hon. Thomas McKay,  
Thomas C. Wilson,                      John McCrady,—*Elders.*  
William Bell,  
Robert Boyd,—*Ministers.*

### FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON:

John Machar,                      William Fergusson,  
James Ketchan,                      Andrew Jeffrey,  
John M. Roger,                      Robert Johnston,—*Elders.*  
Thomas Liddell, D. D.  
Peter C. Campbell,—*Ministers.*

### FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO:

William Rintoul,                      Ephraim Steen,  
Andrew Bell,                      Edward W. Thomson,  
James George,                      John Burns,—*Elders.*  
William T. Leach,  
James Lambie,—*Ministers.*

### FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL:

Alexander Mathieson, D. D.      Thomas Blackwood,  
Edward Black, D. D.              Hugh Brodie,  
Walter Roach,                      John Bruce,  
James C. Muir,—*Ministers.*      James Lang,—*Elders.*

The Commission was appointed to meet to-morrow, at nine o'clock, A. M., in St. Paul's Church, and thereafter by adjournment as they may see fit.

## Minutes of the Synod at Montreal, 1842.

The Synod appointed their next Session to be holden in the City of Toronto, and within St. Andrew's Church there, on the first Thursday in July, 1843, at 12 o'clock, noon.

After an address by the Moderator, the Synod concluded with prayer, praise, and the Apostolic benediction.

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## APPENDIX.

### ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

My dear Madam, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the petition of the Free Church of Scotland, and to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

## APPENDIX.

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have signed the petition in support of the Free Church of Scotland, and who are now residing in the city of New York.

Mr. James H. Smith, of the City of New York, has been appointed a member of the Committee on the petition of the Free Church of Scotland, and has been authorized to report thereon to the House of Representatives.

The Committee on the petition of the Free Church of Scotland, have the honor to inform you that they have received your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the same, and that they are now engaged in a careful consideration of the same.

I am, Madam, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,

HENRY BROWN.



# Minutes of the Synod at Montreal 1842

The Synod assembled their next Session to be held in the City of Quebec, and within St. Andrew's Church there, on the first 7th day of July, 1842, at 12 o'clock noon.

After the address by the Moderator, the Synod concluded with prayer, psalm, and the Apostles Creed.

## APPENDIX.

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# APPENDIX.

[I.]

## ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

**MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN :**

We, Your Majesty's Most loyal and dutiful Subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in Connection with the Church of Scotland, gladly embrace this opportunity of our annual Synodical Meeting to renew the expression of our devoted attachment to Your Majesty's Royal Person and Government.

The late atrocious attempt against your Majesty's life, a life so precious and so dear to your people, has aroused a universal feeling of indignation and abhorrence throughout this part of your dominions, while its Providential failure has equally inspired a profound and unanimous feeling of devoutest gratitude to Almighty God, for His merciful deliverance of your Majesty from so imminent a danger.

The auspicious birth of a Prince to perpetuate the Protestant succession, and to continue in the firm possession of the sceptre of this mighty Empire, that illustrious line from which your Majesty is descended, and under whose beneficent sway, our country has risen to an unparalleled height of glory and prosperity, affords us a new and delightful occasion of pious thankfulness to God, and of heartfelt sympathy with your Majesty in this accession to your Majesty's domestic felicity, and to the stability of your Throne.

We rejoice that in this important Province of the British Empire, the inestimable blessings of peace, prosperity and contentment, have happily succeeded to the calamities of civil war and hostile invasions by which we were recently afflicted; and, deeply sensible how much we owe our deliverance from these evils, and our present cheering prospects, to your Majesty's wise, magnanimous and beneficent rule, we earnestly pray that it may please the Supreme Disposer of events to strengthen and maintain the bond which unites us with the Parent State, as the best security, under His Providence, of our peace and prosperity.

And while we offer up our united thanksgivings, to the Almighty Ruler of nations for all the distinguished blessings with which it hath hitherto pleased Him graciously to crown your Majesty's life and reign, we pray that of His abundant grace He would enrich your Majesty's heart, and the hearts of your Ministers and People with the spirit and the principles of Religion pure and undefiled, by which alone thrones are established and nations exalted.

At Montreal, this twelfth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, in name, presence, and by appointment of the Synod.

HENRY ESSON.

*Moderator.*

## [II.]

## ADDRESS TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

*To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir CHARLES BAGOT, G. C. B.,  
One of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Governor  
General of British North America, and Captain General and  
Governor-in-Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova  
Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and  
Vice Admiral of the same, &c. &c. &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in Synod assembled, approach your Excellency to express our respectful congratulations on your assuming the Government of these Provinces, and our most sincere wishes for your personal happiness and the success of your administration.

We rejoice in the peace and tranquillity which now, so happily prevail in this part of the British Empire, in the abundant plenty with which a kind Providence has blessed our land, and in the increasing improvement of this vast and beautiful Province : and we earnestly hope that all classes of the community, laying aside party animosities and cultivating the virtues of loyalty, contentment, and peaceful industry, will unite their efforts for the promotion of the public welfare.

As Ministers of the Gospel of Christ, it will be, as it always has been an endeavour to plant in the minds of our people, those principles of piety and heavenly wisdom from which alone true virtue can spring, and which therefore, afford the only sure guarantee for social peace and order—for national prosperity and happiness.

The great number, and rapid increase of the Presbyterian population of this country, and their firm attachment to the institutions of their Church, create a deep anxiety, on our part, to extend to them the means of religious instruction, at present so inadequate to their wants,—and, we may venture to add, constitute a powerful claim to the countenance and protection of the Government of this Province.

It will ever be our fervent prayer, that God, the giver of all good, may enrich you with every blessing, guide you with wisdom from on high, direct and prosper all your measures, and confer upon you an eternal and unfading crown.

Signed—In name, presence, and by appointment of the Synod, at  
Montreal, this ninth day of July, one thousand eight hundred  
and forty-two.

HENRY ESSON,  
*Moderator.*

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## [III.]

*Letter from the General Assembly to the Presbyterian Churches in the British Colonies, in Connection with the Church of Scotland.*

## DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN :

Among the various important subjects brought under our notice at our yearly meetings, there is scarcely any which excites in our minds a deeper or more abiding interest, than that which relates to the condition of our brethren and children who have gone forth from among us, and who are to be found scattered over almost every part of the habitable world. The affecting circumstances in which many of them left their native shores—their subsequent wanderings—their chequered fate in the lands of their adoption—the very feeling that they are far away from us, and that oceans are rolling between us—call forth our sympathy, and “love according to the flesh,” and our bowels yearn over them who have gone into far countries. But a deeper feeling takes possession of our bosom, when our thoughts are directed to the spiritual condition of those who have been separated from their brethren. Their removal forces upon us the unavailing regret, that more was not done by us for their welfare while they continued among us ; and the spiritual deprivations to which many of them are subjected—the evil example with which others are surrounded—the checks and restraints from which they are let loose—and the new forms of temptation which the god of this world presents in every different clime—fill our hearts with anxieties and alarms.

In regard to those of our countrymen, however, who have settled in the colonial possessions and dependencies of Great Britain, it is a satisfaction to us to know, that, to a certain extent, at least, the blessings of a Gospel ministry are enjoyed—that there are many faithful servants of the Lord Jesus labouring among their fellow-countrymen in word and ordinances—and that, in the more important of our Colonies, a platform has been erected for giving full effect to all the excellencies of the Presbyterian system. We watched with much interest over the formation of ecclesiastical judicatories in the Colonial settlements ; and from the time of their establishment, we have had the happiness, in almost every instance, of marking an improvement in every thing connected with the religious condition of the Presbyterian settlers from Scotland.

To the Colonial Churches which have been thus organized, we feel that the spiritual interests of the Scottish population may safely be entrusted—that they no longer require our direct interference—and that, whatever benefits we wish to communicate, may be best conveyed through the office-bearers of the different Synods or Presbyteries. This is due, we should fondly hope, in most instances, to the character of the individuals whom we ordained as ministers for Colonial stations. The spirit of Presbytery also seems to us to require, that the right of government should not, in ordinary cases, extend beyond the limits of representation. And these limits may safely be determined by considerations of convenience, from the inherent power of the Presbyterian system, as a scriptural institute, to adapt itself to every variety of circumstances.

But, while we decline all authoritative jurisdiction over the Colonial Presbyterian Churches, we can never cease to cherish the warmest interest in their welfare; and we consider ourselves authorized—as our Christian sympathies may prompt, or as their circumstances may require—to address to them the words of counsel and exhortation, of encouragement or reproof; and when offered in the spirit of love, we feel assured that they will be received in the same spirit.

To the Ministers of the Gospel, then, we would at present address ourselves. We appreciate, to the fullest extent, the zeal that prompted you, as individuals, to forego the many comforts and blessings of home, for the purpose of carrying the glad tidings of salvation to your countrymen in distant lands. We sympathize with you in the difficulties and privations to which many of you are subjected; and we regret that the pecuniary remuneration for your sacrifices and services is, in many instances, inadequate to your reasonable comforts and necessities. But, believing that it was not for the sake of temporal advantage that you dedicated yourselves to the service of your Master, we trust that you are not left without the experience, that godliness is profitable unto all things. And be assured, that the more entirely you divest yourselves of all undue anxieties in regard to your temporal condition, the more unreservedly you consecrate the whole tenor of your life, and direct the whole current of your thoughts to the work of your Heavenly Father, the more you will experience that God is not unrighteous to forget your labour of love. In your toilsome Sabbath journeys from church to church, to afford to all among whom your lot is cast an opportunity of gathering themselves together for public worship, in your weekly rounds of visitation to the members of your flock, widely spread in a population of many denominations, or in the thinly scattered hovels of the wilderness, on the borders of savage tribes, or mixed up with the outcasts of society, more savage than they—in journeyings often in perils by your own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils among false bretheren,—in these abundant labours you will still find much to support and to cheer you. “The servant is not greater than his master;” and, in your self-sacrificing efforts, you encrease your resemblance to the master to whom you have devoted yourselves; nay, in your toils and privations, you have the privilege of filling up the sufferings of Christ for his body’s sake, that is, his Church. Even in this world, you will in no wise lose your reward. Your labour of love will call forth a return of grateful feeling among your people; and in the cordial welcome that greets your approach, in the kindness manifested to your person, in the readiness with which, to their power, and beyond their power, they minister to you of their scanty substance; in these or in other blessings that the Father of lights will bestow, you will acknowledge that, for all that you have surrendered, you receive even in this present life, “manifold more.” And then, in the world to come, you have souls for your hire. Your labours, however little recognized in the history of men, have been recorded in heaven; and you will be prepared to partake of the joy of the Saviour himself, in seeing of the travail of his soul and being satisfied. To each individual among you, then, we would urge upon you the remembrance of the duties, responsibilities, and privileges of the Gospel ministry, and of the great object for which you received your ordination from us. Preach the Gospel; be instant in season and out of season; and at no time, and in no place, neglect to stir up the gift that is in you by the putting on of the hands of the Presbytery.

But it is at present must always consciences obligation the Gospel government You have polity, and and agreeab themselves dear to ma rendered su and the hap vows that Presbyterian and recomm

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But it is chiefly as members of ecclesiastical judicatories that we would at present address ourselves to you. While your first and great duty must always be, to preach the Gospel, to recommend yourselves to the consciences of men by manifestation of the truth; there is a sacred obligation upon you to connect the faithful preaching of the doctrines of the Gospel with the observance and maintenance of the worship and government of the Church from which you have received your commission. You have professed your adherence to the principles of our ecclesiastical polity, and to its simple rites and observances as being founded upon, and agreeable to, the word of God. These institutes and forms address themselves to associations and remembrances that must ever continue dear to many among whom you labour; and in this way they may be rendered subservient to the promotion of your great object—the reception and the happy influence of the truth. But this is not all—and by the vows that are upon you, you are called upon to give full effect to the Presbyterian system, by bringing into exercise all its capabilities of good, and recommending it in the world, by the exhibition of its excellence.

As honoured to bear rule in the Church of Christ, keep constantly in mind the great ends for which the great Head of the Church has committed a system of government to the office-bearers in his spiritual house—that order should be maintained, that ordinances be rightly administered, that due means be employed for repressing vice and error, and for encouraging the progress of knowledge and righteousness—and in the meetings of your courts, let all your proceedings, whether legislative or judicial, be conducted with an eye to these important ends. Let the different Courts, Kirk Sessions, Presbyteries, Synods, be kept in due subordination the one to the other. It is essential to the existence of the Presbyterian system, that individual members of the Church, and that inferior judicatories, should yield a ready obedience to their spiritual superiors; so that, while no one individual possesses jurisdiction over the rest, all should be subject to the voice of the whole.

In your Supreme Courts let a vigilant and effective superintendence be in constant exercise, in regard to all inferior Courts, and still more in regard to every separate congregation or parish. Take effectual measures for satisfying yourselves that the ecclesiastical machinery in each congregation is complete, and that it is in vigorous and healthful operation—that the Gospel is faithfully preached—that the dispensation of the Sacraments is not delayed beyond stated and suitable seasons—that diets of visitation and examination are held as circumstances admit—that discipline is duly exercised—that the state of the young is attended to—that all means within your power are employed for the establishment of schools where they are wanted, and that, when established, they are regularly visited—and especially, that elders are ordained, and, where it is practicable, that districts are assigned to them, and that they are diligent in the performance of their special duties. It is of great importance that it should be pressed upon your separate congregations, and that it should come before your people with the weight of your united authority, that individuals possessing the requisite qualifications, should undertake the duties of the eldership; and that, having accepted of the office, they should diligently fulfil the trust committed to them,—and, fulfilling it, that they should receive double honour. Returns should be required from every congregation respecting all these particulars; and, where a deficiency is observed, every prudent means should be employed for securing a remedy.



Consider, as you indeed do, the condition of the vacant stations within your bounds or in your immediate neighbourhood, and use all diligence for the extension of your Church. For this purpose, it is desirable that there should be accurate statistical information as to the number of Scottish Presbyterians in each Colony, and in regard to the best situations for the establishment of new Churches. Let arrangements be made to secure the occasional, and, if possible, the periodical, ministration of the Word in such stations, by the Ministers of your own Presbyteries, or by the services of Missionaries, till an appeal throughout your own Colony, or to the Mother Country, may prove effectual for securing the blessing of a fixed Pastor in such localities.

In this department much benefit may be derived from the judicious employment of Elders of the Church. Individuals of known piety and of tried worth should be anxiously sought out in situations where there is not a regular ministry, and their gifts for reading, exhortation, and prayer, when exercised under the authority of the Church, may be signally blessed, in such circumstances, for keeping alive the remembrance of the Gospel. With their assistance, meetings on the Lord's Day, for social worship, may be organized to a great extent, and with the prospect of great benefit.

Much also may be done in destitute localities, by the distribution of tracts and religious publications; and care should be taken that the Word of God should be in every house. And you will find us ready, upon all occasions, to assist in furnishing you with supplies of works for distribution.

The difficulty of obtaining individuals, with suitable qualifications, disposed to go forth to the Colonial situations, has long been the cause to us of great regret. We bless God, however, that a better spirit begins to manifest itself, and you may count upon our availing ourselves of this spirit to the utmost limits of our power. We are anxious to give assistance in the case of every individual who presents himself to us, if we find that he is deserving of our confidence. And this being the case, we would interpose the caution, that, great as your wants may be, no individual going to you from this country should be admitted, far less ordained, to the ministerial office, who does not bring a special recommendation by our authority.

Though we have alluded to the prospect of an encreasing number of labourers for the Colonial vineyard presenting themselves to our notice, this does not alter the conviction that has long been forced upon us, that it is to the Colonies themselves, that recourse must ultimately be had for the supply of the spiritual wants of their people. It is the duty and privilege of the Colonial Churches to call the attention of the young to this important subject. And you may be assured of our cordial co-operation in every prudent scheme by which the wishes of those disposed for the work of the ministry, who give the promise of suitable qualifications, may be carried into effect.

Such are some of the subjects connected with the welfare of your people, which may be deserving of the attention of your judicatories. And, for success in the important objects we have referred to, we would have you to believe that, next to the blessing of Almighty God, nothing is more essential than that you should exercise a diligent scrutiny in regard to the members of your own body, and that your authority should be exerted, that their walk and conversation are becoming their profession.

Be careful of your professional occupation, and in putting higher character rebuke with

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Be careful not to admit a low standard of professional qualifications, or of professional labour. Suffer none of your number to engage in any occupation that interferes with the ministerial office. Especially be strict in putting down every appearance of immorality. Seek to merit the higher character of not being able to bear them that do evil. Exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise you.

It is of great consequence that the character of the Clergy for learning and diligent application to study should be maintained; and the authority of your Courts may, with propriety, be exerted towards securing this important end. The practice which originally prevailed in our Church, and which has been revived in some of our Presbyteries, of employing a part of the time of every meeting in exercises upon the Scriptures, by the members of the Court in succession, might be adopted with advantage among you. And the formation of libraries for every Presbytery ought also to be made an object.

One of the great excellencies of the Presbyterian system of Church government consists in the scope afforded by it in the developement of the talents of every member of the Church for the benefit of all. Our liberty, however, is always in danger of degenerating into licentiousness; and it is with great sorrow of heart that we have heard of the violence and divisions in the Presbyterian Church Courts in some of our Colonies, that have proved injurious to the interests of the Scottish Church, and even to the cause of religion itself. Brethren, let this cause of offence be removed; consider whose servants ye are, and let not the Ministers of the Gospel of peace be chargeable with walking disorderly. Pursue ye those things that make for peace; and while you assert your right to defend each his own opinions freely, defend them at the same time with the meekness of wisdom, and let all things be done in charity.

Brethren, we feel that a solemn trust is committed to you; an awful responsibility is imposed upon you. In love for the souls of the thousands and tens of thousands year after year leaving our shores, we cannot but earnestly pray for the zeal and fidelity of our Colonial Churches. And when we think of the destinies of the empires that may yet arise from the foundations that are now laid, and the influence they may have in the future developements of society itself, under new forms, and in different circumstances, we are still more deeply impressed with the importance of the work in which you are engaged.

Our hearts desire and prayer is that the Great Head of the Church may strengthen, stablish, settle you.—“Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might, quit you like men, be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you.”

Signed at Edinburgh, this twenty-third day of May, eighteen hundred and forty years, in our name, in our presence, and at our appointment, by

ANGUS MAKELLAR,

*Moderator.*



## [IV.]

*To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, Grace, Mercy and Peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

## DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN :

Once more our joy has been increased by your annual Letter, read to us in Synod assembled, and we give thanks in your behalf to the Lord Jesus Christ, the King and Head of His Church, for all the blessings wherewith He has blessed you. The position you occupy in His Church on this continent is one of great prominence, involving responsibilities of the highest order, and our earnest prayer is that you may be found faithful in the trust that has been committed to you. Possessing, as you do, in common with ourselves, standards of doctrine so Scriptural, and a form of discipline so primitive and pure, to which you are careful that your teaching and government shall be conformed, we seem to behold you in the front rank of the faithful witnesses for the truth, whom God will bless and honour in extending that spiritual kingdom which consists not in meats and drinks, but in righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. On these grounds, the pleasure we derive from a fraternal correspondence with you is deep and unfeigned. Our spheres of labour are in the same vineyard, and not so distant but we can speak to each other in words of encouragement and love.

We forward to you a copy of the abstract of the Minutes of our present Session, now about to close, from which you may form a judgment of our state and the course we are endeavouring to pursue for the advancement of the Saviour's kingdom. Our Home Missionary operations we are using our best efforts to extend, but the field is so wide and the labourers so few, that our hearts are like to sink within us when we survey the very inadequate supply of spiritual ordinances we can give, and that only in a small portion of our territory, while a still larger portion of it is but rarely refreshed, even with a passing visit of those whom we have commissioned to preach the Gospel. This destitution does not arise from any great disproportion between the number of our ministers and that of our adherents. The number of Ministers upon our Synod Roll is eighty-two, and we estimate our adherents at one hundred thousand, giving a proportion to each Minister not greater than his pastoral labour might overtake in a flock compactly located. But scattered as they are throughout this extended province, and separated from each other by large uninhabited forest-tracts, it has been found impracticable to embrace more perhaps than one half of our people within our stated pastoral charges. To relieve in some degree this mournful destitution of Divine ordinances, we have devised a scheme of missionary and itinerant labour, in which the occasional services of all our Ministers may be rendered available for the more thinly settled townships contiguous to them. Our attention has also been directed to the sad condition of our fellow-subjects of French extraction, who are immersed in Popish darkness, and our hope is that we shall soon be able to bring into that

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portion of our Home Mission field Protestant Missionaries from Europe, speaking the French language, who shall not be chargeable with keeping back the word of God, from the people, nor of handling it deceitfully, who shall by manifestation of the truth commend themselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

We have also been moved during the present Session to take a more decided part with the Parent Church in her missions to India and the Jews. Although our temporal resources are far from being adequate to our own necessities, we are nevertheless constrained to some acknowledgement of our obligation to relieve a spiritual wretchedness still more aggravated than our own, putting our trust in Him to whom the kingdoms and wealth of the world belong, believing that he will accept our sacrifice and requite a thousand fold into our own bosom. Experience has taught us that efforts for the salvation of the heathen at a distance, when wisely directed, tend rather to increase our energy in removing the heathenism existing around us, and our endeavour is that our liberality may be as extended as our desire, when in our daily prayer we say, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven."

At a crisis like the present in the history of the Church of Scotland, when we are looking with anxious solicitude for the developement of the divine purposes regarding her, we cannot but be deeply affected with the expressions of your kind sympathy in her behalf. In her assertion of spiritual independence, in her struggles to cast off the injurious usurpations of secular power, she is once more revived to the spirit which actuated her in the best periods of her history. But when we consider the principles which govern those who desire to retain her in bondage, and the power which they can wield to accomplish their end; and when we look at the Popish and semi-infidel liberalism so eagerly combining with the Erastianism of the State to work her overthrow, we cannot altogether suppress the apprehension that momentous changes will result in some of her external relations. But for her suffering in such a cause and its issue we give way, no, not for a moment either to fear or despondency. On the contrary, we cherish the hope that she will come out of the trial as gold purified by the fire, and that her martyr-testimony will awaken a reforming spirit in those lands where the domination of the civil power has long subverted the liberty and corrupted the purity of the Church of Christ.

Among the many circumstances in the general aspect of Christendom, that awaken within us concern and vigilance, we may advert to the bold pretensions which have of late been set forth by numerous adherents of the prelatical authority, and the more eager grasping of the Church of Rome to regain her former tyranny over the consciences of men. At such a time, we feel it to be more peculiarly incumbent on us to be fully on our guard against the ambitious machinations of the man of sin, under whatever guise they are detected. In so far as Popery is a political combination against the rights and well-being of the civil community, we leave it to be dealt with by those to whom the guardianship of civil freedom is entrusted, offering up fervent prayer unto God that all Christian rulers may be moved to resist the insidious encroachments of this spiritual tyranny, that they be not overwhelmed in the just judgment of Almighty God. But in so far as Popery is a spiritual delusion, destructive to the souls of men, we feel it to be our duty, both in our

ecclesiastical judicatures and in our public teaching, to testify against it; to expose its deformity, and to rescue men from its degrading bondage; and while thus contending for the faith once delivered to the saints, we trust we shall never use any weapons save those which it sanctions, and that we shall never fail in the benevolent spirit which it inspires.

It affords us sincere gratification to review, on such an occasion as this, the many ties by which we are united. We place some value on the fact that we possess a common origin and a common language, but far more that we are partakers of a like precious faith. The revival of your correspondence with the General Assemblies of Scotland and Ireland, with which we are so intimately united, we hail as the omen of perpetual affection and fraternal remembrance. It is a worthy object of desire that Presbyterianism may be one throughout the world. The facilities of intercourse, and the many bonds that unite the nations of the earth into one great commonwealth, seem to us as the voice of Providence, inviting the Church to proffer the alliance of brotherhood to all who in every place call upon the name of the Lord Jesus, both theirs and ours. The divine influence that is to subject the world to his dominion operates every where, and unites into one body all who believe; and, although an intimate fellowship be impracticable, united hearts and fraternal correspondence is the undoubted duty and privilege of the Churches of God.

Longing and praying, as we do, that we all may be one, and labouring in our own sphere, with efforts on which the blessing of God hath rested, to heal divisions that have arisen in our fatherland, in the olden time, out of peculiar circumstances, we cannot repress our fervent hope, that the division which in late years has arisen in the Presbyterian Church of the United States, will yet be cemented in the spirit of brotherly love, and on the basis of truth and scriptural order, as they are set forth in the common standards. In your late arduous struggle to preserve the purity of the Church, we cannot doubt that you were actuated with an earnest desire to maintain your allegiance to its adorable Head; but if it should appear now, that you are further removed from turmoil of the battle, that through heat or misapprehension, any offence has been causelessly given, occasion is presented of humiliation and sorrow on the part of the offending, and of forgiveness and charity on the part of the offended. The affairs of human life are often so complicated that a mixture of evil seems inseparable from our best conducted measures, and our rejoicings at success are not unfrequently mingled with our tears. That many, who, from their local connections, are at present disconnected with your Assembly, are yet cordially joined with you in the same mind and in the same judgment, we are fond to believe; and that in so far as error and irregularity of discipline has prevailed among them, they grieve and are stirred up to a more decided testimony against them, we have had some gratifying evidence. Prizing as we do, truth above unity, and unity as it results from truth and is subservient to it, we shall hold that as a day of jubilee, when both are fully restored among you; and we will not cease to offer up our prayers unto Him, who still intercedes with the Father "that we may all be one," that He may remove every obstacle out of the way, and lead you by a faithful adherence to our scriptural standards, and the good old ways in which our fathers trod to a real and visible unity—a unity that will not be less real and visible, though you should resolve to subsist in distinct ecclesiastical organizations within your distinct territories, manifesting your unity and

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fellowship by fraternal acts of correspondence and co-operation in the work of the Lord. May peace be within thy walls. For our brethren and companions' sake, we will now say peace be within thee.

In the name, and by appointment of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, at Kingston, this sixth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-one years. (1841.)

JAMES GEORGE, Moderator.

ALEXANDER GALE, Synod Clerk.

LETTER FROM THE AMERICAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1842.  
The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN:—  
Your truly fraternal Epistle we have received, and read, and welcomed. We thank you for its Christian greeting and interesting intelligence. We rejoice in the opportunity afforded by this correspondence, of causing those ties to be more deeply felt, which bind us together, not merely as Presbyterians, but especially as parts of the great family of the redeemed. And realizing, as we trust, in some good degree, the preciousness of these bonds, we hail you as brethren, through Him who is "the first-born of every creature,"—as co-workers in the same field, and as expectants of the same everlasting reward.

God, who "fixes the bounds of our habitations," in marking out your portion of the field, has given you a "wide place." The labourers he has sent into it to labour in it, are as yet comparatively few. The man of sin has a firm hold upon your country, and its institutions; and your close connection with the agitated, persecuted Church of Scotland, causes you to be afflicted with her afflictions. But we thank our common Lord for the evidence so abundantly furnished by your letter, that you are not discouraged. That, through grace, you possess and exercise that faith which can find light and hope in God, while all around is confusion and darkness. Brethren, as ye have heretofore stood, so now stand in this evil day, and having done all, stand! "The Lord God in the midst of you is mighty." These agitations which affect you and us, and the Church



of Christ throughout the world, but indicate the presence and the power of our Covenant Redeemer, fulfilling more perfectly than He did in the abolition of the Mosaic ritual. His ancient promise, "Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven—and this word 'yet once more,' signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain." And if, under the influence of His mighty hand—we, seeing many things around us tottering and falling, which we have heretofore regarded as venerable, and sacred, and stable, ought we to be either surprised or cast down? Ought we not rather to thank God and take courage, assured that their fall will be the salvation of the world?—that by their removal, not only men, but "principalities and powers in heavenly places," will be enabled to see more clearly the immutability of our Jehovah's counsels, and promises and kingdom.

We would that ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto us, during our late trials, have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the Gospel. "When our hearts were failing us for fear—and for looking after those things which seemed likely to come upon us," we were constrained to inquire, with increased earnestness, "What is truth?" to cry after knowledge, and lift up our voice for understanding, to seek her as silver, and search for her as for hid treasures. And the result, as we believe, is, that the great doctrines of "the Gospel of the Grace of God," are more clearly perceived and extensively taught, and cordially loved by the mass of our Ministers and people than they were before. And thus we have not only got rid of many who were bringing in practices of questionable propriety, and erroneous and dangerous doctrines, but have been brought ourselves to tread the pathway of truth, with more confidence and comfort.

It is true that we have to join with you in lamenting the separation from us, of some in whose piety and doctrinal soundness we have had, and still have confidence,—men with whom we would gladly labour on earth, and with whom we hope to rest in heaven. Controversial excitement, peculiarity of location, personal friendships and sympathies, and, as we apprehend, mistaken views on their part of the important question of Church Government, which was the final, though not the chief cause of the division, have all contributed to this result. But from past and present indications, we have reason to hope, that our separation from all sound men who may have gone out from us, will be but short,—that they will be shocked with the teaching of errorists, who emboldened by the removal of the restraints which they once felt around them, are throwing out their errors with less reserve,—that excitement will pass away, that the mere question of order and discipline will dwindle into comparative insignificance, when leisurely and calmly contemplated by the side of other things, in which these brethren believe us to be right,—that criminations will cease, and that mutual mistakes will be corrected, and that thus we will be permitted to stand once more in an unbroken rank—side by side with those brethren from whom we have been so unhappily divided. Nay, we hope better things than even these: the question is every where asked—Is there no common ground on which all who sincerely hold the Westminster Confession as the foundation of their faith, and the plan of their government and discipline, may meet and harmonize? Are their peculiarities worth the expense of their perpetuation? May not such concessions be made as will enable us, without the abandonment of any scriptural principle, to dwell together in unity? And we are rejoiced

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to know, that other Presbyterians have this matter under prayerful consideration, and we hope that they will not dismiss it from their minds, until it shall have undergone a thorough examination, and, if possible, the Union ultimately and fully consummated.

From the copy of our Minutes, which accompanies this letter, you will learn more fully our state. We solicit a continuance of the correspondence between us.

Finally, Brethren, farewell! May the God of Peace be with you,—may He “establish your hearts unblameable in holiness, before God even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His Saints.”

JOHN T. EDGAR, *Moderator.*

WM. M. ENGLIS, *Stated Clerk.*

JOHN M. KREBS, *Permanent Clerk.*

WILLIS LORD, *Temporary Clerk.*

Philadelphia, June 3rd, 1842.

#### [VI.]

#### SUGGESTIONS for the more effectual prosecution of Home Missionary operations by the Presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

The principal objects contemplated by the Synod in appointing the Mission Committee, seem to be the following:—To obtain more full and distinct information as to the religious wants of the Presbyterian population of the Province, to devise adequate means for the support of Missionaries, to procure a sufficient supply of missionaries, and to direct the application of missionary labour. The following suggestions are respectfully submitted for the consideration of Presbyteries, with a view to the attainment of these important objects:

I. It is recommended that each Presbytery proceed, as soon as possible, to arrange those townships or parishes within their bounds which contain a considerable number of Presbyterians, and which are without a stated ministry, into missionary districts, each district containing such a number of preaching stations, so arranged that a missionary when placed over the district may officiate at each of the stations within it, at least once a month, on the Sabbath. A missionary district, containing eight preaching stations, would be supplied at this rate by one missionary preaching every Sabbath at two contiguous stations.



[The propriety of thus defining and limiting each missionary's field of labour, is established by the consideration, that if his services are more widely extended, they will prove comparatively ineffectual for religious instruction and edification, and the people will not contribute to his support.]

II. It is recommended that each Presbytery, after having divided and arranged their missionary ground according to the foregoing suggestions, take immediate steps for the visitation by their ministers of the several preaching stations, within each of the missionary districts, for the following purposes:—1. To explain to the people connected with each station the division and arrangement which the Presbytery has made, as above,—the exertions which the Presbytery is making to procure an adequate supply of missionaries,—and the necessity of fixed and regular contributions by the people to secure a suitable provision for missionaries. 2. To organize the people connected with each station by superintending the election and appointment of a small committee of their number, (the members of which might be ordained as Elders, if suitably qualified.—See Synod's minutes, Session XI, Diet III,) whose duty it shall be to watch over the religious interests of the station; to meet with the people thereof on vacant Sabbaths for devotional exercises; to establish and superintend one or more Sabbath Schools in connexion with the station; and to collect quarterly the contributions of the members and adherents of the Church, for the support of the missionary. 3. To intimate to the people at the several stations what supplies of preaching the Presbytery will give them until a missionary be obtained for their district.—(See Synod's Minutes, Session XI, Diet V, Itinerant preaching by Ministers.)

III. It is recommended that the committees of the several stations proceed immediately after their appointment to make up a roll of the adult members and adherents of the Church, male and female, connected with their stations, and of the contributions they may agree to give quarterly in advance, for the support of a missionary, when he enters on his labours in their district, adopting such arrangements as they may see meet for the regular collection of these contributions. These contributions should be paid over quarterly to the missionary by the committee, and a regular account kept by them of their receipts and disbursements. It would be desirable, after the proposed organization has been effected, and before any missionary has been appointed to the district, that two quarterly contributions be collected from every station and paid in to the Treasurer of the Presbytery's Mission Fund, to lie in his hands until a missionary has been appointed to the district, and to be applied exclusively to his support when he is appointed. Forms for the rolls and accounts referred to ought to be furnished by the Presbytery to the station committee, and quarterly returns should be required of them to such queries as the following:—What is the total number of souls professing adherence to the Presbyterian Church connected with your station? What is the number of persons connected with your station whose names stand on your roll as contributors to the support of your mission? What is the amount received by you from these contributors for the quarter beginning ———. Has this amount been paid over to the missionary? Are there any on your roll, and how many, who have failed to pay their quarterly contribution? Have you failed to call on any of the contributors for their quarterly contributions? Are there any members or adherents of the Church connected with your station whom

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you have not yet visited and solicited for their support of the mission? How many attend the meeting of the station for worship on vacant Sabbaths? In addition to prayer, praise, and the reading of the Scriptures, are there any other exercises engaged in on the vacant Sabbaths, and what other? How many Sabbath Schools have been established by you in connexion with your station? How many children attend your Sabbath Schools? Have you any other information or suggestion to make to the Presbytery in regard to the interests of your station or mission?

[For the illustration and confirmation of these suggestions, the following brief hints are respectfully submitted. Every adult member and adherent of the Church, and as many others as may be disposed to avail themselves of its services, at each station, ought to be individually solicited to enrol themselves as quarterly contributors. The quarterly contributions ought to average 2s. 6d. cy. from each contributor; and even if the average were below this, a large proportion of the missionary's support would be obtained in this manner. Regularity must be insisted on in collecting the contributions quarterly, in keeping the accounts thereof, and in transferring the sums collected to the missionary. Except the two preparatory quarterly payments, it is of course to be understood that nothing farther will be collected until the missionary has entered on his labours in the district. An annual visitation of the various stations in each missionary district ought to be held by ministers under the appointment of Presbytery, for rectifying irregularities, and inciting all parties to diligence in their duties.—It may be objected that these arrangements can only be attempted advantageously after missionaries have been procured; that a sufficient number of missionaries will not be found within any reasonable time to take charge of all the districts that would be formed according to these suggestions; that the duties imposed on Presbyteries are so extensive as to be impracticable, and that the people, and especially the members of the station committees, will fail in their duties. It is admitted that the difficulties are considerable, nay formidable; but the evils for which a remedy is now proposed are great and manifold, and a vigorous effort must be made to alleviate them. In particular let it be considered, with reference to the foregoing objections, whether missionaries will ever be procured in any adequate number, unless a suitable provision is made for them, and that secured by some efficient system, and whether Presbyteries and individual ministers would not exert themselves more vigorously in applying for missionaries and invite them to the country with more earnestness and unhesitating confidence, and with much greater probability of success, if such a system were previously established,—whether the duties expected of Presbyteries in carrying these suggestions into effect are not incumbent on them, and may not be accomplished by a proper distribution of labour, and whether our people must not be taught, sooner or later, and are not capable of being taught, to perform the duties and make the exertions proposed.]

IV. It is recommended that each Presbytery institute forthwith, a general Presbytery Mission Fund, to be applied in supplementing the salaries of Missionaries, as may be found necessary, in addition to the contributions paid to them by their several Districts. This general fund would be raised and sustained as follows:—1. By an annual Sabbath day collection, in every congregation within the bounds of the Presbytery, due notice thereof having been given on the preceding Sabbath, and a suitable appeal being made to the congregation on the subject. It is thought

desirable that this collection be made in an early Sabbath in January. 2.—On an early day after the annual collection, a meeting of each congregation should be held to afford the minister and session, and any others they may associate with them, an opportunity of laying before the people a statement of the religious destitution existing among their brethren, within the bounds of the Presbytery; of the arrangements and efforts the Presbytery are making for supplying that destitution; of the engagements they have entered into for that purpose, of the amount and application of the contributions to the Presbytery's Mission Fund, and an estimate of the sum required for the Presbytery's missionary operations during the ensuing year, &c., after which the elders, or such other persons as the Kirk Session may appoint, shall personally solicit contributions from all the members of the congregation, the names and contributions being entered in a book provided and kept by the Kirk Session, and the amount of such collections and contributions paid over to the Treasurer of the Presbytery's General Mission Fund. 3.—Annual collections for the General Mission Fund should be made at all the preaching stations in the several Missionary Districts established by the Presbyteries at the annual visitation of them, suggested in article III., and the proceeds received and paid over by the visiting ministers to the Treasurer. 4.—The aid given by the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, or by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, for the support of missionaries, would also *virtually* form a part of this fund.

V. In order to obtain a more adequate supply of missionaries, it is recommended that besides the applications which may be made to the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and to the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, an active and extensive correspondence should be immediately commenced and persevered in by ministers in this country, with individual ministers and preachers of their acquaintance in Scotland and Ireland, setting forth the religious destitution of the Colony, and the prospects which it presents to missionaries, as to usefulness and temporal support.

(Correspondence with individuals has already proved successful, in bringing useful missionaries into the country, when more formal applications were fruitless, and there is much reason to believe that if it were more extensively tried, a more abundant supply of labourers would be brought to our aid.)

Hamilton, October 14th, 1841.

#### ERRATA.

Page 22.—In the clause of the Royal Charter of Queen's College, for "convention" read "connection."

Page 32.—Third paragraph of Address, for "an endeavour" read "our endeavour."