

1/2 Year Rent
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THE

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE
Presbyterian Church of Canada,
MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE

AT ITS SESSIONS AT TORONTO, C. W.,

JUNE 14—24, 1859.

1840 — 1859
PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD.

TORONTO, C. W.,

GLOBE STEAM JOB PRESS, No. 25 KING STREET WEST

1859.

OFFICERS OF SYNOD, 1859-60.

REV. GEO. PAXTON YOUNG, Knox College, Moderator.

REV. WILLIAM REID, A.M., Toronto, Clerk of Synod, and General Agent
for the Schemes of the Church.

JOHN REDPATH, Esq., Montreal, Treasurer for Foreign Mission Fund.

CONVENERS OF COMMITTEES.

Home Mission Committee—Rev. R. URE, Streetsville.

Committee on State of Religion—Rev. J. SCOTT, London.

College Board—Rev. W. GREGG, Chairman.

Widows' Fund—J. OSBORNE, Esq., Hamilton.

Agency Committee—J. McMURRICH, Esq.

Ecclesiastical and Missionary Record—Rev. DR. BURNS

Board of Publication, &c.—Rev. D. INGLIS, Hamilton.

Committee on Foreign Missions—Rev. T. LOWRY, Whitby.

“ on Sabbath Observance—Rev. R. F. BURNS, St. Catherines, and Rev.
P. GRAY, Kingston, Joint Conveners.

“ on Sabbath Schools—Rev. J. GRAY, Orillia.

“ on Statistics—Rev. JOHN GRAY, Orillia.

“ on Union with U. P. Church—Rev. R. URE, Streetsville.

“ on Fund for Aged and Infirm Ministers—Rev. W. GREGG, Toronto.

“ on Registration of Births, Marriages, and Deaths—Rev. T. LOWRY,
Whitby.

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1859

MEETING OF SYNOD.

FIRST SESSION.

At Toronto, and within Cooke's Church there, the fourteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, the which day the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada met, and after sermon by the Rev. Thomas Wardrop, Moderator for the past year, from 1. Cor. i. chap. and 21st vers, was constituted with prayer.

The Synod Roll was made up, and called; and the names of members in attendance were marked.

(The names of Members in attendance are marked with an asterisk.)

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Robert Burns, D.D.....	Prof. of Church History..	Knox College.
*Michael Willis, D.D.....	Prin. & Prof. Divinity...	" "
*James Harris.....		
*Thomas Lowry.....	*James Brehner.....	Whitby.
*Alex. Topp, A.M.....	*John McMurrich.....	Knox's Church, Toronto.
*Wm. Reid A.M.....	General Agent.....	
*A. T. Holmes.....	Nathaniel Hunter.....	Brampton, &c.
*Thos. Wightman.....	*John Alexander.....	Innisfil, Barrie & Essa.
*John McTavish.....	*John Campbell.....	Thorah and Eldon.
*John McLachlan.....	*James Lindsay.....	Acton.
*Wm. Gregg, A. M.....	*Joseph McAuley.....	Cooke's Ch., Toronto.
*George P. Young.....	Prof. Exegetical Theology	Knox College.
*James Nisbet.....	*John Barclay.....	Oakville & Dundas St.
*Robert Ure.....	*James McLure.....	Streetsville.
*John Gray.....	*George Thompson.....	Oillia and Oro.
*Jos. Alexander, A.M.....	*Donald Elder.....	Union and Norval.
*James Adams.....	*Samuel McCutcheon.....	King.
*John Laing.....	*Wm. Clark, Jr.....	Scarboro'.
*Thomas Sharp.....	William Heron.....	Ashburn and Utica.
John Black.....	*Donald McLellan.....	Red River.
*D. B. Pearce.....	John Tolfree.....	Weston.
*James Mitchell.....		Milton and Boston Church.
*Daniel Anderson.....	*Andrew Barclay.....	Brock and Reach.
*James Stewart.....		Oro (Gaelic).

WILLIAM GREGG, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Geo. Cheyne, A.M.	*Andrew Letham	Saltfleet and Binbrook.
*M. Y. Stark		Dundas.
*John Bayne, D.D.	*M. C. Lutz	Galt.
*George Smellie	*James Ross, M.P.P.	Fergus.
*Alex. McLean, M.A.	*Wm. Mitchell	Cumminsville and Nairn.
*John Alexander	*Wm. Ewing	Brantford.
*Duncan McRuar	*Murdoch McRae	Ayr.
*James Black	*Alexander Mitchell	Caledonia.
*Andrew J. McAuley	*Archibald McPhail	Nassagaweya.
*Robert Irvine, D.D.	*John Cook	Hamilton, Knox's Church.
David Inglis	*A. J. McKenzie	Do. McNab St. Ch.
*Andrew Steven		Paris.
*Robert F. Burns	*James Dougan	St. Catherines.
*John Gillespie	*William Speirs	Blenheim.
*Alex. McLean		East Puslinch.
*Wm. MacIndoe	James Forbes	Wel. Sq. & Waterdown.
*James Middlemiss	*William Gibbon	Elora.
*Wm. Craigie	Robert Lowry	Port Dover and Simcoe.
Thos. Isaac Hodgskin		Doon and New Hope.
*Robert Jamieson	*Salmon Minor	Dunnville.
*A. Constable Geikie	*G. Davidson	Berlin.
*Andrew McLean	Gillies McBean	West Puslinch.
*John Irvine	Wm. Russell	Allansville.
*George Cuthbertson	William Mitchell	Woolwich.
*John McRobie	*Henry Fleming	Walpole and Jarvis.
*John G. Murray	J. D. Beamer	Grimsby.
*Alexander Grant		Sydenham 2nd Con.
*James Cameron		Sullivan and Derby.
*Wm. Park		Durham.
Vacant		Guelph.
Do.		Wellesley.
Do.		Owen Sound Chalm Ch.
Do.	*Peter Christie	Niagara.

JAMES MIDDLEMISS, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Henry Gordon	George Lindsay	Gananoque.
*Andrew Wilson	James Gibson	Kingston, Brock St. Ch.
*Peter Gray	*Alex. McAlister	do. Chalmer's Church.
James Hume	Alex. Moore	Melrose & Roslin.
David Wishart		Madoc.
*Wm. McLaren	Dr. Holden	Belleville.
*Robert C. Swinton	*John L. Blaikie	Picton.
Vacant		Trenton and Consecon.

A. MACALISTER, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
William McAlister.....		Metis.
*Wm. B. Clark.....	O. Richardson.....	Quebec.
Thomas Henry.....		Lachute.
*Daniel Gordon.....		Indian Lands, &c.
B. F. Greig (Deputy)....	*J. Court.....	Cote St., Montreal.
*Alex. F. Kemp.....	*T. Dallas.....	St. Gab'l St., Montreal.
Wm. Scott.....		St. Sylvester.
Ewan McLean.....		Winslow.
Duncan Cameron.....	D. McCrimmon.....	Lochiel.
*James McConechy.....		Leeds.
Hugh Campbell.....	R. Craig.....	Cornwall.
*John Anderson.....	D. Cameron.....	Lancaster.
Robert McArthur.....		St. Louis de Gonzague.
John Milne.....	W. McKell.....	English River.
*John Crombie.....	*J. Hossack.....	Inverness.
Peter Currie.....		Vankleekhill.
Alexander Allan.....		St. Eustache.
*John Milloy.....		Lingwick.
Adam F. McQueen.....		Kenyon.
*John McKay.....		Richmond.
D. Black, (S. Supply).....		Chateauguay.
Vacant.....		Martintown and Williams- town.
Do.		Winchester, &c.
Do.		Calvin Church, Languerre.
Do.		Osnabruck and Williams- burgh.
Stations.....		Valleyfield.
Do.		Farnham Centre.
Do.		Alexandria.
Do.		Kennebec.

ALEXANDER F. KEMP, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
James Geggie.....	Mr. Cuthbertson.....	Dalhousie.
*Simon C. Fraser.....	John Forrest.....	McNab.
*Thomas Wardrope.....	Wm. Taylor.....	Ottawa.
*John Corbett.....	Mr. Pritchard.....	Wakefield.
*John McKinnon.....	Robert Kennedy.....	Beckwith & Goulburn.
*James B. Duncan.....		Perth.
*John L. Gourlay.....	Hugh Gourlay.....	Aylmer & Nepean.
*David Wardrope.....	*Adam Cook.....	Bristol.
Henry McMeekin.....	Mr. Bell.....	Pembroke.
*James Whyte.....	Mr. Rodney.....	Osgoode.
Wm. McKenzie.....	Mr. Youll.....	Ramsay.
.....	Andrew McKenzie.....	Renfrew.
.....	John Lough.....	Cumberland & Lochab'r.

JOHN L. GOURLAY, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
James Findlay.....		Mitchell.
Donald McKenzie.....	Donald Campbell.....	Zorra.
*Duncan McMillan.....	Angus McKay.....	Aldborough.
*Thomas McPherson.....		Stratford.
Daniel Allan.....		North Easthope.
*Wm. Meldrum.....	Wm. McKenzie.....	Harrington.
*William Graham.....		Edmondville.
Robert Wallace.....	*John Munroe.....	Ingersoll.
*John Fraser.....	John McKenzie.....	Thamesford.
*Wm. R. Sutherland.....	Duncan Campbell.....	Ekfrid and Mosa.
*Angus McColl.....		hatham.
Lachlan McPherson.....	Donald Fraser.....	Williams.
*John Scott.....	*William Clark.....	Lenon.
*David Walker.....	*David Gray.....	Sarnia.
*William Tronp.....		Plympton.
*William King.....	Robert Vanvrankin.....	Buxton.
*John Ross.....	*Robert Carmichael.....	Brucefield.
Duncan McDiarmid.....	Robert McDonald.....	Chalmers Ch., Woodstock.
*Andrew Tolmie.....		Blandford.
*James Ferguson.....	William Colvin.....	Lobo and Carradoc.
*John Gauld, A.M.....		Moore.
*Wm. T. McMillan.....	*Wm. Whealy.....	Mornington.
*Alexander Young.....	Peter McGill.....	St. Thomas.
*John McMillan.....	Donald McCormick.....	Fingal.
*John Strath.....	*Archibald Young.....	Tilbury.
*William Forrest.....	Duncan McKinlay.....	Ridgetown.
*John Rennie.....	Alexander Gordon.....	Beachville.
*David Beattie.....		St. Mary's.
James Blount.....		Bosanquet.
James W. Chesnut.....		Mandawmin & Enniskillen.
*Arch. McDiarmid.....	Donald McMillan.....	Wallacetown & Currie Rd.
*Alex. D. McDonald.....		Clinton.
.....	*Andrew Smith.....	Knox's Ch., Woodstock.
.....	John Stewart.....	Belmont and Yarmouth

WILLIAM DOAK, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
James Douglass.....		S. Cavan & Millbrook.
*John M. Roger.....	*William Tully.....	Peterboro.
*John W. Smith.....	*Wm. Glover.....	Grafton & Vernonville.
*Wm. J. McKenzie.....	*David Haig.....	Baltimore & Coldsprings.
*Francis Andrews.....	*Alexander Wood.....	Keene and Westwood.
*John Smith.....	*John Smart.....	Bowmanville & Enniskillen.
*William Blain.....	Edward Sanderson.....	Springville.
*James Bowie.....	*Alex. Fraser.....	Norwood and Warsaw.
Wm. C. Windell.....		Cartwright and Ballyduff.
*Peter Duncan.....	*Walter Rutherford.....	Colborne and Brighton.
*Thomas Alexander.....	*Andrew Runciman.....	Percy and Seymour.
.....	*Andrew Jeffrey.....	Cobourg.

JAMES BOWIE, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Wm. Smart.....		
*Robert Boyd, D.D.....	*Joseph Reid.....	Prescott.
Wm. Lohead.....	Thomas Thompson.....	Gloucester & N. Gower.
*James K. Smith, A.M..	James Breakenridge.....	Brockville.
*Andrew Melville.....	*Wm. Elliott.....	Edwardsburgh.
Archibald Crawford.....	Peter Ewing.....	West Port.
*J. Charles Quin.....	*Walter Kerr.....	Kemptville.
*D. E. Montgomery.....	Andrew Carson.....	Mountain & S. Gower.
.....	.....	Yonge and Lyn.
.....	.....	North Augusta, Mirrick-
.....	.....	ville, & Burritt's Rapids.

JAMES K. SMITH, *Pres. Clerk.*

Election of
Moderator.

The Synod proceeded to elect a Moderator, when Mr. George Paxton Young, Professor of Exegetical Theology in Knox College was unanimously elected, and took the chair.

Committee on
Bills and
Overtures.

The Synod appointed the following Committee on Bills and Overtures, namely:—The Moderator and Clerk of Synod, Messrs T. McPherson, J. Scott, J. Ross, D. Walker, W. King, Dr. Bayne, Dr. Irvine, Messrs. D. McRuar, M. Y. Stark, J. Middlemiss, R. F. Burns, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Messrs. W. Greag, A. Topp, T. Lowry, J. Gray, J. Laing, T. Alexander, W. Blain, J. Smith, A. Wilson, W. McLaren, P. Gray, Dr. Boyd, Messrs. J. K. Smith, T. Wardrope, J. L. Gourlay, J. B. Duncan, S. C. Fraser, A. F. Kemp, J. Crombie, J. Anderson, J. McConechy, Ministers; and Messrs. W. Clark, A. Smith, D. McLellan, M. C. Lutz, J. McMarrich, J. Barclay, A. Fraser, A. Macalister, Joseph Reid, Thomas Nicol, James Court, J. Hossack, T. Dallas, W. Elliot, Elders; Mr. T. Wardrope, Convener, and Mr. A. F. Kemp, Clerk.

Daily Meetings.

It was agreed that the Synod should meet daily at 10 o'clock, continuing in session until 3; resume business at 6 P. M., and continue until 10 P. M.

Printing of
Reports.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Reports of the College Committee, the Committee on Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and the Widows' Fund, be printed and circulated twenty-four hours before the said Reports are laid before the Synod for discussion, and that a Committee be appointed to consider what may be done in the matter this year; the Committee to consist of Messrs. McRuar, Geikie, Dr. Irvine, and Mr. McTavish, Ministers; and Messrs. M. C. Lutz and James Ross, Elders.

Leave for
Presbyteries to
meet.

The Synod granted leave to Presbyteries to meet in Toronto during the intervals of the sessions of Synod.

It was agreed, that to-morrow the Committee on Bills and Overtures should meet at 10 A. M., and that the Synod should meet at half past 11, the first hour to be spent in devotional exercises.

The diet was closed with prayer.

SECOND SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 15th June, 11½ o'clock, A.M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

Devotional
Exercises

The first hour was spent in devotional exercises, which were conducted by the Moderator, and Messrs. W. B. Clark, W. J. McKenzie, and A. Topp.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented a Report. The same was received and sustained.

Thanks to late
Moderator for
sermon.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously and cordially agreed, that the thanks of the Synod be tendered to Mr. T. Wardrope, Moderator for the past year, for the excellent and suitable sermon preached by him at the opening of the Synod. The thanks of the Synod were accordingly conveyed to Mr. Wardrope by the Moderator.

Committees on
Presbytery
Records.

The Synod appointed the following Committees for examining Presbytery Records, viz :—

For Presbytery of Hamilton—Messrs. A. F. Kemp, J. Scott, and W. Clark.

For Presbytery of Toronto—Messrs. G. Smellie, J. Crombie, and J. Court.

For Presbytery of Cobourg—Messrs. T. Lowry, D. McRuar, and M. McRae.

For Presbytery of Kingston—Messrs. W. B. Clark, J. McMillan, and J. McMurrich.

For Presbytery of Brockville—Messrs. A. Topp, J. W. Smith, and A. Smith.

For Presbytery of Ottawa—Messrs. A. Wilson, W. T. McMullen, and D. McLellan.

For Presbytery of Montreal—Messrs. J. Gillespie, J. Ross, and A. McAlister.

For Presbytery of London—Messrs. J. Bowie, M. Y. Stark, and J. Hossack.

Committee on
Synod Record.

The Synod also appointed Messrs. S. C. Fraser, J. Mitchell, J. Rennie, and Arch. Young, a Committee to examine the Synod Record.

Arrangements
for Sabbath
Services.

The Synod appointed the following Committee to make arrangements for the supply of the pulpits in Toronto on Sabbath, viz :— Messrs. Topp, Gregg, T. Wardrope, T. Wightman, and J. McMurrich,—Mr. Topp, Convener.

Committee to
classify returns
to overtures.

The Synod appointed Messrs. S. C. Fraser, McLaren, R. F. Burns, and A. Young, a Committee to examine and classify the returns of Presbyteries to overtures sent down by last Synod.

Students to be
taken on trials
for license.

On application duly made, the Synod granted leave to the Presbytery of London, to take on trials for license the following Students

of Divinity, viz :—Messrs. George Bremner, Alex. McKay, Alex. Fraser, William Matheson, and James Greenfield.

On similar application, leave was granted to Presbyteries to take on trials for license, Messrs. W. Millican, C. Cameron, James Robertson, Thomas Fenwick, George Craw, James Campbell, Peter McDiarmid, John McEwen, Robert Leask, A. Currie, and William Lochhead.

Application having been made by the Presbytery of Montreal, for leave to take on trials for license, Mr. C. McKerracher, Student, who had attended three sessions in the New College, Edinburgh, besides six years in the University, but had not delivered two of the discourses required in the Divinity Hall ; it was moved by Mr. McTavish, and seconded,—That the Synod refuse the application of the Presbytery of Montreal to take Mr. McKerracher on public probationary trials, till he has attended a session at Knox College, and has delivered the usual discourses. It was moved in amendment by Mr. Kemp, and seconded,—That in all the circumstances of the case, and without constituting a precedent, the Synod grant leave to the Presbytery of Montreal to take Mr. McKerracher on trials.

On a division, the amendment carried, and the Synod accordingly granted the leave applied for.

The diet was then closed with prayer.

THIRD SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 15th June, 6 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with praise and prayer.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod proceeded to take up appeal of the Kirk Session of St. Andrew's Church, Sarnia, against a finding of the Presbytery of London. Appeal of Session of Sarnia against finding of Pres. of London.

The papers in the case having been read, the following motions were duly submitted.

1. It was moved by Mr. A. F. Kemp, seconded by Mr. G. Cheyne, Mr Kemp's motion.
that the Synod proceed to hear parties in the case.
2. It was moved by Mr. W. J. McKenzie, seconded by Mr. D. Wardrope, Mr. McKenzie's motion
—“That a Committee of five members be appointed to meet at Sarnia to cite and hear parties, and finally adjudicate in the case.”
3. It was moved by Mr. McLaren, seconded by Dr. Irvine,—“That the case be referred to a Select Committee, to mature a decision and report to the Synod at an early day.” Mr McLaren's motion.

On a division Mr. McLaren's motion was carried, and in terms of it the Synod appointed the following Committee, viz :—Mr. Topp, Convener, Dr. Bayne, Mr. W. B. Clark, Mr. Stark, and Dr. Boyd, Ministers, and Messrs. McMurrich and Court, Elders, to mature a decision and report to the Synod at an early day. Mr. McLaren's motion carried
Committee appointed

Ter-centenary
celebration:

The Synod then took up a memorial from several members of Synod with reference to the proposed celebration of the ter-centenary of the Reformation in Scotland, in the course of the year 1860. Other documents on the same subject were also read. The Synod unanimously and cordially approved of the object brought forward in the documents before the Synod, and referred the matter to a small Committee to report thereon at a future diet; the Committee to consist of Dr. Willis, Dr. Burns, Messrs. Cheyne, Scott, J. B. Duncan, J. Smith, and A. Young,—Dr. Willis, Convener.

Temperance
memorials.

Thereafter the Synod proceeded to hear memorials from various Temperance Associations, and also a memorial from Mr. J. J. E. Linton, Stratford, on the subject of Temperance. After discussion, the following resolution, on motion of Mr. R. F. Burns, seconded by Mr. W. B. Clark, was unanimously adopted, viz:—

"The Synod, without committing itself to any opinion respecting the organizations from which the memorials emanate, hereby renew the testimony which for a succession of years they have borne against the enormous evils of intemperance. Every year gives increasing force to their conviction that it is the chief cause of poverty and crime, disease and death, throughout our land; that it is the principal occasion of discipline throughout our church; and that there exists no more formidable obstacle to the spread of the Gospel among us. The Synod rejoice in the passing by the Legislature of a Sabbath Liquor Law. The Synod hail with satisfaction every well designed and well directed effort to arrest the progress of intemperance, counsel the employment of moral suasion, and the exhibition of a consistent example, with this view, on the part of all office-bearers and members of our Church, and earnestly deplore the sanction given by the authorities of the land to a traffic fraught with effects so disastrous. The Synod further recommend to Presbyteries and Sessions to have special regard to the sources of intemperance within their respective bounds and to use every legitimate means for their removal; and feeling on many accounts it would be desirable to have a Standing Committee on this subject, they resolve to appoint the following Committee, viz: Mr. John Smith, Convener, Messrs. R. F. Burns, D. Inglis, John Alexander, Gregg, and Nisbet, Ministers, and Messrs. Elder, Court, Young, Hassock, and McLellan, Elders."

Mr. Kirkland to
be received as a
Probationer.

The Synod took up application from Presbytery of Toronto, for leave to receive as a Probationer of this Church, Mr. Thomas Kirkland. Certificates and other documents having been read, the Synod granted leave to the Presbytery of Toronto to receive Mr. Kirkland.

Mr. J. Straus to
be received as a
Probationer.

The Synod on application from the Presbytery of Montreal, granted leave to that Presbytery to receive Mr. Julius Straus as a Probationer of this Church.

In consequence of the inability of Mr. J. M. Roger to attend the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, as appointed by last Synod, the Synod appointed Mr. W. B. Clark to attend the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church now in session, with Mr. J. B. Duncan, formerly appointed.

In consequence of the absence of Mr. D. Inglis, the Convener of Committee on Colportage, the Synod appointed Mr. A. J. McKenzie to act as Convener *pro tempore*.

In order to allow time for the meeting of various Committees, the Synod agreed to meet to-morrow at 11 o'clock, A.M.

The diet was closed with prayer.

FOURTH SESSION.

THURSDAY, 16th June, 11 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer, praise and reading of the Word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

Mr. T. McPherson asks leave to dissent from action of Synod in the Sarnia case.

Mr. T. McPherson asked leave to enter his dissent from the action of Synod in the matter of the appeal of the Kirk Session of Sarnia, against finding of the Presbytery of London.

On motion of Mr. J. Gillespie, seconded by Dr. Burns, it was agreed :

"That Mr. McPherson be allowed to record his dissent." This he did accordingly.

Mr. J. Stewart to be received as Minister of this Church.

The Synod proceeded to take up an application from the Presbytery of London, for leave to receive as a minister of this Church, Mr John Stewart, formerly of Nova Scotia. The Synod granted leave to the Presbytery to receive Mr. Stewart.

On motion made and seconded, it was also agreed :

"That, inasmuch as the Presbytery of London had moderated in a call to Mr. Stewart from the congregation of Kincardine and Bruce, previously to the dissolution of the pastoral tie between him and his late congregation, the Presbytery be authorized to proceed with his induction, without requiring him to continue as a Probationer for a year."

Dissent of Mr. F. Andrews, &c., referred to Committee.

The Synod then took up dissent and complaint of Mr. F. Andrews, against a finding of the Presbytery of Cobourg, and also a reference from the Presbytery of Cobourg in connexion with the same case.

The Synod appointed the following Committee to consider the case, and report to the Synod, viz :—Dr. Burns, Messrs. G. Smellie, W. Gregg, J. Scott, W. B. Clark, T. McPherson, J. McKinnon, T. Lowry, and Dr. Boyd, Ministers, and Messrs. McMurrich, McAlister, Ross, Hossack, and A. Mitchell, Elders.

Overture on mode of ordaining Elders and Deacons.

The Synod then took up an overture from the Presbytery of Hamilton, on the subject of the mode of the ordination of elders and deacons. The following motions were duly submitted :—

Motion by Mr. Cheyne.

1. It was moved by Mr. Cheyne and seconded - "That this Synod recognize the imposition of hands in the ordination of elders and deacons as in accordance with the practice of the apostles, and recommend that the imposition of hands in future be observed in their ordination,—but in as far as the practice has fallen into disuse, that where there is a prejudice against it, the imposition of hands may be dispensed with, and the former practice followed."

Motion by Dr. Burns.

2. It was moved by Dr. Burns and duly seconded—"That the Synod feeling satisfied with the mode hitherto followed in the ordination of

elders and deacons, do not find it necessary to move in the matter, and therefore decline to adopt the overture."

Motion by Mr. Kemp.

3. It was moved by Mr. Kemp and seconded—"That the Synod having considered the overture on the mode of ordaining elders and deacons, and finding that there is diversity of opinion in the Church in regard to the imposition of hands in the ordination of elders and deacons, remit to Presbyteries, in terms of the Barrier Act, the question as to whether the practice of the Church should be changed in this respect."

Motion by Dr. Bayne.

4. It was moved by Dr. Bayne and seconded—"That the Synod having considered the overture, agree to send it down to Presbyteries with instructions to consider the subject to which it relates, and the mode in which, on scriptural grounds, uniformity in the practice of ordaining deacons and elders should be enforced."

Dr. Bayne's motion carried.

On a division being called for, the third and fourth motions were put against each other, when the fourth carried. The second and fourth were then put against each other, when the fourth carried. The original motion and the fourth were next put against each other, when the fourth carried; and in terms of it the Synod agreed to send down the overture to Presbyteries, with instructions to consider the subject to which it relates, and the mode in which, on scriptural grounds, uniformity in the practice of ordaining deacons and elders should be enforced.

The diet was then closed with prayer.

FIFTH SESSION.

THURSDAY, 16th June, 6 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

Rev. W. Ormiston invited to sit with Synod.

The Rev. W. Ormiston, Moderator of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, being in the house, was invited to sit with the Synod.

Report of College Committee Read.

The Synod called for the Report of the College Committee, which was given in by Mr. Gregg, Convener of the Committee, and read.

It was agreed to receive the Report, and proceed to consider the different clauses of the Report *serialim*.

Thereafter the following resolutions were severally adopted:—

Class of Sacred Rhetoric.

1. "With reference to the recommendation anent the class of Sacred Rhetoric, it was resolved, that the Synod learn with satisfaction that additional attention has been given to the instruction of the students of Theology in the department of elocution or pulpit delivery, and approve of the students being still invited to attend upon the weekly instruction given in so important a branch of learning.

Class of Exegetical Theology.

2. "With reference to Exegetical Theology it was resolved, that the students of the second Theological class, as well as of the first, be enjoined to attend the lectures on Exegetical Theology.

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3. "With reference to Hebrew it was resolved, that a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the subject of the teaching of Hebrew, and to confer with the Professors and report to the Synod; the Committee to consist of Messrs. Topp, Clark, Cheyne, Dr. Irvine, Mr. Gregg, Mr. Geikie, Mr. McLaren, and Dr. Bayne, Ministers, and Messrs. Court, McMurrich, and Ross, Elders,—Mr. Topp, Convener."

Teaching of
Hebrew.

With reference to the examination of students, it was moved by Mr. Laing, and seconded—

"That the recommendation of the College Committee be adopted." It was moved in amendment by Mr. Kemp, and seconded by Mr. McMullen, "That no change take place in the mode of examining the students."

Examination of
Students.

On a division, Mr. Laing's motion carried, and in terms of it the Synod appointed a Committee to consider generally the examination of Students, and report to next Synod, the Committee to consist of the Professors of Knox College, Messrs. J. Scott, T. McPherson, Stark, McIndoe, McTavish, Roger, Wilson, James Duncan, J. K. Smith, Crombie, Kemp, and Laing, Ministers, and Messrs. Redpath, McKenzie, McMurrich, and Fraser, Elders,—Mr. Laing, Convener.

The diet was closed with prayer.

SIXTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, 17th June, 11 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer, praise and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures gave in a Report. The same was read and sustained.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to recognize and welcome to a seat in the Synod, Mr. Greig, of Kinfauns, now supplying Cote Street Church, Montreal.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the Report of the College Committee.

With reference to the preliminary training of the students, the Synod agreed to adopt the recommendation of the Committee, and in terms thereof to instruct Presbyteries to give more particular attention to the literary attainments of students making application to them, and when necessary to send them to Institutions where they may be trained under the care of the Presbyteries, till they are prepared to enter the College Classes, and further to see that in such cases pecuniary assistance be provided by the Presbyteries, if necessary.

With reference to the position of Students in the curriculum, it was, on motion made and seconded, declared that the power of determining the position of Students in the regular course of the College curriculum, is entirely in the hands of the Presbyteries.

Position of Stud-
ents in Curricu-
lum.

At this stage of the Synod's proceedings, Mr. Ure, Convener of the Union Committee, introduced to the Synod the members of the

Members of
Union Commit-
tee of U. P.
Church intro-
duced.

Committee of the United Presbyterian Church, who had come to communicate the decision of the Synod of that Church on the subject of the Basis of Union.

Consideration of
College Report
resumed.

Missionary La-
bours of Stud-
ents.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the Report of the College Committee.

With reference to the Missionary labours in which many of the Students are engaged within the bounds of the various Presbyteries, it was agreed that the recommendation of the College Committee be approved, and that Presbyteries be instructed to be more stringent in securing to Students a reasonable time for the exclusive prosecution of their studies.

Financial Posi-
tion of College.

The Synod proceeded to consider that part of the College Report bearing on the finances of the College.

Dr. Bayne's mo-
tion.

It was moved by Dr. Bayne, and seconded :

"That a Committee be appointed to investigate the State of the College Funds, and to ascertain generally the amount of debt due by the Synod in connexion with its various schemes, and to report to the Synod at its present sitting."

The hour of adjournment having come, the diet was closed with prayer.

SEVENTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, 17th June, 6 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The minutes of the last diet were read and sustained.

Letter from Mr.
Hirschfelder
read.

With permission of Synod, Principal Willis read a letter from Mr. Hirschfelder with reference to his mode of teaching Hebrew. The letter was ordered to be transmitted to the Committee appointed to consider the subject of imparting instruction in Hebrew to the Students of Knox College.

Deputation from
U. P. Synod in-
troduced, and
Address Synod.

Thereafter Mr. Ure introduced Mr. Skinner and Mr. Gibson, deputies appointed by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church to attend this meeting of Synod, their commission having been previously read by the Clerk.

These brethren having addressed the Synod, the following motion was unanimously adopted, viz :—

"That this Synod express sincere gratitude and thanks to the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church for the act of fraternal kindness and Christian affection shown by the appointment of the deputies who have now addressed this court.

"The Synod would also reciprocate the sentiments of esteem, and the expressions of sincere desire for the consummation of the union towards which the two Churches have long and earnestly been striving, and express a sincere hope that the Basis of Union agreed upon by the United Presbyterian Church may, on consideration, be found such as will remove every obstacle to the harmonious and hearty incorporation of the Synods."

Messrs. Skinner and Gibson were, on motion made and seconded, invited to sit with the Synod.

Thereafter the Report of the Committee on Union with the United Presbyterian Church was given in and read. Report of Union Committee read.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to receive the Report. Report received.

There were also read various memorials from congregations in favour of Union. Various Memorials on Union read.

There was also read the Basis of Union as adopted by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church. Basis of Union, as passed by the U. P. Synod

It was agreed that the subject of Union should be taken into consideration at the evening diet of Monday. Subject of Union to be farther considered on Monday evening.

Mr. J. McTavish introduced Mr. J. McLeod, Commissioner from the General Assembly (N. S.) of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. Mr. McLeod then addressed the Synod with reference to the principles, position, and operations of the Church with which he is connected, and expressing the feelings of Christian regard entertained by the Assembly represented by him towards this Church. Mr. McLeod Commissioner of General Assembly of Presbyterian Church in the U. S. (N. S.) introduced, and addresses Synod.

Thereafter the two following motions were submitted. 1. It was moved by Mr. McTavish, and seconded : Motion by Mr. McTavish.

"That the Synod express gratification at meeting with Mr. McLeod, Deputy from the Presbyterian Church of the United States (N. S.,) and at hearing from him sentiments of fraternal regard to this Church, and a statement of the views and principles of the Church which he represents ; and further, that the Synod would express to Mr. McLeod their pleasure at hearing of the progress of Christ's Kingdom in the United States, and in the Foreign Mission field, through the agency of the Presbyterian Church, and desire him to convey to his Church the fraternal greetings of this Synod and their prayer that God would make them a blessing, not merely to the people of the United States, but to the world."

2. It was moved in amendment by Dr. Bayne, and seconded :

"That the Synod having heard with much interest the address of the Deputy of the New School Presbyterian Church of the United States, reciprocate the friendly feelings which have led to the appointment of the Deputy by the aforesaid Church, but before deciding as to the extent to which intercourse with the aforesaid Church can, consistently with a regard to vital doctrines which they must ever hold sacred, be established, appoint a Committee to make full inquiry on the subject, and to report to the Synod at a future diet." Motion by Dr. Bayne.

The roll having been called, and the votes marked, it was found that fifty-four voted for the motion, and eighty for the amendment, which was declared to be carried, and a Committee appointed. Dr. Bayne's motion carried.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on a fund for aged and infirm ministers. Report of Committee on Fund for Aged and Infirm Ministers.

The same was given in by Mr. Gregg, Convener.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Report be received and the Committee re-appointed. Report received, and Committee re-appointed.

The Committee was re-appointed as follows:—Messrs. W. Gregg, Convener, J. McTavish, T. Lowry, W. Reid, Ministers: and Messrs. Court, Ferrier, Stewart, McMurrich, Walker, Sherwood, and Mitchell, Elders.

Report of Committee appointed to correspond with Irish Presbyterian Church anent Ordination of Missionaries.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to correspond with the Irish Presbyterian Church with reference to the ordination of Missionaries sent to this Church. A verbal report was given, in and the Committee was re-appointed as follows, viz:—Messrs. Lowry, Gregg, and Reid,—Mr. Lowry, Convener.

The hour of adjournment having come, the diet was closed with prayer.

EIGHTH SESSION.

SATURDAY, 18th June, 1859.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last sederunt were read and sustained.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented a Report which it was agreed to sustain.

Consideration of College Report, resumed.

Thereafter the Synod proceeded to take up the remaining portions of the Report of the College Committee.

Motion by Mr. S. C. Fraser.

In amendment to motion previously made by Dr. Bayne for a Committee to ascertain the state of the College Fund, it was moved in amendment by Mr. S. C. Fraser, and seconded by Mr. J. K. Smith:—

“That the Synod deem such Committee unnecessary, as they have every confidence in the report of the auditors, and in respect to the legacy of the late James Gibb, Esq., decree that in accordance with the recommendation of the College Committee, the same be included in the current income and expense account.”

Dr. Bayne's motion carried.

On a division the motion of Dr. Bayne was carried, and the Synod appointed the following Committee, viz:—Messrs. Davidson, MacAlister, Lutz, Jeffrey, Hossack, Young, A. J. McKenzie, and A. Mitchell, with Rev. Dr. Bayne, Rev. A. F. Kemp, and Rev. S. C. Fraser,—Mr. Davidson, Convener.

Report of Red River Mission.

Thereafter the Synod proceeded to consider the Report of the Home Mission Committee, so far as it related to the Red River Mission. The Report was given in and read by Mr. Reid.

After discussion it was, on motion of Dr. Burns, seconded by Mr. Clark:—

Report Approved of.

“That the Synod have heard with great satisfaction the Report regarding the Red River settlement, and approve of the proposal submitted therein: they remit to the Presbytery of Toronto to carry into effect the recommendation of the Report, provided it be done without incurring any expense to the Synod, and instruct the Presbytery, if they shall resolve to proceed in the matter, to adopt the proper steps for supplying Mr. McMavish's pulpit during his absence, and to take what steps they may deem necessary to send along with Mr. McTavish

a young minister, ordained if possible, to remain during the winter, and to supply Mr. Black's place during his proposed visit to Canada."

The Synod adjourned to meet on Monday, at 11, A.M., and the diet was closed with prayer.

NINTH SESSION.

MONDAY, 20th June, 11 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures gave in Report with reference to the arrangement of business. The same was read and sustained.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on the appeal of the Kirk Session of Sarnia, against a finding of the Presbytery of London. Report of Committee on Sarnia Case.

The same was given in by Mr. Topp, Convener of the Committee.

The Report was to the effect that, the Committee had met with all parties connected with the case, and that all cause of complaint between the two original parties had been now removed, and that the Committee recommended that it would be for edification, that the minutes both of the Session and Presbytery in the case, should be expunged from their respective records. The Synod sustained the Report, and resolved in terms thereof. The judgment of the Synod was intimated to the parties interested.

In connection with Knox College, the Synod appointed that the third day of October be appointed for special prayer in behalf of the College.

The Synod called for the Reports of Committees on Presbytery Records.

The Committee appointed to examine the Records of the Presbytery of Brockville presented a Report to the effect that the Record was carefully and correctly kept, but calling attention to the case of Mr. John McMurray, formerly a minister of this Church. Report on Record of Presbytery of Brockville.

The following motions were submitted :—

1. "It was moved by Mr. J. B. Duncan, and seconded,—That the Report of the Committee appointed to examine the Record of the Presbytery of Brockville be adopted, with instruction to the Presbytery to declare Mr. John McMurray no longer a minister of this Church, after having ascertained the truth of his having sought connexion with another Church." Motion by Mr. J. B. Duncan.

2. "It was moved in amendment by Mr. Gregg, and seconded,—That the Synod order the Records of the Presbytery of Brockville to be attested as regularly kept, instructing the Presbytery to call Mr. McMurray to account for the facts recorded." Amendment by Mr. Gregg.

A division having been called for, the amendment carried, and was adopted as deliverance of Synod. Amendment Carried.

The Report of the Committee on the Synod Records was called for. The same was given in and sustained, and the Synod in terms Report on Synod Records.

of the Report ordered the Records to be attested as carefully and correctly kept.

Report of Committee on case of Complaint of Mr. F. Andrews, and reference of Presbytery of Cobourg.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the dissent and complaint of Mr. F. Andrews, against a finding of the Presbytery of Cobourg, and the reference from the Presbytery of Cobourg. The Report was given in by Dr. Burns, and read. The Report recommended that the Synod dismiss the complaint, and sustain the reference, and that the Synod should instruct the Presbytery of Cobourg to dissolve the tie between Mr. Andrews and the congregation.

The following motions were then submitted :—

Motion by Mr. Clark.

1. "It was moved by Mr. W. B. Clark, and seconded,—That the Synod adopt the Report of the Committee, in so far as regards the complaint and appeal, and the recommendation to Mr. Andrews to resign his charge, but that in the event of Mr. Andrews not complying with the recommendation, the Synod instruct the Presbytery to deal with Mr. Andrews with reference to the charge against him, and, if they see cause, proceed against him by libel.

Motion by Dr. Burns.

2. "It was moved in amendment by Dr. Burns, seconded by J. W. Smith,—That the Report be received, and its recommendations adopted, and a remit made to the Presbytery in terms thereof."

Motion by Dr. Willis.

3. "It was moved also in amendment by Dr. Willis, seconded by Mr. Gillespie,—That the Synod receive the Report, approve the diligence of the Committee, adopt their recommendations on the subject of the appeal, sustain the reference and remit to the Presbytery of Cobourg, to expiate the matters affecting the congregation of Otonabee, or the minister, and if satisfied that there is ground for proceeding by libel, that they proceed in the case according to the laws of the Church."

First Motion Carried.

On a division, the amendment by Dr. Burns and that by Dr. Willis, were put against each other, when that by Dr. Willis was carried. Thereafter, the motion of Mr. Clark, and the amendment of Dr. Willis, were put to the house, when Mr. Clark's motion was carried, and the Synod adopted it as their deliverance.

On motion made and seconded, Mr. W. S. Ball, Agent of Bible Society, was invited to sit with the Synod.

Report of Committee on College Finances.

The Committee appointed to investigate the state of the College Fund, presented a Report. The same was given in by Mr. George Davidson, and read.

The following motion was unanimously adopted :—

"The Synod receive the Report of the Finance Committee, and approve of their diligence; express their highest approbation of the manner in which the accounts of the Church have been kept by Mr. Reid; approve of the recommendation of the Report, and appoint a Committee to be called the Select Finance Committee, who shall be the advisers of the Agent in the management of the various funds passing through his hands, and without whose sanction no money shall be borrowed from any of the schemes of the Church for the temporary relief of another, and that not to a larger amount than \$1200; the Committee to consist of Messrs. Gregg, and Topp, Ministers, with Messrs. McMurrich, Blaikie, and C. S. Patterson,—Mr. Gregg, Convener. Remit also to this Committee to consider the best method of keeping the Accounts of the Church, and report to the next meeting of Synod.

"Further, considering the large deficit in the ordinary College Fund, appoint a Committee to consider what steps, if any, it would be desirable to take to extricate the College from its pecuniary difficulties, and to confer with the Professors and report to a subsequent diet; the Committee to consist of Dr. Bayne, Messrs. McTavish, T. Wardrope, Gregg, J. K. Smith, John Smith, Ross, and Wilson, Dr. Boyd, S. C. Fraser, M. Y., Stark, W. B. Clark, and A. F. Kemp, Ministers; and Messrs. Davidson, Jeffrey, Young, and James Hossack, Elders,—Mr. Kemp, Convener."

Thereafter the Synod proceeded to hear the Report of the Buxton Mission. The Report was given in by Mr. King, and read. On motion made and seconded, it was resolved,—

"That the Synod receive the Report, delay the consideration of the other matters submitted in it, and in the meantime approve of that part of it which refers to Mr. King's visit to the mother country; authorize that gentleman to proceed forthwith to Great Britain and Ireland, with the view of diffusing information in regard to an experiment in behalf of the coloured population of Canada, the success of which has been so gratifying, and empower him to receive subscriptions for rebuilding the Church and School House, and for the general objects of the Mission; and remit to the Presbytery of London to attend to the supply of the pulpit at Buxton during Mr. King's absence."

The diet was then closed with prayer.

TENTH SESSION.

MONDAY, 20th June, 1859, 6 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

On motion moved and seconded, Messrs. Doak and White, ordained ministers of the Church, were invited to sit with the Synod.

The Synod then proceeded to the further consideration of the matter of Union.

Synod proceeds to consideration of Report of Union Committee.

The following motions were duly submitted:—

1. It was moved by Mr. Topp, seconded by Mr. Wardrope:

"That the Synod having heard the Report of the Committee appointed to confer with the Committee of the United Presbyterian Synod on the subject of Union, accept said Report, and record their thanks to the Committee for the diligence with which they have discharged the trust committed to them; and further, that having had the Basis of Union agreed to by the United Presbyterian Synod laid upon their table, the Synod regard the same as on the whole a satisfactory basis, and one which holds out the prospect of a harmonious and honourable union, and accordingly, the Synod resolve to proceed to the consideration of the different articles contained in that basis."

Motion by Mr. Topp.

2. It was moved in amendment by Dr. Bayne, seconded by Dr. Willis:—

"The Synod having considered the Report of the Committee on Union and the basis of Union prepared by said Committee, in conjunction with that of the United Presbyterian Synod, and also the basis of union as adopted by said Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, and laid on the table of this Synod by a deputation from said Synod, find:—

Motion by Dr. Bayne.

I. "With reference to the Report of their own Committee, that they can approve generally of the basis of union reported by said Committee, as correctly embodying, so far as it goes, the views entertained by this Synod: but that they have reason to regret that on the question of Christ's Headship over the nations, about which differences of opinion were believed to obtain between the respective Synods, the Committee have been satisfied with a simple assertion of the general principle that Christ is governor among the nations, and is to be officially acknowledged and obeyed as such by the civil magistrate, and have omitted all, even the most important applications of this principle, although expected, from the terms of their appointment at the last Synod, to include such in the basis prepared; an omission which has led to the absence of all information on the subject in the document laid on their table by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, and—

II. "With reference to the basis of union adopted and submitted to this Synod by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, the Synod rejoice to find that it embraces a distinct and explicit assertion of the great principle of Christ's Headship over the nations above referred to, and that in reference to the clauses in the Westminster Confession of Faith, which are sometimes alleged to lay down persecuting principles, it contains nothing to which this Synod could not cordially assent. But at the same time, as no reference is made in said basis to any applications of the aforesaid principle, or any disclaimer given of another principle often held along with it and governing all its applications and once officially avowed by the aforesaid United Presbyterian Synod, namely, that the only duty that the civil magistrate owes to Christianity is to protect the right of conscience in relation to it in the same way as in relation to any other form of religion—and further, as in a note appended to said basis, an article is virtually added to it which may be interpreted in a sense adverse to some applications of it which this Synod deem of vital importance—the Synod feel that it would be premature to entertain overtures for immediate union, but appoint a Committee to bring the above mentioned omissions under the notice of the United Presbyterian Synod and to take steps for procuring such information as may yet open up the way for a union on terms satisfactory to all parties concerned, and further, with instructions to intimate to said United Presbyterian Synod that this Synod is not disposed to insist on including a deliverance on all the points on which they were seeking information in the basis on which union may be consummated, if only satisfied that they were agreed regarding them."

The hour of adjournment having come, the diet was closed with prayer.

ELEVENTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, 21st June, 10 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer, praise and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

On motion made and seconded, Messrs. S. Young, J. Boyd, and J. McMechan, were invited to sit with the Synod.

The Synod proceeded to the further discussion of the Report of the Committee on Union with the United Presbyterian Church, and

Messrs. Young,
Boyd & McMechan,
invited to sit with Synod.

Discussion on
Union.

the motions submitted at the previous diet by Mr. Topp, and Dr. Bayne.

After lengthened discussion, a division was called for, when the roll having been called and the votes marked, ninety-nine voted for the motion, and twenty for the amendment.

Mr Topp's Motion carried.

The diet was then closed with prayer.

TWELFTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, 21st June, 6 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer and praise.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

On motion made and seconded, Mr. Morrison, Minister of the Gospel, Madrid, N. Y., was invited to sit with the Synod.

Mr. Morrison, of Madrid, N. Y., invited to sit with Synod.

On application duly made, the Synod granted leave to the Presbytery of Hamilton to meet at Paris on Monday 27th of the current month, at 12 o'clock noon.

Leave granted to Presbytery of Hamilton to meet at Paris, on 27th current.

Reports were given in by the Committees appointed to examine the Records of the Presbyteries of Cobourg, London, Kingston, Hamilton, Toronto and Montreal. These Reports were severally sustained and the Records ordered to be attested in usual form.

Reports on Presbytery Records.

The Synod having heard the Report of the Committee appointed to examine the Record of the Presbytery of Ottawa, and having heard the explanations of the Presbytery of Ottawa, enjoined the Presbytery to cause the Record to be re-written so far as the transactions for the past twelve months are concerned, taking care that the narrative of transactions be in accordance with the facts in each particular case.

Record of Presbytery of Ottawa

The Synod then proceeded to consider the various clauses of the Basis of Union as agreed to by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, and laid before this Synod.

Further consideration of subject of Union.

The first article was read and agreed to. It is in the following terms:—

I. OF HOLY SCRIPTURE.—That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments being the inspired Word of God, are the supreme and infallible rule of faith and life.

The second article was read. It is as follows:—

II. OF THE SUBORDINATE STANDARDS.—That the Westminster Confession of Faith, with the larger and shorter Catechisms, are received by this Church as her subordinate standards.

But whereas certain sections of the said Confession of Faith, which treat of the power or duty of the Civil Magistrate, have been objected to, as teaching principles adverse both to the right of private judgment in religious matters, and to the prerogatives which Christ has vested in his Church, it is to be understood:

1. That no interpretation, or reception of these sections is held by this Church, which would interfere with the fullest forbearance as to any difference of opinion which may prevail on the question of the endowment of the Church by the State.

2. That no interpretation, or reception of these sections is required by this Church which would accord to the state any authority to violate that liberty of conscience and right of private judgment which are asserted in Chap. XX., Sec. 2, of the Confession; and in accordance with the statements of which, this Church holds, that every person ought to be at full liberty to search the Scriptures for himself, and to follow out what he conscientiously believes to be the teaching of Scripture, without let or hindrance.

3. That no interpretation, or reception of these sections is required by this Church which would admit of any interference on the part of the State with the spiritual independence of the Church, as set forth in Chap. XXX. of the Confession.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to add the following words to the second section, after the words "without let or hindrance," "provided that no one is to be allowed, under the pretext of following the dictates of conscience, to interfere with the peace and good order of Society."

The third article was read and agreed to. It is in the following terms:—

III. OF THE HEADSHIP OF CHRIST OVER THE CHURCH.—That the Lord Jesus Christ is the only King and Head of His Church; that He has made her free from all external or secular authority in the administration of her affairs, and that she is bound to assert and defend this liberty to the utmost, and ought not to enter into such engagements with any party as would be prejudicial thereto.

The hour of adjournment having come, the diet was closed with prayer.

THIRTEENTH SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd June, 10 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

Report of Ter-
centenary of Re-
formation.

The Committee appointed to consider the documents on the subject of the celebration of the Ter-centenary of the Reformation presented a Report. The same having been given in and read by Dr. Willis, Convener, it was agreed to receive and sustain it. In terms of the Report the Synod adopted the following resolution, viz:—

"That having regard to the work of God, in the Reformation from Popery, of which the Protestant Countries generally have reaped precious fruits for three centuries past; and especially sympathizing with the proposal to celebrate in some appropriate manner the meeting of the first Reforming Assembly held in Edinburgh, in the year 1560, the Synod agree at its next meeting, in 1860, to include a special reference to this matter of interesting remembrance in its devotional exercises or arrangements of business—in the meantime recommending its ministers, either simultaneously or on the days found most suitable in their several localities, to call the attention of their flocks to the blessings of the Reformation, and the responsibilities connected with the possession of them; also to appoint a Committee, meanwhile to confer with Committees of other religious bodies, in case it should seem for edification to unite on some method of manifesting simultaneously their grateful

sense of the great deliverance wrought for our common parent land at the Reformation era ; and further, inasmuch as a meeting is proposed to be held in Edinburgh, in May next, in connection with this object, at which the attendance of delegates or representatives of churches at a distance is invited, the Synod authorize the above Committee to request some father or brother, or fathers and brethren who may be in Britain about that time, on their own account, to represent this Synod at the said convention or assembly, such representative or representatives being expected to act as far as possible in co-operation with the Committee."

The following Committee was appointed, viz :—Messrs. Topp, Gregg, Inglis, Dr. Irvine, Dr. Bayne, Dr. Willis ; Messrs. Kemp, Wardrope, Scott, Young, W. B. Clark, and Dr. Boyd, Ministers ; and Messrs. McMurrich, McAuley, and Court, Elders.

Dr. Willis, Convener of the Committee appointed to consider and report as to correspondence with the Presbyterian Church in the United States, (N. S.) reported that after conference with Mr. McLeod, the Deputy of the Church referred to, with the view of ascertaining the views of the Church he represents, in the course of which conference Mr. McLeod had replied to all their questions with the greatest candour, the Committee came to the conclusion, that while much of the common truth was held by that Church, its profession of doctrine was in some important points different from that of this Church, not so much on sovereign electing grace, or faith, or the work of the Spirit, as in the extent of the atonement, and the imputation of guilt and righteousness in the Adamic and Christian covenants ; that in respect of many zealous efforts to extend the common cause of Christianity, and especially in having sought to discourage the practice of slave-holding in members of the Church, the Assembly represented by Mr. McLeod deserves the interest and sympathy of churches such as ours ; at the same time, as this Synod is not yet in the habit of appointing delegates to Churches in America generally, the Committee is not prepared, until the question shall have been considered comprehensively in all its relations, to recommend a formal recognition in that way of one particular branch of American Presbyterianism.

Report of Committee with reference to correspondence with General Assembly of U.S. [N.S.]

It was agreed to sustain the Report, and declare in terms thereof.

Mr. Topp, Convener of the Committee appointed to consider the matter of the instruction of the Students in Knox College in Hebrew, and to confer with the Professors, reported that the Committee having met several times and having had full deliberation on the subject, were unanimously of opinion that no changes should be made in the teaching of the classes in College till satisfactory arrangements shall have been made for meeting that change, and that as the Committee are not prepared in the meantime with any definite proposal, the Synod be recommended to postpone any further action in the matter in present circumstances.

Report of Committee on Teaching of Hebrew in Knox College.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to receive and sustain the Report.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the matter of Union.

Further consideration of Union.

The fourth article was read. It is in the following terms :

IV. OF THE HEADSHIP OF CHRIST OVER THE NATIONS, AND THE DUTY

OF THE CIVIL MAGISTRATE.—That [the Lord Jesus Christ, as Mediator, is invested with universal sovereignty, and is therefore King of Nations, and that all men, in every capacity and relation, are bound to obey His will as revealed in His word; and particularly that the Civil Magistrate (including under that term all who are in any way concerned in the legislative or administrative action of the State,) is bound to regulate his official procedure as well as his personal conduct by the revealed will of Christ.

Several motions were submitted with reference to this article.

(1) It was moved by Mr. J. K. Smith, and seconded by Mr. J. B. Duncan :—

“That the Synod adopt the article as it stands.”

(2) It was moved by Mr. Wilson, and seconded by Mr. MacMullen :—

“That the following words be added after “King of Nations,” viz., “and that all nations in their corporate capacity, as well as all men,” &c.”

(3) It was moved by Mr. Middlemiss, and seconded by Mr. Geikie :—

“That the following words be added at the end of the article, viz., “seeing to it that the constitution, legislation and administration of the State are based on Christianity.”

On a division being called for, the amendment by Mr. Wilson and that by Mr. Middlemiss were put against each other, when the amendment of Mr. Middlemiss carried. Thereafter this amendment was put against the original motion, when the motion was carried, and the Synod in terms of it accepted the article as it stands.

With reference to the note appended to the fourth article by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church, the following motions were submitted :—

1. It was moved by Mr. Topp, and seconded :—

“That inasmuch as this Synod does not deem it necessary to append any note as explanatory of the views expressed in the 4th article, the Synod do resolve to call the attention of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church to this matter, and to consider whether they shall not see it consistent with their duty to remove the same.”

2. It was moved by Mr. Stark, and seconded :—

“That this Synod does not deem any note necessary to the interpretation of the 4th article, and therefore does not receive or regard it as any part of the Basis of Union.”

3. It was moved by Mr. Kemp, and seconded :—

“That the Synod does not consider the note appended to article 4th, as a necessary part of the Basis of Union, and, inasmuch as its terms are liable to misconception, and cannot be accepted by this Synod, respectfully represent to the United Presbyterian Synod the propriety of withdrawing said note.”

On a division being called for, Mr. Kemp's amendment and Mr. Stark's were put against each other, when Mr. Kemp's was carried. Thereafter Mr. Topp's motion and Mr. Kemp's amendment were put to the house, when Mr. Kemp's amendment was carried, and was adopted as the finding of Synod.

The hour of adjournment having come, the diet was closed with prayer.

FOURTEENTH SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd June, 6 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with praise and prayer.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod took up a reference from the Presbytery of Ottawa, involving the question whether the Presbytery had power to erase a minute of session after said minute had been attested by the Presbytery. On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to sustain reference, and declare that the Presbytery may, on cause shown, act as they may judge best in such a case, subject to the review of the superior court.

Reference from
Presbytery of Ot-
tawa.

The Synod proceeded to the further consideration of the subject of Union.

The following motions were submitted. (1) It was moved by Mr. Wilson, and seconded :—

"That while this Synod rejoices in the progress made in finding a satisfactory Basis of Union, and in the prospect thus afforded of its speedy consummation : yet, as this Synod has no reliable information from the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, as to the province of the Civil Magistrate in the practical application of the general principle of Christ's Headship over the nations, contained in the fourth article of the proposed Basis of Union, and as such information is deemed necessary in order to a harmonious and honorable Union, appoint a Committee to confer with said Synod as to its views on this practical question."

Union Question.

(2) It was moved in amendment by Mr. R. F. Burns, and seconded :—

"That inasmuch as by the almost unanimous decision of last year, the Synod stands committed to embodying in the Basis of Union simply the grand principle of national responsibility to Christ, they are not prepared at this advanced stage of the negotiation, to burden the Basis with an enumeration of the varied practical applications of that principle which have been already fully and satisfactorily discussed by the united Committees, and respecting which there is, on good grounds, understood to be substantial harmony between both Churches. The Synod, therefore, proceed to the consideration of the 5th article."

(3) It was moved in amendment by Mr. Middlemiss, seconded by Mr. McRuar :—

"That before proceeding to the consideration of the next article of the Basis, the Synod appoint a Committee to draw up an article embodying the views of this Synod, in reference to the province of the Civil Magistrate, with instructions to report at the next sederunt."

The amendment by Mr. Burns, and that by Mr. Middlemiss, having been put against each other, that by Mr. Burns carried. Thereafter, the motion of Mr. Wilson, and the amendment by Mr. Burns, were put to the house, when a majority supported Mr. Burns' amendment.

The Synod accordingly proceeded to the consideration of the remaining articles in the Basis of Union. Article 5th was read and agreed to. It is in the following terms :—

OF CHURCH GOVERNMENT.—That the system of polity established in the Westminster Form of Presbyterian Church Government, in so far as it declares a plurality of Elders for each congregation, the official equality of Presbyters without any offices in the Church superior to said Presbyters, and the unity of the Church, in a due subordination of a smaller part to a larger, and of the larger to the whole, is the Government of this Church, and is in the features of it therein set forth, believed by this Church to be founded on and agreeable to the Word of God."

Article 6th was read and agreed to. It is as follows :—

OF WORSHIP.—That the ordinances of Worship shall be administered in this Church as they have heretofore been, by the respective bodies of which it is composed, in a general accordance with the directions contained in the Westminster Directory of Worship."

Thereafter it was moved by Mr. McLaren, and duly seconded :—

"That the Basis of Union as a whole be now approved, and transmitted to Presbyteries and Sessions, and that Presbyteries and Sessions be instructed to Report to Synod through the Committee on Union on or before the first day of November."

It was moved in amendment by Dr. Bayne, and seconded by Dr. Willis :—

"That inasmuch as the Basis now under consideration contains no statement on the leading applications of the principle contained in article fourth, or on the Province of the Civil Magistrate, within which he is to serve and confess Christ—subjects on which unsound and unscriptural views are often held by those who admit the aforesaid principle itself—a Union on such a Basis would virtually involve a compromise of principles for which it has been the distinction and glory of this Church that it has hitherto contended."

The motion and amendment having been put to the house, the motion was carried by a large majority ; whereupon Dr. Bayne dissented in his own name, and in name of such as might adhere to him, for reasons to be in due time given.

The Synod re-appointed the Committee on Union as follows, viz : Mr. Ure, Convener, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Messrs. Laing, Lowry, Inglis, T. Wardrope, Scott, Gregg, Ross, Ministers, and Messrs. Heron, Jeffrey, and A. McKenzie, Elders.

It was agreed that the next ordinary meeting of Synod should take place at Hamilton, and within Knox Church on the second Wednesday of June, at half past 7, P.M.

The diet was then closed with prayer.

Committee on
Union re-ap-
pointed.

Next ordinary
meeting of Synod

FIFTEENTH SESSION.

THURSDAY, 23rd June, 9 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod again met, and was constituted with prayer, praise, and the reading of the Word.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod took up a communication addressed to the Moderator by Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Education for Canada West. The communication was read, and referred to a Committee consisting of Messrs. McTavish, Gregg, Topp, McRuar, and Kemp, Ministers, and Messrs. Lutz, and McAuley, Elders,—Mr. Kemp, Convener.

Communication from Dr. Ryerson taken up and referred to Committee.

The Synod called for Report of Committee appointed to examine and classify returns of Presbyteries to overtures. The Report was given in and read. It appeared from the Report—

Report of Committee appointed to Examine and Classify Returns of Presbyteries to Overtures

1. That the overture on the calling and induction of ministers had been approved; six presbyteries having approved *simpliciter*; one having approved *cum notis*; and one having rejected it.

2. That the overture on the licensing of students had been approved; four presbyteries having approved *simpliciter*; three having approved *cum notis*; and one having rejected it.

3. That the overture anent baptism of converts from the Church of Rome had been rejected; five Presbyteries having rejected it, one having approved of it *cum notis*, one having approved *simpliciter*; and one having given no return.

The Synod received and sustained the Report.

Thereafter it was moved by Mr. Kemp, and seconded,—

“That the overture anent the calling and induction of ministers be passed into a law of the Church.”

Overtures anent Calling and Induction of Ministers to be revised and again sent down.

It was moved in amendment,—

“That the overture be referred to a Committee, with a view to revise it and send it down again to Presbyteries.”

The amendment carried, and in terms of it the Synod referred the overture to the following Committee, viz: M. W. Gregg, Convener, Messrs. A. F. Kemp, W. McLaren, A. Wilson.

It was on motion made and seconded, agreed—

“That the overture anent the licensing of students be referred to a Committee to revise it and report to the Synod, with a view of its being again sent down for the consideration of Presbyteries; the Committee to consist of Mr. Kemp, Convener, Mr. Wilson and Mr. McMurrich.”

Overture anent Licensing of Students to be revised and again sent down.

On a motion made and seconded, it was agreed—

“That no further action be taken with reference to the overture anent the baptism of converts from the Church of Rome.”

No farther action to be taken with reference to Overture anent Baptism of Romish Converts

The Synod, in accordance with the terms of the Act passed last session of the Legislature for the incorporation of Knox College, at this its first session after the passing of the Act, resolved and declared,—

“That the principles and doctrines to be taught in Knox College by the Professors and Tutors, or other persons who shall from time to time, and at all times hereafter, be employed or appointed in giving instruction in the said College, shall be such and such only as are consistent with and agreeable to the ‘Confession of Faith,’ the ‘Larger and Shorter Catechisms,’ and the ‘Form of Church Government,’ all which are called ‘The Westminster Standards,’ and shall comprise all theological learning consistent with the said Standards: Provided always, that the said ‘Confession of Faith,’ be understood and taken with the

Doctrines to be taught in Knox College.

explanatory note thereto, agreed upon by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, met at Toronto in the year of our Lord, 1854: Provided also, that the said 'Westminster Standards' be taken and understood with such other, or further directions and rules as to Church government, discipline or worship, as may from time to time be prescribed or obtained by the Synod of the said Presbyterian Church of Canada, with the concurrence of a majority of the Presbyteries of the said Church, to be ascertained in such manner as the Synod shall prescribe, and that such regulations and rules be duly recorded in the minute book of the said Synod, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk for the time being of such Synod.

The Synod further instruct their Clerk to register this resolution and declaration in the records of the Synod, and in the public Records of the City of Toronto."

Regulations for
government and
administration
of Knox College.

Mr. A. F. Kemp, in behalf of the Committee appointed at last meeting of Synod, presented Report with reference to regulations for the government and administration of Knox College.

The Synod received and sustained said Report, and sanctioned *ad interim* the regulations contained therein, instructing Presbyteries to consider said regulations and report to the Synod next year.

The following are the regulations:—

REGULATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF KNOX COLLEGE.

I. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

1. There shall be a Board of Management, composed of thirty-five persons, ordained Ministers and Elders of the Church, of whom seven shall be a quorum for the transaction of all business. The said Board shall be annually appointed by the Synod, and its members shall hold office until their successors be appointed. They shall appoint their own Secretary and Treasurer, who shall keep records and accounts which shall be open to the inspection of the Synod. The Chairman of the Board shall be appointed annually by the Synod, and in the event of no such appointment being made, or, of the death, removal, or resignation of said Chairman, his place shall be supplied by the Board itself.

2. The Board shall be convened, by the Chairman, at least three times a year, and at such time, and in such manner as may be determined by the Synod or by the Board itself.

3. The Board shall have the whole management of the financial affairs of the said College, shall receive and disburse all its moneys, keep and manage all its property, and transact all its business relating to property and money committed to its care, by the Synod or otherwise, and shall exercise all the powers, in regard to property and money, vested in the Corporation of Knox College, by the Act 22 Vic., cap. 69. In cases where special instruction shall be given by the Synod, (in writing under the hand of their Clerk,) it shall be the duty of the said Board to act according to such instructions.

4. The Board shall receive annual Reports from the Senate in reference to the departments under the care of said Senate, and shall transmit the same to the Synod along with a Report on all matters entrusted to said Board, and an audited balance sheet of the property and financial affairs of the College.

5. The Board shall further take general cognizance of all matters pertaining to the interest of the College, and co-operate with the Senate in maintaining its discipline. They shall also take charge of the Boarding

department of the College, and make such regulations for its management as they may see fit, and shall appoint all subordinate servants and dismiss and remove the same as they shall see fit.

6. The Board shall have power to appoint an acting sub-committee with such powers as they may deem requisite.

II. THE COLLEGE SENATE.

1. The Principal and Professors of the College, together with seven members of Synod, shall be annually appointed by the Synod as a "COLLEGE SENATE," to whom shall be entrusted the reception, academic superintendence, and discipline of the Students, and of all other persons within the said College. The SENATE shall take a general inspection of the whole internal arrangements, of the College and of the studies of the Students, and shall place said Students in that year of the Curriculum to which they may be certified by Presbyteries, or by such other body as the Synod may determine.

2. The Senate shall have charge of the Library and Museum, and shall at the close of each College Session present to the Board of management a Report on the studies of the classes, and on any other matters which may have been intrusted to them.

III. PRINCIPAL OF COLLEGE.

1. The Title of the Principal shall be—"The Reverend the Principal of Knox College."

2. He shall preside in all meetings of the College Senate, and shall summon such meetings at stated or convenient times. In case of a division, the Principal shall only have a casting vote on there being an equality of votes on any question submitted to their decision.

3. He shall preside at the public opening and closing of the College Session.

4. He shall be the medium of communication with, and conduct the official correspondence of the College Senate.

5. He shall have a general superintendence of the studies of the Students in accordance with the instructions of the Senate; it being understood that the other Professors shall be responsible only to the Synod for the discharge of the duties entrusted to them.

IV. APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSORS AND TUTORS.

1. That no person shall at any time be employed or inducted into office as a Professor of Theology who is not at the time of his employment or induction an ordained Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Canada; and if a Licentiate shall at any time be appointed, he shall before induction, be ordained to the Holy Ministry in the usual manner by the Presbytery of Toronto, or by a Commission specially appointed for that purpose by the Synod; and all persons, if any, who shall be appointed or employed as Tutors, shall at the time of their entrance into office be members of the said Church in full communion therewith, and that said Professors and Tutors shall sign the *Formula* appointed to be signed by Ministers, &c., of the Church.

2. That all Professors and Tutors who shall hereafter be appointed or employed in the said College, shall be appointed by the said Synod at its ordinary annual Session, or at any special meeting of the said Synod, to be called for the purpose of making such appointments or appointment by notice from the Moderator of Synod for the time being, to be sent to each member of Synod at least fifteen days before the day appointed for such special meeting, such appointments to be made

by open vote of the majority of members present at the Sederunt of the said Synod at which the appointment shall be made, or in such other manner as the said Synod shall from time to time, by resolution determine and direct to be pursued in making such appointments: Provided always, that any such Professor or Tutor may resign, or may by the said Synod be removed, suspended, or deposed from office, according to the laws of the Church, and in case of any such Tutor resigning or ceasing to be such as aforesaid, or in case any such Professor being removed, or being deposed from the Ministry in due process of discipline, such Tutor or Professor, so resigning, ceasing to be a member, or being removed, or deposed as aforesaid, shall *ipso facto* cease to be a Professor or Tutor in the said College, and cease to have any claim to any emolument or privilege belonging to the said College, and his office shall be vacant.

V. OF SESSIONS ; AND ADMISSION AND ATTENDANCE OF STUDENTS.

1. The Session or Academical year shall commence on the first Wednesday of October, and end on the first Wednesday of April. There shall be such recess at the end of December as may be fixed by the Senate.

2. No person shall be entitled to rank as a student who has not been certified to the Senate by some Presbytery of the Church, and who has not signed the Album of the College and agreed to submit to its discipline in such form as may be determined by the Senate.

3. Every Student shall at the end of each Session apply to the Professors on whose instructions he has attended, for certificates attesting the regularity of his attendance, his proficiency, diligence and general conduct, which certificates shall be presented to the Presbytery of the Church, by whom said Student may be examined for license or for entrance upon the next year of the Curriculum; and before any Student shall be taken on trials for license, he shall present to his Presbytery a certificate from the Senate signed by the Principal, attesting that he has attended all the classes and performed all the duties required by the Church.

4. Cases of an urgent or peculiar nature of attendance or absence from the classes of any particular year shall be adjudged upon by the Senate according to the circumstances of each case.

VI. THE CURRICULUM.

The Curriculum of study shall be such as may at any time be determined by the Synod, and for the present is:—

I. PRELIMINARY CLASS. For those who, on examination, are not found qualified to enter upon the curriculum properly so called. Arithmetic and Mathematics; English Grammar; Elements of Civil History; Elements of Latin and Greek.

II. NON-THEOLOGICAL COURSE.

1. First year—Classics; Mathematics; English Composition.

2. Second year—Classics; Junior Philosophy, (Logic and Metaphysics;) Physical Science, (Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, or Natural History;) History and English Literature, (Junior Department.)

3. Third year—Senior Philosophy, (Metaphysics and Ethics;) Junior Hebrew; Physical Science, (Geology;) History and Literature, (Senior Department.)

III. THEOLOGICAL COURSE.

1. First year—Evidences of Natural and Revealed Religion; Senior Hebrew; Church History; Exposition of Scripture.

2. Second year—Systematic Theology ; Church History ; Hermeneutics and Biblical History ; Pastoral Theology ; Exposition of Scripture.

3.—Third year—Systematic Theology ; Hermeneutics and Biblical Criticism ; Pastoral Theology.

The Synod appointed the following as the Board of Management of Knox College for the present year, viz : J. Bayne, D.D., R. Irvine, D.D., R. Boyd, D.D., Messrs. D. McRuar, D. Inglis, R. F. Burns, A. C. Geikie, A. Topp, W. Reid, W. Gregg, R. Ure, J. Laing, J. M. Roger, J. W. Smith, John Smith, A. Wilson, W. McLaren, J. K. Smith, T. Wardrope, J. B. Duncan, D. Wardrope, W. B. Clark, A. F. Kemp, J. Crombie, T. McPherson, J. Scott, J. Ross, Ministers ; and Messrs G. Davidson, A. Jeffrey, A. McAlister, J. L. Blaikie, W. Kerr, J. Court, W. Clark and Andrew Smith, Elders,—Mr. Gregg, Chairman.

The Synod also appointed the following to be assessors in the College Senate, viz : Messrs. A. Topp, M. Y. Stark, W. Reid, W. Gregg, R. Ure, Ministers, with Messrs. Blaikie and Jeffrey, Elders.

The Report of the Committee appointed with reference to the debt on Knox College Ordinary Fund, was called for and given in by Mr. Kemp, Convener. The Report having been read, it was, on motion made and seconded, unanimously agreed to—

“That the Synod having heard the Report of the Committee to enquire into the state of the College Finances, receive and adopt the same, and resolve—That an office be provided in the College buildings for the business of the Agent and the Editor of the *Record*, and that an amount equal to the cost of said office be put to the credit of the Ordinary College Fund ; that the contributions for the ordinary College Fund be relieved from the expenses connected with the agency ; that the legacy of the late Mr. Gibb, which this Synod receive with gratitude, shall be in the meantime appropriated to the Ordinary College Fund, the Synod reserving the power to re-call it in more prosperous times for a permanent endowment Fund ; that further, no efforts be made in the meantime to liquidate the mortgage ; that the Synod also express their gratification at the general prosperity of the College Fund, and at the perfect correctness with which its accounts have been kept and its finances conducted. Further, the Synod instruct Presbyteries to bring the interests of the College under the consideration of congregations.”

On motion made and seconded, Mr. Fraser, Minister of the United Presbyterian Church, and Clerk of Synod, was invited to sit with the Synod.

Mr. Fraser of U. P. Church, invited to sit with Synod.

Mr. Kemp, in behalf of the Presbytery of Montreal, which had been specially appointed to consider and report as to the best mode of carrying on the work of evangelization in Lower Canada, stated that they had no Report to lay before the Synod.

Evangelization of Lower Canada

Two motions were submitted with reference to this matter :—

1. It was moved by Mr. Gillespie, and seconded,—

“That this matter be re-committed to the Presbytery of Montreal,

with the assessors named last year, to examine farther, and report next year."

2. It was moved by Mr. McLaren, and seconded—,

"That a Committee be appointed to consider and report as to the matter."

On a division, the amendment was carried, and in terms of it the Synod appointed the following Committee, viz: Dr. Burns, Convener, Mr. McLaren, Mr. Ross, Mr. Scott, Mr. Laing, Mr. Ure, Mr. Burns, Mr. Quin, Mr. Lowry, Mr. Kemp, Ministers; and Mr. McMurrich, and Mr. Court, Elders.

Dr. Bayne gives in reasons of dissent from.

Dr. Bayne gave in reasons of dissent from the finding of the Synod with reference to the Basis of Union with the United Presbyterian Church. The same were read, and ordered to be kept *in retentis*

Adherents to Dr. Bayne's dissent.

The following members intimated their adherence to the dissent of Dr. Bayne, and the reasons given in, viz. Mr. G. Smellie, Dr. Irvine, Mr. D. Gordon, Mr. Andrew Wilson, Mr. J. Middlemiss, Dr. Willis, Mr. McMullen, Mr. McRuar, Mr. A. C. Geikie, and Mr. M. C. Lutz.

Committee appointed to answer reasons of dissent.

The Synod appointed the following Committee to prepare answers to the reasons of dissent given in by Dr. Bayne, viz: Messrs. A. Topp, R. Ure, J. Ross, W. McLaren, A. F. Kemp, and J. McMurrich,—Mr. A. Topp, Convener.

The hour of adjournment having come, the diet was closed with prayer.

SIXTEENTH SESSION.

THURSDAY, 23rd June, 6 o'clock, P.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted with praise and prayer.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

Report of Foreign Mission Committee.

The Synod called for the Report of the Foreign Mission Committee.

The Report was given in by Mr. Lowry, Convener, and read. On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to receive the Report.

On motion made and seconded, it was resolved,—

Vancouver's Island and British Columbia adopted as Mission Field of this Church.

"That the Synod having had its attention directed to Vancouver's Island, and British Columbia, as a suitable field for missionary operations, agree to adopt it as a mission field of this Church."

It was further moved by Mr. McTavish, and seconded,—

"That in order to carry out the decision of Synod, the funds at the disposal of Synod. be used for the furtherance of the Gospel in Vancouver's Island and British Columbia.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Ross, and seconded,—

"That £300 be given to the Foreign Mission of the Free Church, £300 to the Foreign Mission of the Irish Presbyterian Church, and £300 to the British Columbia Mission.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Gregg, and seconded,—

“That £300 of the Foreign Mission Fund be given in equal proportions to the Foreign Missions of the Free Church and the Irish Presbyterian Church, and that the balance be appropriated to the British Columbia Fund.”

The amendment by Mr. Gregg, and that by Mr. Ross, having been put against each other, Mr. Gregg's carried. The original motion and Mr. Gregg's amendment were then put to the house, when the original motion carried by a majority.

It was moved by Mr. McRuar, and seconded,—

“That the Foreign Mission Committee consist of the following members, viz: Messrs. Lowry, Gregg, Topp, Clark, Kemp, T. Wardrope, Wilson, Dr. Irvine, Messrs. Inglis, Stark, Scott, McRuar, Dr. Burns, and Dr. Bayne, Ministers; and Messrs. Court, Clark, Redpath, Elder. Kennedy, Cattanach, Turnbull, Ross, Cook, McKenzie, and Lutz, Elders.—Mr. Lowry, Convener; and that this Committee be empowered to look out for, and send into the mission field, suitable missionaries, it being understood, that these missionaries be ministers in connection with this Church; but that before sending such, the Committee shall submit the name of any one whom they may select for this work to the different Presbyteries of the Church, who shall meet within twenty-one days of the date on which such notice shall come into the hands of the Moderator or Clerk, and report their decision to the Convener of the Committee, who shall be authorized to assume that Presbyteries who neglect to answer shall be held as concurring in the proposal made by them; the Committee to be guided by the decision of a majority of the Presbyteries. Further, that the Committee be empowered to provide outfit and passage, and fix the salaries of missionaries.

The Report of the Home Mission Committee was called for. The same was given in by Mr. Reid, and read. The Report of Home Mission Committee given in.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed—

“That the Report be received, and that the funds at the disposal of the Home Mission Committee be distributed among the several Presbyteries according to the number of ordained ministers in each.”

The Committee was re-appointed as follows: Messrs. Reid, Ure, Wightman, Nisbet, Gray, Gregg, Stark, McRuar, Burns, Dr. Irvine, Messrs. Inglis, Black, A. McLean, of Puslinch; Scott, McDiarmid, Tolmie, Walker, King, McMillan, of Fingal; W. J. McKenzie, McLeod, J. W. Smith, Wilson, James Smith, P. Gray, Kemp, Currie, and Anderson, Ministers;—and Messrs. Telfer, Bannerman, Wallace, Archibald Young, W. Wilson, Thomson, Dougan, McKenzie, Ross, Gordon, Leith, Turnbull, Stewart, Graham, Nicoll, Cattanach, Court, Redpath, Ross, and Dr. Holden, Elders.—Mr. Ure, Convener.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee on Colportage. The same was given in by Mr. McKenzie, Convener, *pro tem*. The Report of Committee on Colportage given in.

“That there was nearly sufficient money in hand to pay all the creditors, with the exception of Nelson & Sons, whose account, without interest amounted to over \$3,700. The position of the scheme at present, was as follows: Accounts past due, \$4,101 74; assets, \$4,006 79; deficiency, \$94 05. Of these assets, the selling price of books still on hand amounted to \$975 98; cash, \$227 72; sundry accounts due,

\$1,185 29; balance due on sixty-three packages sent out, \$1,617 80. Should these assets be realized, little would be required to liquidate the entire indebtedness of the scheme; but it was very clear that this could not be hoped for, and that a considerable loss must be estimated upon the books still on hand, as also upon what must be regarded as debts. The actual deficiency the Committee estimated as not likely to be less than \$1,200. The Committee trusted that the Synod would devise means whereby this deficiency could be made up, and the Church released from the pressing claims of the creditors of the scheme. In order to do this, the Committee recommend that the books on hand should be sold, and that the Synod should instruct ministers to bring this matter before their respective congregations, and to take up a collection for this object on the first Sabbath in October. In this manner the Committee confidently hoped that the scheme could be closed within the current year."

Report received
and Collection
recommended in
aid of this object.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed:—

"To receive and adopt the Report, and to recommend that a collection be taken up throughout the Church on or before the first of February next, for the purpose of meeting the liabilities of the scheme, and also that private subscriptions be taken up for the same object."

The Committee was re-appointed as follows: Messrs. Scott, Reid, Ure, Dr. Irvine, Messrs. T. Wardrope, S. Young, Nisbet, Inglis, King, Laing, R. F. Burns, and J. McTavish, Ministers; and Messrs. Dickerman, Osborne, Young, McMurrich, Hopkin, Mitchell, Stewart, Court, Begg, Clark, Cowan, and McKenzie; Mr. Inglis, Convener.

The diet then closed with prayer.

SEVENTEENTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, 24th June, 10 o'clock, A.M.

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

On motion of Dr. Willis, the following minute was unanimously adopted, viz:—

Special prayer
recommended
with reference to
season.

"The Synod having respect to the aspect of Providence, and the interests of the country, as concerned in the prospective returns of the approaching harvest, recommend to ministers and congregations, a becoming attention to this interest in public and private prayer."

Report of
Agency Commit-
tees.

The Synod took up the Report of the Agency Committee. The Report was received and adopted, and its recommendations generally approved, and in terms thereof, the Synod appointed the Finance Committee, to consist of Messrs. J. McMurrich, J. L. Blaikie, and C. S. Patterson, with Revs. Messrs. Gregg, Topp, and Reid,—Mr. McMurrich, Convener; and a Committee for the Record, consisting of Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Messrs. Reid, Lowry, McTavish, Ure, Gregg, Topp, Inglis, and Laing,—Dr. Burns, Convener.

Consideration
of Buxton Mis-
sion resumed.

The Synod resumed consideration of the Buxton Mission.

On motion made and seconded,—

"It was referred to the Home Mission Committee to consider the whole matter of the Buxton Mission, and report to the next meeting of Synod."

The Synod also resolved,—

“That a Committee should be appointed to take the oversight and control of the financial affairs of the Mission, and advise with Mr. King as to the erection and cost of buildings, on the understanding that the Synod shall not be responsible for any further expenditure than has been already sanctioned; and further, that the Committee should make such arrangements with the Teacher as may relieve the Synod from any additional obligation for his support.”

The Committee was appointed as follows, viz: Mr. Scott, Con- vener; Messrs. Ross, Forrest, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, and Dr. Irvine, with Messrs. W. Clark, and A. McKellar.

The Committee appointed to revise the overture with reference to licensing of students, reported the overture in the following terms, viz:—

Overture with
reference to
licensing of Stu-
dents sent down
to Presbyteries

“Whereas it is of importance to regulate by special enactment of Synod the form of proceeding in the licensing of Students; it is hereby humbly overtured by the undersigned that the Reverend the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, shall remit the following regulations thereanent in terms of the Barrier Act, in order that the same may be passed into a Standing Law of this Church.

I. “That no Student shall apply for license until the last session of his theological course is concluded.

II. “When a Student applies to any Presbytery to be taken on trial for license, he must produce certificates from the Professors and Senate of the College, or from the Professors of any Theological College in connexion with churches in communion with this Church: (1.) That he has completed the theological curriculum. (2.) That he has delivered the five discourses prescribed to him in the course of his studies. (3.) That his character and conduct during his attendance at College were suitable to his views of life.

III. “That the Presbytery shall then examine said Student in Latin, Greek, Philosophy, Theology, and Practical Religion. If the examination be sustained, the Clerk shall be directed to make application to the next Synod for leave to take said Student on trial for License, certifying at the same time that the requisite certificates had been produced, and the examination had been sustained.

IV. “Leave having been obtained from the Synod, the Student shall then undergo his public probationary trials. These are examinations: 1. On Biblical Hebrew and Greek. 2. On Theology, Church History, and Government, and on Personal Religion. 3. He shall also read before the Presbytery: (1.) A Latin exercise. (2.) A Greek critical exercise. (3.) A Homily. (4.) A popular lecture. (5.) A popular sermon.

“The Presbytery may reject any or all of these trials, and may examine the Student on his various discourses if they see cause.

V. “That the trials being finished, the Presbytery shall take a conjunct view of the whole, and record their opinion. If not satisfied therewith, the licensing shall be deferred, and the Presbytery shall act in the matter as they shall see for edification; if the trials be sustained, the Court shall proceed to license said Student to preach the Gospel. This shall be done in the following manner:—

VI. (1.) “He shall give his assent to the questions required by the Synod to be put in such cases, and shall either sign the formula or agree to sign it when required. (2.) The Moderator shall then give him a suitable address, and after prayer for the Divine blessing, shall in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the authority of the

Presbytery, license him to preach the Gospel wherever he may be orderly called. The clerk shall be instructed to grant an Extract of License when asked, and on a probationer removing from one Presbytery to another, he shall produce a Presbyterial certificate in common form to the Presbytery with which whose bounds he shall be appointed to labour.

"This latter rule shall apply to ordained ministers without fixed charges."

On motion made and seconded,—

"It was agreed again to send down the overture to Presbyteries."

Overture anent
calling and in-
duction of
Ministers.

The Committee appointed to revise the overture anent the calling and inducting of Ministers, reported the overture in the following terms, viz:—

"Whereas a diversity of practice exists in the Presbyteries of this Church in reference to the calling and ordination of Probationers, regarding which it is desirable that there should be uniformity, it is therefore overtured that the Synod shall send down the following regulations to Presbyteries in terms of the Barrier Act in order that they may be passed into a Standing Law of the Church.

1. "That when a Probationer or ordained missionary is called to a charge, and does not reside within the bounds of the Presbytery calling, the call shall be sent to the Presbytery within whose bounds he resides, to be presented to him with all convenient speed.

2. "That no Presbytery shall induct or ordain a missionary or Probationer coming from another Presbytery, without first having obtained a Presbyterial certificate of his standing from the Presbytery within whose bounds he has last resided."

Two motions were submitted.

1. It was moved and seconded,—

"That the overture be sent down to Presbyteries in terms of the Barrier Act."

2. It was moved and seconded,—

"That it be not transmitted."

Overture sent
down to Presby-
teries.

On a division, the first motion carried, and it was accordingly agreed to send it down for the consideration of Presbyteries.

The Report on the Widows' Fund, was given in and read. From the Report it appeared,—

Report of
Widows' Fund
given in.

"That the receipts for the year has been—from Congregational Collections, \$995 85; from Minister's Rate, \$760; from interest, \$1,434 08; and from amount of principal falling due, \$378 30. The amount paid for annuities was \$910; Minister's Rates repaid with interest, \$342 78; and amount invested, \$2,658 90. The total amount invested in Debentures and Mortgages is £5,824 14s., making with balance for investment, a total of £6,383 16s. 4d."

On motion made and seconded,—

"The Report was received and sustained, and the Committee were instructed to revise the rules and regulations, and report to next Synod any alterations they may consider necessary, giving the required notice in the Record."

The following members from the Committee on Widows' Fund, viz.—Dr. Burns, Messrs. G. P. Young, Smellie, Scott, Inglis, Dr. Boyd, Dr. Irvine, Ministers; and Messrs. Osborne, Buchanan, Wal-

ker, McLellan, Elmslie, Davidson, Blain, Ferrier, McMurrich, Shaw, Spreull, Morgan, C. S. Patterson, Hay, Redpath, D. Davidson, Court, Dr. Dickson, Hon. J. McDonald;—James Osborne, Esq., Hamilton, Convener.

Mr. John Gray gave in a carefully prepared Report on statistics. It was agreed to receive the Report.

Report on
Statistics.

It was moved and seconded, that the financial and statistical year terminate on 31st March, and that Presbyteries be enjoined to see that the returns are forwarded in due time.

It was moved in amendment, that the time of returning the statistics remain as at present, and that Presbyteries be enjoined to see that returns are made by congregations under their care, and by the Presbytery Clerks, and to report diligence in the matter to the Synod.

The amendment was, on a division, adopted as the deliverance of the Synod.

The Synod appointed the Committee on statistics, viz:—Messrs. J. Gray, J. Laing, W. Reid, W. Gregg, and T. Dallas,—Mr. Gray, Convener.

The Committee appointed to consider the communication from Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Education in Canada West, presented a Report. The Synod sustained the same and adopted the following minute, viz:—

Deliverance on
Dr Ryerson's
communication;

“The Synod having had under consideration a letter from the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Superintendent of Public Education, Canada West, on the subject of Christian instruction in Common Schools, regard such communication as partaking of the nature of a private document, and therefore not calling for special consideration at their hands. The Synod would, however, refer to their previous action on the subject of Separate Schools, in June, 1856, in which they express strong views adverse to the continuance of such schools instituted for sectarian ends. In regard to other aspects of this question, the Synod appoint a Committee to watch over any legislation that may be proposed during the next session of the Legislature in regard to education, seeing that it be based on Scriptural principles:—the Committee to consist of Dr. Willis, Messrs. Gregg, Topp, Clark, Ure, McMurrich, McAuley, Lutz, and Hossack.”

The Synod called for Report from Presbytery of Toronto with reference to Missionary operations among the American Indians.

Report of Pres-
bytery of Toron-
to among Ameri-
can Indians.

The Presbytery Reported that they were unable to collect any further or more definite information on the state of the American Indians, but that they were about to institute enquiries, and hoped that ere long they would be in a position to obtain such information as might enable the Church to see her way to do something to advance the cause of the Gospel among an interesting and perishing race.

The Synod again re-committed the subject to the Presbytery of Toronto.

Mr. R. F. Burns gave a Report in behalf of the Committee on Sabbath Observance. The Report was sustained and the Committee re-appointed as follows, viz., Messrs. P. Gray, H. Gordon, A. Wil-

Report of Com-
mittee on Sab-
bath Observance
given in.

son, R. F. Burns, T. S. Hodgskin, Ministers; Messrs. McLaughlin, Stewart, Elders,—Messrs. Burns and Gray, joint Conveners.

Report on
Sabbath Schools
given in.

Mr. John Gray, Convener, presented to the Synod, Report on Sabbath Schools. The Report was received, and the Committee re-appointed as follows, viz., Messrs. J. Gray, Nisbet, Lowry, Burns, Ministers, and Dr. Holden; Messrs. Court, A. Fraser, and F. W. Torrance, Elders;—Mr. Gray, Convener.

STATE OF RELIGION.

Report of Com-
mittee on state
of religion.

Mr. Scott, Convener of the Committee on the State of Religion presented Report, which was read and sustained. The Committee was re-appointed as follows, viz.:—Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Messrs. Gregg, John Gray, Inglis, Ministers; Messrs. McMurrich, Court, Cattnach, Clark, Elders; Mr. Scott,—Convener. The following Ministers were appointed corresponding members in the various Presbyteries, viz.:—For the Presbytery of Montreal, Mr. Crombie; for Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa, Mr. T. Wardrope; for the Presbytery of Kingston, Mr. Wilson; for Presbytery of Cobourg, Mr. McKenzie; for Presbytery of Toronto, Mr. McTavish; for Presbytery of Hamilton, Mr. R. F. Burns; and for Presbytery of London, Mr. D. Walker, of Port Sarnia.

The Synod also appointed the following Committee to prepare and issue a Pastoral Address, viz., the Moderator, Mr. Willis, Mr. Topp, and Mr. Scott;—the Moderator, Convener.

Committee ap-
pointed to
answer reasons
of dissent give
in interim re-
port; appointed
special commis-
sion of Synod.

The Synod called for Report of Committee appointed to prepare answers to the reasons of dissent given in by Dr. Bayne and others. A verbal Report was given in by Mr. Topp, Convener. The Synod appointed the Committee a Special Commission of Synod to prepare and approve such answers, that the reasons of dissent and the answers may go before Presbyteries and Sessions together with the Basis of Union.

Overture anent
registration of
births, &c.

The Synod took up overture anent the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

The Synod approved the overture and appointed the following Committee to watch over any Legislative action with reference to this subject, viz.:—Mr. Lowry, Convener, Mr. W. B. Clark, J. Laing, W. McKenzie, Ministers, and Messrs. McMurrich and Clark, Elders.

Overture anent
Manse

The Synod took up an overture on the subject of Manses. The Synod cordially approved the overture and commended it to the careful consideration of the Presbyteries.

Leave to Board
of Managers
of Knox College
to meet.

The Synod granted leave to the Board of Managers of Knox College to meet at any time between this and next meeting of Synod, such meeting to be called by the chairman of the Board.

Presbytery of
Hamilton to
make necessary
arrangements for
Sabbath services
at next meeting
of Synod.

It was agreed that the Presbytery of Hamilton should make necessary arrangements for Sabbath service at next ordinary meeting of Synod.

Quarterly collec-
tions appointed.

The Quarterly collections were appointed in the same order as in previous years, viz., French Canadian Missions on 3rd Sabbath of July;—Synod Fund and Buxton Mission on 3rd Sabbath of Octo-

ber ;—Foreign Missions on 2nd Sabbath of January ; Widows Fund on 3rd Sabbath of March.

On motion made and seconded, it was resolved :—

“That the thanks of the Synod be given to the office-bearers of Cooke’s Church, for the comfortable accommodation afforded to the Synod during its Session ; also to the accommodation Committee, and the friends in Toronto, generally, for the hospitable manner in which they have received the Ministers and Elders of the Synod.”

Thanks to office bearers of Cooke’s Church for accommodation, and to friends in Toronto generally for hospitality to Synod.

The business of Synod being now concluded, after singing part of the 22nd Psalm, and prayer, the Moderator addressed the Synod in appropriate terms ; appointed next ordinary meeting of Synod to take place in Hamilton, on the second Tuesday of June, 1860, at half-past seven, p.m., and dismissed the Synod with the Apostolic benediction.

Synod closed.

APPENDIX.

PRESBYTERIAL REPORTS.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

License :

Mr. A. D. McDonald was licensed to preach the Gospel, on the 10th of August, 1858.

Resignation :

Mr. Samuel Young resigned his charge at Guelph, and was loosed therefrom on the 27th of October, 1858.

Ordinations :

1. Mr. John McMurray was ordained and inducted as Pastor of the Grimsby Congregation, on the 16th of July, 1858.

2. Mr. Alexander Grant was ordained and inducted as Pastor of the 2nd Congregation of Sydenham, on the 4th of August, 1858.

3. Mr. James Cameron was ordained and inducted as Pastor of the Sullivan and Derby Congregation, on the 16th of February, 1859.

4. Mr. William Park was ordained and inducted as Pastor of the Durham Congregation, on the 18th of May, 1859.

The Rev. James Rogers, formerly Minister at Demorestville, was, on the 12th day of April, 1859, declared to be no longer a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

JAMES MIDDLEMISS, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

1. Mr. James White was received as a Minister, 11th August, 1858.

2. Rev. A. Topp was inducted as Pastor of Knox's Church, 16th Sept., 1858.

3. Rev. D. B. Pearce was inducted at Weston, 22nd Sept., 1858.

4. Rev. R. C. Swinton was released from charge of Markham, Dec. 1, 1858.

5. Rev. J. Stewart was ordained and inducted as Pastor of the Gaelic Congregation, at Oro, 10th May, 1859.

W. GREGG, *Pres. Clerk.*

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG

The Rev. Donald McLeod having resigned, was loosed from the Pastoral charge of the Congregation of Cobourg, on the 10th of May.

J. BOWIE, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

1st. Demission :

Rev. W. F. White was loosed from the charge of Belleville, on the 15th November, 1858.

2nd. Induction :

1st. Rev. R. C. Swinton, formerly of Markham, was inducted to the Pastoral charge of Picton, 15th December, 1858.

2nd. Rev. Wm. McLaren, formerly of Boston, Massachusetts, was inducted to the Pastoral charge of Belleville, 22nd March, 1859.

3rd. Reception :

Rev. S. B. Shaw, an ordained Minister from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, was received as a Minister of this Church, 12th October, 1858.

A. MACALISTER, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

The Presbytery of Brockville has no changes to report for the past year.

PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA.

Inductions :

1. Rev. John McKinnon was inducted as Pastor of the Congregations at Beckwith and Goulburn, September, 28th, 1858.

2. Mr. James Whyte was ordained and inducted as Pastor of the Congregation at Osgoode, November 24th, 1858.

3. Mr. Wm. McKenzie was ordained and inducted as Pastor of the Congregation at Ramsay, December 8th, 1858.

4. Rev. S. C. Fraser was inducted as Pastor of the Congregation at McNab, January 27th, 1859.

J. L. GOURLAY, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

Messrs. John Milloy, Adam F. MacQueen, and John McKay, were ordained over the several Congregations of Lingwick, Renyon, and Richmond.

Mr. A. F. MacQueen was licensed to preach the Gospel.

The Knox Church, Boston, was permitted to withdraw from its ecclesiastical connection from the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and the Rev. Wm. McLaren was loosed from the charge of Knox Church, Boston, U. S.

The Church at Farnham Centre was organized as a station in connection with this Church.

A. F. KEMP, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

1st. Licenses :

Mr. Archibald McDiarmid and Mr. Donald McLean were licensed, on the 7th day of October, 1858.

2nd. Ordinations and Inductions :

1. Rev. John Fraser was inducted into St. Andrew's Church, Thamesford, on the 4th day of April, 1859.

2. Rev. James W. Chesnut was inducted into the Pastoral charge of Mandaumin and Enniskillen, on the 20th day of April, 1859.

3. Mr. Archibald McDiarmid was ordained and inducted into the pastoral charge of Wallacetown and Currie Road, on the 27th day of April, 1859.

4. Mr. Alexander D. McDonald was ordained and inducted into the Church and Congregation of Clinton, on the 28th day of April, 1859.

3rd. Demissions :

1. Rev. Wm. S. Ball resigned the pastoral charge of Knox's Church, Woodstock, and his resignation was accepted, on the 27th day of October, 1858.

2. Rev. James H. McNaughton resigned the pastoral charge of the congregation of Saugeen, and his resignation was accepted, on the 7th day of April, 1859.

3. Rev. William Doak resigned the Pastoral charge of the Congregation of Port Stanley, and his resignation was accepted, on the 3rd day of May, 1859.

WILLIAM DOAK, *Pres. Clerk.*

REPORT OF THE COLLEGE COMMITTEE.—KNOX COLLEGE.

The Committee have great pleasure in recording the continued prosperity of our Theological College. They would ascribe the praise to God who, since the commencement of this Institution in 1845, has made it a most important means of advancing the interests of our Church in this Province.

The number of the Students matriculated in Knox College during the past year is 35. Besides these, there are other students who are studying with a view to the Ministry in our Church, partly in Knox College, and partly in University College. The whole number is about 50.

It may be stated that no less than seventeen students have completed their Theological course during the past year, and are thus in a position to ask license at the hands of the various Presbyteries. This is the largest number that has on any occasion completed the curriculum at the close of one session in Knox College.

The course of instruction in the different classes will be seen by the Reports of the Professors which have been handed to the Committee, and which will be submitted to the Synod. It will be seen from these Reports that besides the usual classes, a class of Sacred Rhetoric and Elocution was superintended by the Principal and the Professor of Church History. The Committee deem it desirable that this class be continued, and recommend the Synod to instruct the Professors' Court to make the necessary arrangements.

As during previous years, a Mathematical class was conducted in the College by Mr. Thompson, and Hebrew and Latin were taught in University College by Messrs. Hirschfelder and Wickson. With respect to the Hebrew class, the Committee recommend the Synod to instruct the Professors' Court to confer with Mr. Hirschfelder with a view to bring his instructions into greater harmony with the requirements of the classes in Knox College.

The Committee find that the returns received from Presbyteries relative to the examination of students have not been all sent in, and agreed to direct the attention of the Synod to that subject, recording at the same time their opinion that a Committee be appointed to consider the subject of the examination of the students generally, and to report next year.

With respect to entrants upon the College course, the Committee learned from the Reports of the Professors, that several had come up from Presbyteries unfit to enter the Classes on account of deficiency in elementary training. They therefore recommend the Synod to instruct Presbyteries to give more particular attention to the literary attainments of students making application to them, and when necessary, to send them to Institutions where they may be trained under the care of the Presbyteries till they are prepared to enter the College Classes, and further to see that in such cases pecuniary assistance be provided by the Presbyteries if necessary.

A question which gave rise to much discussion in the Committee was, whether the Professors' Court have power to determine the position of students in the curriculum. It was the opinion of a majority, (five to four,) that they have this power. The minority were of opinion that the power belongs exclusively to Presbyteries. It will be necessary for the Synod to come to a decision on this question, so as to prevent future misunderstandings.

It will be seen from Professor Young's Report that some doubt is entertained whether attendance on his exegetical class is imperative on students of the second as well as of the first year in Theology. In point of fact, the class is attended by students of both years. The Committee recommend the Synod to order the attendance of Students of both years as the standing rule.

Although the subject of the employment of Students during the summer months has occupied the attention of the Synod at previous meetings, the Committee deem it necessary to urge it upon their notice again. They feel that it is impossible for students to prosecute their studies satisfactorily while burdened with the labour of preparing for preaching two or three sermons each Sabbath. The Committee, therefore, recommend that measures be taken by the Synod to remedy this evil; and particularly that they instruct Presbyteries to be more stringent in securing to Students a reasonable time for the exclusive prosecution of their studies.

The Committee now proceed to report on the Finances of the College. They have satisfaction in being able to state that there is an improvement in the fund for the current expenses of the College. It will be remembered that for three preceding years there was an annual and increasing deficiency of £40 in 1856, of £187 in 1857, and of £210 in 1858. The whole balance against the fund was £438. During the year now closed there has been no deficiency. On the contrary, the balance has been reduced to £392. It should be added, however, that the interest on the mortgage has been as formerly, charged to the account of the Building Fund.

The improvement in the Current Expenses Fund has been the result of increased contributions from the different congregations, the whole amount received from which was \$5476 this year against \$4749 last year, making an increase of \$728.

Besides the contributions just referred to, the Committee have to report the receipt of a Legacy of £500 from the late James Gibb, Esq., of Quebec, whose memory will be long and gratefully cherished in this Synod. As an Elder of this Church, he took a deep interest in all its concerns; and his liberality in support of the various schemes is well known to the brethren.

The legacy has been received by the Agent of the Church. The terms of the bequest leave it in the power of the Synod to dispose of it at pleasure. It will therefore rest with the Synod to determine how it shall be appropriated. The Committee recommend that it be placed to the credit of the Current Expenses Fund, against which, as already reported, there is a balance of nearly £400.

No contributions were specially asked for, during the past year, on behalf of the College Building Fund. Contributions, however, have been received, amounting to £115 10s., which have enabled the Treasurer to pay a large proportion of the interest due on the mortgage. The whole amount due on the mortgage is £2678, which is payable in 1862.

There is a balance in favour of the Bursary Fund of \$722. A particular statement of the receipts and disbursements of this and the other funds, will be submitted in separate documents.

The Boarding department of the College is still conducted under the superintendence of Mr. Thomas Willing, who continues to give satisfaction. A slight reduction has been made during the last session, on the price of board. The Committee are of opinion that it is exceedingly desirable that the students be not required to pay more than two dollars weekly. This would require the church to supplement the payment from their own funds. Such a provision the Committee recommend so soon as practicable.

It may here be added that the comfort of the students has been materially increased by the introduction of Gas-light into the large Dining Hall. This has been effected by the private liberality of the Principal and Professor of Church History. Other private efforts are just now being made towards still adding further to the comfort of the students in the separate rooms.

In concluding this Report, the Committee would not forget to state that they were glad to learn that special prayer on behalf of the College was generally offered in the various Congregations on the Sabbath appointed by the Synod. They have reason to believe that the prayers offered have not been ineffectual; and they recommend the Synod to renew a similar appointment for the ensuing year. The Divine blessing is that which is above all things necessary, and ought therefore to be specially and earnestly sought.

Toronto, 15th June, 1859.

WILLIAM GREGG.
Convener.

REPORT OF THE FOREIGN MISSION.

Your Committee regret that they cannot report much progress in the matter of a Foreign Mission during the past year. At an early meeting after the last meeting of Synod, the suggestions contained in last year's Report were taken into consideration; and eventually the Committee resolved to take steps towards sending two Missionaries to Vancouver's Island and British Columbia, for the purpose of gathering

together the Presbyterians and such others as may be found willing to receive the Word, with the ulterior view of conjoining with this undertaking an effort to Christianize the Pagan Aborigines in those regions. It was also resolved, to invite to this Mission two Ministers of this Church, whom the Committee thought qualified to commence such an important work. However, on corresponding with these brethren, the Committee found their services were not available, as one of them declined accepting the invitation, and the other declined entertaining the matter under present circumstances. In this position the Committee agreed to delay further procedure till the present meeting of Synod. They were induced more readily to come to this decision because they understood that doubts were entertained by some as to the power of this Committee to undertake the work of sending Ministers or Missionaries to New Columbia or Vancouver's Island. Your Committee therefore ask the Synod to make such a deliverance on the subject as will authorize the Committee to proceed in sending Missionaries to those regions.

Respecting the Financial affairs of this Mission,—according to the Report presented to the Synod at its last meeting, there was at that time a balance in hands of £596 3s. 1d. During the past year, a sum of £300 has been contributed chiefly by congregational collections. There is, therefore at present in your Treasury about £900.

From this brief statement of the details of business, the Synod will readily perceive, that there is little connected with our Foreign Mission of which we have reason to congratulate ourselves. Has not the way of the Church in this matter been much hedged in? No satisfactory response has been made to the Church's call, "Who will go for us?" To a greater extent than the circumstances of the people connected with our Church would warrant, there has been a withholding of the gold and silver which the Lord claims as His own.

May we not very properly enquire, why are these things so? Have we, as a Church been resting on our own strength? Are we, through a false economy, robbing God of the offerings which a recollection or experience of mercies or judgments should have prompted us to bring into the house of God? Are we in any measure beginning to fall short of those solemn and noble-hearted purposes to which we pledged ourselves in former years? Has the unexpected failure of our first effort in the Indian field thrown us into despondency, rather than led us to heart-searchings respecting the motives by which we were influenced, and to humble but sincere purposes of greater devotedness? To such conclusions, your Committee would not desire to come. They would judge charitably respecting the Church. They are fully satisfied that the people of our Church were, in many instances, influenced in contributing less than in former years, or in not contributing at all, by the fact that a Foreign Mission Field had not been definitely selected, and that consequently there was no urgent demand for their pecuniary offerings. Again, the great pressure arising out of the distressed state of commerce and agriculture, will sufficiently account for smaller returns being made from several districts than formerly. And, besides, have we not reason to believe that the Great Head of the Church may be pleased to act towards Churches as He does towards individuals? We frequently find that when God is about to employ His servants in the execution of some important work, He requires them previously to pass through much trial and affliction as a discipline calculated to glorify himself? And, on the same principle, may He not require a Church to pass through her trials of faith, when at the very same time He may be calling her to "shake herself from the dust and loose herself from the bands of her neck," that He may make her "an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations?" As long as we have authority to believe that great difficulties and obstacles, instead of affording reasons for inactivity, furnish sufficient warrant for putting forth even feeble efforts, provided those efforts correspond in some measure with the abilities of the parties concerned, and such a principle seems to be involved in such an expression as, "curse ye Meroz," said the angel of the Lord, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty,"—so long ought the people of God to aim at "teaching all nations." And chiefly, ought the Church in her several Courts and Congregations to plead earnestly in prayer to her God and King, that He would "have respect to His covenant,"—that He would make the pillar of His guidance so apparent to His Church, that she would discern

the places in which she should make her encampments ; and that, inasmuch as "the fields are already white unto the harvest," He would "send forth faithful, devoted, and successful labourers into His harvest."

Your Committee have also to inform the Synod, that during the past year they have been deprived of the services of the Rev. Donald Fraser, the original Convener of the Committee, by his removal to Inverness, Scotland. It is justly due to that brother, that this Committee should embody in their Report a statement of their grateful recollection of the very zealous and faithful manner in which he attended to all matters connected with the Foreign Mission, and also an expression of their hope, that in another portion of his Master's Vineyard, he may be made eminently useful in extending and edifying the Kingdom of Christ.

Finally, your Committee would earnestly solicit the special attention of the Synod to the present state of your Foreign Mission, to the claims that a Western portion of our own continent has on our prayers and ministrations, and to those agencies, which as a Church, we should employ, to aid in the introduction of the period when "The people which sat in darkness shall have seen a great light ; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death, light shall have sprung up."

(Signed) THOMAS LOWRY,
Convener.

Toronto, June 16th, 1859.

REPORT OF WIDOWS' FUND, FOR 1858-9.

During the year, the following have been the receipts, viz :—

From Congregational collections.....	\$995 85
" Rates paid by Ministers.....	760 00
" Interest	1434 08
" Principal falling due and paid	378 30
	<hr/>
	3568 23
Balance at beginning of year.....	2889 93
	<hr/>
	\$6458 16

Of this sum the amount of \$910 00 has been paid in annuities to Widows and Children, and the unusually large sum of \$342 78, paid to ministers who have resigned their pastoral charges, and are no longer in the service of the Church. (The names of these ministers are Revs. Messrs. John McMurray, James Rogers, Samuel Young, William S. Ball, Donald Fraser, and Donald McLeod). There is a falling off in the amount of congregational collections, as might have been expected. There is also a falling off in the amount received from Ministers' Rates. But both these sources of income will again increase. Last year the interest on one investment was paid up in advance to the end of this year, thereby making the amount for interest last year larger, and for this year smaller than it would otherwise have been.

There is no increase in the number of annuitants.

WILLIAM REID.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON A FUND FOR AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS

The Committee beg to Report that they have held two meetings to deliberate on the subject entrusted to them, but have not thought it expedient in the present depressed state of the country to recommend the addition of another scheme to those already claiming the attention of the Church. Deeply impressed, however, with the great need of action being taken as speedily as practicable, they have agreed to submit to the Synod the following statements :—

That the provision may be made for aged and infirm Ministers in two ways, either by the establishment of a fund, such as the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, the interest of which would annually be expended ; or to take up a collection annually, or bi-annually, as may be required, and that the money thus accruing, shall be paid to those who may be considered as entitled to aid.

The former plan would undoubtedly be the more satisfactory, on account of its permanency and superiority to the evil effects of caprice or accidental circumstances beyond the control of the Church; but on the other hand, the latter plan seems to be the more simple and more readily available.

The principles on which a scheme may be formed were to some extent considered, when it was proposed, that no Minister should be put upon the Fund who has not been a Minister in this Church for at least five years, and that a graduated scale of distribution, according to the length of service be adopted; and further, that Congregations whose Ministers are put upon the Fund will be expected or required to contribute towards their support, according as may be determined by a Committee to whom that duty shall be entrusted.

The regulations which may be necessary for establishing and administering such a fund, the Committee is not prepared to submit. They would, however, suggest the propriety of re-appointing the Committee with instructions to mature a scheme to be submitted to next Synod.

They would also suggest, that the Synod appoint one of the quarterly collections to be devoted to this object, leaving it for a future Synod to determine whether the money thus accruing shall be reserved as the nucleus of a permanent fund, or should it be required, shall be partially distributed.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM GREGG,
Convener.

Toronto, 17th June, 1859.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON UNION.

The Committee on Union beg leave to report that, they met with the Committee of United Presbyterian Church at Toronto, on the eighteenth day of August last, and continued their deliberations during that and the following day.

There were present on behalf of the United Presbyterian Church, Dr. William Taylor, (Convener,) Dr. Jennings, Messrs. Thornton, Kennedy, Aitkins, Skinner, and Gibson, Ministers.

On behalf of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, there appeared Messrs. Ure, (Convener,) Scott, Fraser, Gregg, Ross, and Laing, Ministers; Messrs. Jeffrey, and Heron, Elders.

The Rev. W. Aitkins was called to the chair.

The Conveners laid on the table their instructions from their respective Synods.

The Committee proceeded to frame a "Basis of Union," and came to a unanimous agreement on the following articles:—

I. OF HOLY SCRIPTURE.—"That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, being the inspired Word of God, are the Supreme and infallible rule of faith and life.

II. OF THE SUBORDINATE STANDARDS.—"That the Westminster Confession of Faith, with the Larger and Shorter Catechisms are received by the Church as her Subordinate Standards, and as exhibiting the sense in which the Holy Scripture is to be understood.

"But whereas, certain sections of the said Confession of Faith, which treat of the power or duty of the Civil Magistrate, have been objected to, as teaching principles adverse both to the rights of private judgment in religious matters, and to the prerogatives which Christ has vested in His Church, it is to be understood:

(1.) "That no interpretation of these Sections is held by this Church, which would interfere with the fullest forbearance as to any differences of opinion which may prevail, on the question of the endowment of the Church by the State.

(2.) "That no interpretation of these Sections can be received by this Church which would accord to the State any authority to violate that liberty of conscience and right of private judgment, which are asserted in chap. XX. sec. 2., of the Confession, and in accordance with the statements of which, this Church holds that every person ought to be at full liberty to search the Scriptures for himself, and to follow out what he conscientiously believes to be the teaching of Scripture, without let or hindrance.

(3.) "That no interpretation of these Sections can be received by this Church which would admit of any interference on the part of the State with the spiritual independence of the Church, as set forth in chap. XXX. of the Confession. *It moved*

III. OF THE HEADSHIP OF CHRIST OVER THE CHURCH. "That the Lord Jesus Christ is the only King and Head of His Church; that He has made her free from all external or secular authority in the administration of her affairs, and that she is bound to assert and defend this liberty to the utmost, and ought not to enter into any such engagements with any party as would be prejudicial thereto.

IV. OF THE HEADSHIP OF CHRIST OVER THE NATIONS, AND THE DUTY OF THE CIVIL MAGISTRATE.—"That the Lord Jesus Christ, as Mediator, is invested with universal Sovereignty, and is therefore King of Nations; and that all men, in every capacity and relation are bound to obey His will as revealed in His word; and particularly, that the Civil Magistrate, (including under this term all who are in any way concerned in the Legislative or Administrative action of the State,) is bound to regulate his official procedure as well as his personal conduct, by the revealed will of Christ, to bow to the authority of Christ as King of Nations, and conduct his whole administration according to the dictates of the word of God, while he does not interfere with the religious liberty of individuals, and has respect to their conscientious convictions

V. OF CHURCH GOVERNMENT.—"That the system of polity exhibited in the 'Westminster Form of Government,' in so far as it lays down the principles of a plurality of Elders for each congregation; the official equality of Presbyters who minister in word and doctrine without any officers in the Church superior in said Presbyters; and the unity of the Church in a due subordination of a smaller part to a larger and of a larger to the whole, in the government of this Church, and is in the general features of it, herein set forth, believed by this Church to be founded on and agreeable to the word of God.

VI. OF WORSHIP.—"That the ordinances of worship shall be administered in this Church, as they have heretofore been by the respective bodies of which it is composed, in a general accordance with the directions contained in the Westminster Directory of Worship."

Such is the statement of principles and articles which the Committees drew up, and which they agreed to submit to their respective Synods as a basis of Union.

There are two notes in relation to Article IV., which were presented by the Committee of the United Presbyterian Church, and which at their request were inserted in the minutes of the procedure of the joint Committee. It is to be understood, however, that these notes form no part of the proposed basis. They were submitted not as additions to the foregoing articles, but with the two-fold view of endeavouring to remove misapprehensions as to the position which had heretofore been assumed by the United Presbyterian Church on the subject of Christ's Headship over the nations; and next, to protect the Committee of that Church from any charge of having exceeded their instructions. The following are the notes on the article referred to:

1. "That the first part of it (Article IV.) having relation to Christ's Headship over the Nations, has always been one of the things most surely believed and most firmly maintained by the United Presbyterian Church, while at the same time, she has constantly and carefully guarded against the practical inference drawn from it by some, that Christ as King of Nations delegates His power to earthly kings—that they are in any sense his vicegerents, or that magisterial interference in matters purely of a religious nature is a medium through which Christ exercises the authority with which as King of Nations He is invested.

2. "That the second part of this article having reference to the duty of the Civil Magistrate, is to be understood as simply expressing what the Committee of the United Presbyterian Church believe to be the general sentiments held by that Church on the subject, for no declaration of sentiment regarding it has been required by her as a term of communion, and their instructions forbid their acknowledging it now in that character."

All of which is respectfully submitted,

ROBERT URE,
Convener.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

Your Committee have no special information to communicate to the Synod relative to the state of Religion in the Church, so that the Report may be regarded merely as a means of calling the Synod's attention to the subject, rather than as a channel of information. There were embodied in last year's Report the substance of answers, from corresponding members, to certain queries on points connected with the state of religion—such as the prominence given to religious exercises at the ordinary meeting of Presbyteries—the holding of special conferences, or meeting for prayer by Presbyteries in regard to the state of religion—the extent to which the holding of presbyterial visitations and Missionary meetings is practiced—the amount of attention given to the instruction of the young—the manner in which the duties of the eldership are generally performed, &c.; on which points, the information then presented, showed that all the ordinary meetings of Presbyteries were opened with a season of devotional exercises, and in the case of two Presbyteries, sermon was preached at their ordinary meetings—that special conference on the state of religion had been held by your Presbyteries, and a special prayer meeting relative to the subject by one Presbytery—that periodical visitation to the congregations within the bounds was made by one Presbytery, and annual Missionary meetings held by all the Presbyteries of the Church except one—that a considerable amount of attention was given to the instruction of the young—by Sabbath schools. Bible classes, and annual season of catechising, but, that the visiting of families by the Elders, and the practice of parental catechising were much neglected.

The Committee did not this year think it necessary to repeat the queries, but have simply endeavoured to ascertain how far the recommendation of the Synod of last year have been acted on—and here they have to Report, that, two additional Presbyteries, viz., those of Ottawa and London, have adopted the practice of making periodical visitations to the congregations within their care. The correspondent from the Presbytery of Ottawa says, that, about the half of the congregation within the bounds have been so visited during the past year, and that the remainder, it is intended, will be visited during the current year. Respecting the nature of the visitation, he remarks that, the Presbytery not only ascertain the state of the congregation in respect to temporalities, but makes diligent enquiry into the state of religion. In the Presbytery of London eighteen congregations have been visited during the year, and the corresponding member states in relation to this work, that the result on the whole has been satisfactory, and that in some instances decided good has accrued. The practice also of having sermons preached in connection with the ordinary meetings of Presbytery has been adopted by two additional Presbyteries, viz., those of Toronto and Montreal, making now four Presbyteries in all, in which the custom is observed.

The important practice of catechising the young seems to be receiving increased attention. From one Presbytery it is stated that—"Ministers invariably attended to catechising, not only in Sabbath school and in Bible class, but also while visiting families." And from another Presbytery the writer says: "It is believed that at any rate, attention is being more than previously directed to the subject of general catechising."

In regard to the evidence of saving fruit arising from the means of grace, there does not appear to be anything special. There have been indications during the past year that the Lord is accompanying His Word and ordinances with His blessing. Several congregations have received larger additions than usual to the number of communicants, and a great proportion of these additions in some instances, have been from among the young, attended with circumstances which evince the work of the Spirit of God in their hearts. But there is reason to fear that the spiritual life of the Church in general is low, and such as call for humility, and earnest prayer to God for a time of refreshing from His presence. And this matter ought the more to attract attention, from the circumstance, that both in the neighbouring Republic, and in Britain, the Lord has been, and is, giving special efficacy to the word of His grace. A serious concern for the future welfare of our Canadian Church ought to be awakened, should we be altogether past by at such a time.

The Committee would also take the liberty of recalling to the mind of the Synod,

the sad indications that appear in the social condition of our country, of an advancing immorality. The many instances of recklessness and dishonesty in business transactions—the serious accidents that are ever occurring from the prevalence of drunkenness—the boldness with which profanity is practised—and the many cases of murder that have lately taken place—seem to prove a want of vitality in the Christian Church, and a failure on her part to approve herself as the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

And as the government and training observed in the family, have a special influence in forming the character of society, as well as in maintaining true religion in the Church, your Committee would conclude by recommending, that a pastoral letter, bearing specially on the subject of family religion, be prepared by the Synod, and besides being published in the *Record*, be read from the pulpits of the Church.

JOHN SCOTT,
Convener.

REPORT OF HOME MISSION COMMITTEE, 1858-9.

In presenting their Annual Report the Home Mission Committee would express their gratitude to God that, notwithstanding the difficulties which have pressed during the past year, with peculiar weight, on young and unconsolidated Mission Stations, the work has nevertheless been extending. Fewer demands for Missionaries have been made than in some former years; but the Committee believe that the gradual development of the Home Mission work has not been seriously retarded, and they are of opinion that the past and present difficulties have had, and will have the effect of leading the Presbyteries and the Stations themselves to the employment of more systematic means in carrying on their operations.

The following is a statement of the laborers employed in Home Mission operations throughout the bounds of the different Presbyteries. At the meeting of the Committee in the beginning of October, the following distribution was made, viz: To the Presbytery of London, 4; Hamilton, 4; Toronto, 4; Cobourg, 1; Kingston, 2; Brockville, 1; Ottawa, 2; Montreal, 4.

And at the meeting in the beginning of April, the following distribution was made, viz: To London, 7; Hamilton, 5; Toronto, 10; Cobourg, 1; Kingston, 2; Brockville, 2; Ottawa, 3; Montreal, 7. Of these, 14 were probationers and 23 students.

During the year, the following settlements have taken place, viz:

Presbytery of London—

Hamilton—Four, viz: Rev. J. Murray, at Grimsby; Rev. A. Grant, at Owen's Sound; Rev. J. Cameron, at Derby and Sullivan; and Rev. W. Park, at Durham.

Toronto—One, viz: Rev. James Stewart, at Oro—not including the settlement of Rev. A. Topp, of Knox's Church, Toronto.

Cobourg—0.

Kingston—One, viz: the Rev. Robert C. Swinton, at Picton.

Brockville—0.

Ottawa—Four, viz: Rev. J. Whyte, at Osgoode; Rev. W. McKenzie, at Ramsay; Rev. J. McKinnon, at Beckwith, and Goulburn; and Rev. S. C. Fraser, at White Lake.

Montreal—Three, viz: Rev. John Milloy, at Lingwick; Rev. Adam F. McQueen, at Kenyon; and Rev. John McKay, at Richmond.

We proceed next to give a general statement of the vacancies and Mission stations in the several Presbyteries:—

LONDON.—Within the bounds of this Presbytery there are at present four vacant congregations. These are Amherstburg, Knox Church Woodstock, Port Stanley, and Saugeen. The first named has been vacant since the translation of Mr. McLaren to Boston, the second since Mr. Ball's resignation and acceptance of the Agency of the

Upper Canada Bible Society, the third and fourth have been lately rendered vacant by the respective resignations of Messrs. Doak, and McNaughton.

In this Presbytery there are in all 20 Mission stations, of which eight come under the designation of organized stations—understanding by an organized station not only one where a congregation has been formed by the reception of members and the administration of the Lord's Supper, but where Elders have also been ordained for the oversight of the members. These Stations are—

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| 1. Chalmer's Church, Dunwich. | 5. Ashfield and Huron. |
| 2. Yarmouth and Belmont. | 6. Kincardine. |
| 3. Blythe and Manchester. | 7. Bruce. |
| 4. Wawanosh and Kinloss. | 8. Paisley and Dunblane. |

Of the 12 that are regarded as unorganized, six of them have been formed into congregations to the length of members being received, managers being appointed, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper being regularly dispensed once a year. These are—

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| 1. Vienna and Port Burwell. | 4. Grey and Wallace. |
| 2. Westminster and Frampton. | 5. Culross and Carrick. |
| 3. Elma. | 6. Tara. |

At the remaining six stations the ordinance of the Lord's Supper has not yet been dispensed, although at the most of them managers have been appointed, and a place of worship, either erected or in process of being erected. These Stations are—

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| 1. Maidstone and Mersea. | 4. Downie. |
| 2. Wallaceburgh. | 5. Mornington Line. |
| 3. Wardsville and Newbury. | 6. Port Elgin. |

Of these 20 stations nine require service in the Gaelic language,—some of the other eleven have Gaelic-speaking people connected with them; but preaching in the Gaelic is not essential.

Seven stations are self-sustaining. The rest are assisted from the Home Mission Fund, and some of them are almost entirely sustained from it.

HAMILTON.—Four vacant Congregations, viz., Guelph,—Wellesley,—Niagara,—Owen Sound. Beside these there are six organized stations, viz., Durham,—Mount Forrest,—Arthur,—Minto,—Walsingham, and Garafraxa. There are also seven Mission stations requiring supply, but not yet organized, viz., East Durham,—Rocky Saugeen,—Swanstown,—Gaelic Congregation at Mount Forrest,—North Arthur,—Maryboro',—Crosshill, Wellesley. Of these stations two, viz., Minto and Walsingham, have been opened during the past year. The stations generally are described as being one half self-sustaining. The money crisis has affected both the funds of the stations and the contributions of the settled Congregations. Four Missionaries are labouring at present within the bounds of this Presbytery.

TORONTO.—Within the bounds of this Presbytery there are the following vacant Congregations: 1. West Gwillimbury and Bradford. 2. Erin and Caledon West. 3. Markham, Melville, and Brown's Corners. 4. York Mills and Fisherville. Organized Stations: 1. York Town Line. 2. Cedar Grove, &c. 3. Flos and Medonte. 4. Collingwood Harbour. 5. Caledon East and Mono Mills. 6. Mono East, West and Centre. 7. St. Vincent, &c. 8. Osprey. 9. Nottawasaga, &c.

Besides the four vacant Congregations, four of the organized Mission stations may be considered as prepared to call Ministers.

The above *Seventeen* Congregations and Stations comprise *Forty* preaching places.

Besides those reported, there are seven or eight places where services are held under the direction of settled Ministers.

The Sabbath attendance at all the Stations is as nearly as can be ascertained 3,250.

The number of members in full communion do. 745.

The number of families 974.

The number of Elders 30.

Nine Sabbath Schools are reported,—33 Teachers and 312 pupils.
Six stations report meetings on Sabbath when there is no preaching.
Nine stations report weekly prayer meetings held.
At thirteen stations Churches have been built.

There are several townships yet unexplored in which it is known that many Presbyterians have settled, and are unprovided with ordinances.

The debt owing by the Home Mission has been reduced from about \$800 to less than \$300.

COBOURG.—The Mission field of this Presbytery is very limited. The only stations are Bethesda Church and Alnwick, which are now prepared to call and sustain a Minister. There are two Missionaries at present employed.

KINGSTON.—In this Presbytery there is at present one vacant Congregation, viz., Trenton and Consecon, and one group of Mission Stations in the neighbourhood of Kingston, where it is hoped a Pastor may soon be settled. Two Missionaries are employed at present by this Presbytery.

BROCKVILLE.—In this Presbytery there are at present two Mission fields, viz.: 1. Lyn and Yonge. 2. Mirrickville. Both of these places are likely soon to have settled Pastors. There are two Missionaries at present employed.

OTTAWA.—In this Presbytery there are two vacant Congregations, viz.: Cumberland and Renfrew. There are two or three stations requiring supply, but they are not yet organized. It is hoped, now that a number of settlements have taken place in vacant Congregations, that the Presbytery may be able to give more especial attention to the outlying field. There are two Missionaries at present employed.

MONTREAL.—In this Presbytery there are five vacant Congregations: Martintown and Williamstown; Winchester and Bates' Corner; Laguerre; Osnabruck; and Williamsburgh; besides Cote-street Church, Montreal. There are three Mission stations organized, viz., Valleyfield, Farnham Centre, and Alexandria. There is also another station not yet organized, but requiring and now enjoying Missionary labour, viz., Kennebec. There are at present seven Missionaries employed in this field.

The supply of Missionaries has mainly, indeed we may almost say exclusively, been from our own seminary. During the year we have received one only from Scotland, and none from Ireland.

But although we have not received any Missionaries from Ireland, we have to state to the Synod that the Church there has lately placed at our disposal the sum of one hundred pounds per annum, for three years, for the special benefit of Stations which have never enjoyed a stated Ministry. The first year's allowance has been received. This grant was made on the special recommendation of the Rev. W. McClure, and the Rev. Prof. Gibson, the respected Deputies who visited our Church during the past summer. The Committee cannot advert to this deputation without expressing strongly their high sense of gratitude to the Church in Ireland for their kindness in sending a Deputation to visit us, and also the great pleasure which they had in all their intercourse with the highly esteemed brethren who were selected for this especial service. Their only regret is that the time of the Deputies did not admit of their making a longer stay, and visiting more of the Congregations throughout the bounds. It will be for the Synod to determine the special manner in which this grant referred to is to be employed. The Committee would also suggest to the Synod the desirableness of making some application of the balance in hand for Home Mission work of the amount given by Alex. Gillespie, Esquire, and the sum bequeathed by the late Mrs. Fergusson, of Woodhill, as reported to the Synod at a former meeting.

A Special Report will be presented by Mr. King, with reference to the Buxton Mission. Conjoined as this Mission is with the Synod Fund, in the matter of an annual collection, it is found that there is some difficulty in obtaining the necessary funds. For this object the Church in Ireland have specially appropriated fifty pounds, which sum will be available for meeting part of the charges of the present year.

RED RIVER.—It will be borne in mind that at the late meeting of the Synod, Mr. McTavish was appointed to proceed to Red River to visit and encourage Mr. Black and his flock, who have been for many years earnestly pleading for a visit from a Minister of experience and weight. Circumstances prevented Mr. McTavish from proceeding to Red River last year, in accordance with his appointment. But at the recent meeting of the Home Mission Committee, in April, it was again agreed to request Mr. McTavish to proceed to Red River, to strengthen the hands of Mr. Black, and to make inquiries as to the practicability of a Mission to the aborigines. The Committee again ask the sanction of Synod to this appointment, believing that in the present circumstances of the North West, and in view of the increasing intercourse between Canada and the Red River settlement, such a Mission would be productive of great good. As Mr. Black is most desirous, both on account of the health of Mrs. Black and other considerations, to visit Canada and the United States, where his friends reside, it would be most desirable that a young man could accompany Mr. McTavish and remain until the opening of navigation next Spring.

Your Committee would, in conclusion, again place before the minds of the Synod the great truth, that the special work which the Church in this land appears called upon to prosecute is the work of Home Missions. May the Great Head of the Church, by the special out-pouring of His Spirit greatly increase our zeal. May He raise up many faithful and devoted labourers, and grant that through the means and agencies employed by us many may be added to the Church of such as shall be saved.

WILLIAM REID,
Convener.

REPORT OF BUXTON MISSION.

In presenting the ninth Annual Report of the Buxton Mission, the Committee feel deeply grateful to the great head of the Church for the measure of success vouchsafed to it during the past year. Although there have been some difficulties of a peculiar nature to contend with, still the progress has been onward. The failure of the crops for two years in succession has pressed hard on the settlers. The first year was not so much felt, but last year the struggle for food has been such that very little of their scanty earnings could go for clothing. The Committee, on visiting the different parts of the settlement, met with a number of families, where neither parents nor children were able to attend either the Church or school, for want of proper clothing. Still the people were neither disheartened nor discouraged, but were looking forward to the future with the hope that the coming harvest, which there had the prospect of being good, would release them from their difficulties.

The number of families in the settlement and living near it, amount to between two and three hundred. Of these, thirty-two belong to the Presbyterian Church; of the rest about sixty families belong to the Methodists and Baptists, who have established separate churches: the remainder belong to no communion, but occasionally go to the Mission Church. The attendance on Sabbath varies from 120 to 200, according to the weather and state of the roads,—some having to come from six to seven miles on bad roads. The number of communicants is sixty. These have nearly all been gathered in since the Mission was established. Three years ago the first convert from among the youths trained in the Mission school was received into the Church; at every communion season since a few more have been added. The number of such at present is twelve. Since the last Report the Lord's Supper has been dispensed twice, and on each occasion six members were added to the Church, four of these were received on certificate and eight by examination. The Church is regularly organized, with a full staff of office-bearers, four Elders and four Deacons. The settlement has been divided into Districts, and an Elder and a Deacon appointed to each District. They have visited regularly all the families in their respective

Districts during the past year, and have been well received. The Sabbath school in connection with these churches is in successful operation, Mr. Thompson, the teacher in the day school being Superintendent. The number of pupils on the Roll is 80, and the average attendance 60. A number of children who might be at the Sabbath school were unable to attend, especially during the winter, for want of proper clothing; some of them live at such a distance from the school that they scarcely ever attend, unless in good weather. To accommodate those who live at a distance, another Sabbath school was opened two years ago, in the north part of the settlement; it is attended by 25 pupils, and is open six months in the year.

To encourage a Missionary spirit, the children in the Sabbath school have formed a Missionary Society, take up a collection in the school every Sabbath, and send their annual contributions, which amounted, last year, to ten dollars, to the Calabar Mission on the coast of Africa.

The Committee spent a portion of the time in examining the day school, and were highly pleased with the mode of teaching and the proficiency of the scholars. The number enrolled is 90, the average attendance 60. The branches taught are Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, English Grammar, and Geography, besides Classics and Mathematics. All the pupils read every morning and evening, a portion of the Scriptures, on which the teacher examines them as a religious exercise. The Shorter Catechism is taught in connection with the Bible, and most of the pupils who have been a length of time at the school can repeat the Catechism; all have received religious instruction. The Committee on examining the pupils on the Scriptures, found that they had acquired considerable Scriptural knowledge, and gave answers readily and correctly to the questions put. The Committee also examined the pupils in English Grammar, Geography, and Latin, in all these branches they appeared to have been thoroughly taught. Some of the pupils studying Classics and Mathematics intend to enter College as soon as they can be prepared, but unless a Bursary Fund can be obtained to support them while there, they will not be able to enter, as nearly all of them are without means. One friend in Scotland, contributed last year, ten pounds, towards the formation of fund for the purpose of supporting students at the College, who intend to prosecute their studies with a view to the Ministry; another, in Canada, has given five pounds for the same purpose. It is to be hoped that by another year a fund will be obtained by the liberality of friends, sufficiently large to support, at least, one student at College.

It should be mentioned that a grant of fifty pounds, sterling, has been made by the Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, for the general purposes of the Mission.

All the people in the settlement have to struggle hard for their support, and the payment of their lands, and can afford to pay but little for the support of the Gospel, and the education of their children; still they endeavour to do something; when their lands are all paid for, which will be in the course of three or four years, they will, in a great measure be self-supporting, till then the Mission must depend almost entirely on the Synod for support. But as many warm friends of the Mission in Ireland, Scotland, and the United States, have expressed their willingness to aid the Mission, and already have given substantial tokens of the interest which they take in it, the Committee would recommend the Synod to send an Agent to Great Britain and Ireland during the present summer, to raise funds to aid in carrying on the Mission. A collection is taken up every Sabbath in the congregation, they also contribute to all the schemes of the Church; although the contributions are small, still the habit of giving systematically is being formed, and it is hoped that as the means increases their liberality will increase. The total contributions during the last year were eighty-four dollars.

The scholars attending the day school can pay but little towards the support of the Teacher, they can scarcely procure proper clothing and books. The Committee appointed by the Synod two years ago, to visit Buxton, recommended that the Teacher should be allowed \$300 annually from the Synod, and to depend on the fees and Government grant for the balance of his salary, but no specific understanding

had been come to with the Teacher, and as the fees and Government grant—only amounted to eighty-seven dollars during the last year, one hundred and thirteen less than the salary promised in his first engagement, Mr. Thomson proposes to take for last year, and this respectively, from the Synod, \$400, and after the present year to take \$300 annually, as he expects in another year the fees will increase, so that the grant from the Synod can be reduced, this proposal the Committee would recommend the Synod to accept.

The buildings are all of a very temporary kind, and in winter are very far from being comfortable. The Manse is a log cabin, erected by Mr. King at his own expense; the church and school house are quite open in the sides and roof, the heavy rains in summer, and the drifting snow in winter easily pass through them; they are not built on land belonging to the Synod. A park will be given to the Synod at any time in the square at Buxton, for the erection of the necessary buildings.

It is absolutely necessary that permanent and substantial buildings be erected as soon as possible for the use of the Mission. Dr. Burns, and the Rev. William King, were appointed last year by the Synod as a Committee to consider the best means of obtaining funds for the erection of new buildings in connection with the Mission at Buxton. They have corresponded with parties in Great Britain and the United States, and have received from several quarters in Great Britain assurances that if an Agent can be sent over during the present summer, assistance can be obtained for the erection of buildings and carrying on the Mission efficiently.

The Committee would recommend the Synod to avail themselves of the liberal offer, and send the Rev. William King to Ireland, Scotland, and England, for the purpose of raising funds to be applied in the erection of permanent buildings and other purposes connected with the efficient carrying on of the Mission.

W. KING.

ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS OF VARIOUS SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH, FOR THE YEAR 1858-9.—AS EXAMINED AND AUDITED.

ABSTRACT OF COLLEGE ACCOUNT (ORDINARY FUND,) FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1858-9

Receipts.

		Dr.
1859.		
May.	To amount from Presbytery of London	\$ 767 08
	“ “ “ Hamilton.....	1291 49
	“ “ “ Toronto	1378 87
	“ “ “ Cobourg.....	366 07
	“ “ “ Kingston	369 49
	“ “ “ Brockville	153 37
	“ “ “ Ottawa.....	244 02
	“ “ “ Montreal.....	897 55
	“ “ Sundry Donations.....	9 00
Balance		1569 72
		<hr/>
		\$7046 66

Disbursements.

		Cr.
Balance due last year		\$1754 13
May.	By amount paid Professors on Account of Salary.....	4585 10
	“ “ “ Mr. Willing, Fuel, Light and Attend'ce	200 00
	“ “ “ Mr. Thompson for Tuition'.....	40 00
	“ “ “ Proportion of General Agent's Salary.	250 00
	“ “ “ Office Rent, Taxes, Fuel, Postage, Inci-	
	“ “ “ dental Expenses, Stationery, &c....	80 00

"	"	Sundry Accounts. Insurance on Library, Printing, Advertising, and Repairs	87 43	
"	"	As Interest Credited to Widows' Fund.	50 00	
				\$7046 66

Balance now due\$1569 72

The above statement does not include the sum of \$2000, being legacy of late J. Gibb, Esq.

ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNT COLLEGE BUILDING FUND FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1858-9.

			Dr.	
To amount from Presbytery of London			\$118 25	
"	"	Hamilton	50 00	
"	"	Toronto	14 00	
"	"	Cobourg	20 00	
"	"	Kingston	27 00	
"	"	Brockville	36 05	
"	"	Ottawa	154 00	
"	"	Montreal	47 00	
Balance due at date			721 60	1187 90
				\$1187 90

			Cr.	
By amount paid for work done on roof of College Building			\$190 26	
"	"	Sundry small Accounts, Fence and Glazing.	17 38	
"	"	Insurance on Building	76 00	
"	"	Interest on Purchase Money still due	642 66	
"		Balance at beginning of the year	261 60	
				\$1187 90

The amount unpaid on original purchase money is £2678—\$10612, this is due in January, 1862.

STATEMENT OF BURSARY FUND FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1858-9.

Receipts.

Balance at the beginning of the year	\$912 44
To Cash per Mr. Spreull, from Miss Wright, Edinburgh	6 20
" Mrs. Ball's Bible Class, Woodstock	5 00
" Galt Female Association	44 00
" Per Mrs. Esson, for H. Esson, Bursary	20 00
" Isaac Buchanan, Esq., M. P. P.	80 00
" Saltfleet, &c.	5 00
Interest	20 00
	\$1092 64

Disbursements.

Bursaries awarded to Students after comparative trial, viz:

D. H. Fletcher	\$20 00
A. Traver	30 00
J. Ferguson	24 00
K. McDonald	10 00
John Morrison	16 00
	\$ 90 00

Bursaries given in special circumstances to assist Students	155 50
Fees of Students attending Mr. Wickson	65 00
Sundry sums advanced to Students	60 00
Balance in hand	722 14
	<u>\$1092 64</u>

ABSTRACT OF BUXTON MISSION AND SYNOD FUND ACCOUNTS, FOR YEAR 1858-9.

Receipts.

1858.

	Dr.	
To amount from Presbytery of London	\$239 35	
" " " Hamilton	275 32	
" " " Toronto	304 44	
" " " Cobourg	122 66	
" " " Kingston	84 26	
" " " Brockville	58 30	
" " " Ottawa	83 87	
" " " Montreal	233 60	
	<u>\$1401 80</u>	
" J. Thompson's legacy, appropriated by Synod	1016 14	
Balance	506 59	
	<u>\$2924 53</u>	

Contra.

	Cr.	
By Buxton Mission, viz :		
Rev. W. King, balance for former year	\$100 00	
" " on account of Salary	544 15	
Mr. George Thompson, Teacher, in all	521 00	
	<u>\$1165 15</u>	
Synodical Expenses, viz :		
Sundry Expenses at Hamilton, 1858	23 25	
Printing Minutes, with Statistical Tables, &c.	266 75	
Sundry Accounts for Advertising	11 70	
Proportion of Salary of General Agent	600 00	
" Office Expenses, including Rent, Taxes, Fuel,		
Postage, Stationery, &c	80 00	
	<u>\$981 70</u>	
Balance due last year	777 68	
	<u>\$2924 53</u>	

ABSTRACT OF WIDOWS' FUND ACCOUNT FOR YEAR 1858-9.

Receipts.

To amount from Presbytery of London	\$173 67
" " " Hamilton	185 79
" " " Toronto	140 76
" " " Cobourg	70 81
" " " Kingston	56 27
" " " Brockville	54 00
" " " Ottawa	71 30
" " " Montreal	243 25
	<u>\$995 00</u>
" Rates paid by Ministers	760 50

"	Interest received	1434 08
"	Principal falling due and paid	378 30
"	Balance at the beginning of the year	2889 93
		<u>\$6458 16</u>

Disbursements.

By amount of rates repaid to Ministers	\$342 78
" " Annuities paid Widows of Ministers	910 00
" " Purchase of Debentures	2638 90
" " Proportion of Salary of General Agent	250 00
" " " Office Expenses, Rent, Taxes, Fuel, Postage, Stationary, and incidental expenses	80 00
" " Balance for investment	2236 48
	<u>\$6458 16</u>

PRESENT STATE OF FUND.

Amount invested in Mortgages	£2230 0 0
" " Debentures	3594 14 0
Balance in hand	559 2 4
	<u>£6383 14 4</u>
	<u>\$25535 26</u>

ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNT OF FOREIGN MISSION, 1858-9.

Receipts.

	DR.	CR.
1858.		
June 1. Balance on hand at date		\$ 1931 33
1859.		
June 1. Bill of Exchange £100 sterling, remitted to Rev. Geo. Stevenson, and lost		488 88
" St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal		25 60
" Interest to date		45 45
" Amount from Rev. William Reid, \$669 34, less discount \$3 34		666 00
Total amount		<u>\$3157 26</u>
In Rev. Wm. Reid's hand		462 53
Total for Foreign Mission purposes		<u>\$3619 79</u>

(Signed,)

JOHN REDPATH,
Treasurer.

ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNT OF ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD, FOR YEAR 1858-9.

Receipts.

Subscriptions received for "RECORD"	\$1495 94
Amount received for advertisements	25 00
Balance	96 42
	<u>\$1617 36</u>

<i>Expenditure.</i>	
Balance to beginning of year	54 00
To amount for Paper and Printing	\$1168 24
“ “ Distribution of “RECORD” in City	15 00
“ Proportion of Salary of General Agent	300 00
“ “ Office Expenses, including Rent, Taxes, Fuel, Postages, Writing done in office, &c	80 00
	<hr/> \$1617 36

We hereby certify that we have examined the Accounts of the various Schemes of the Synod, compared Vouchers, and find the whole to be correct.

Toronto, 13th June, 1859.

(Signed,)

J. McMURRICH,
THOMAS DALLAS.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.

Your Committee, in submitting this Report have to express regret that so far from being prepared to carry out the resolution passed at last meeting of Synod, to put the Report in a printed form, into the hands of the members of Synod, at the commencement of its sittings, they have even been unable to make it more complete than it was last year. Almost the sole cause of this unfavourable result is the delay of individual ministers and Presbyteries in forwarding their Reports. They have, however, pleasure in expressing for the second time their high satisfaction with the complete, carefully prepared, and business-like return from the Presbytery of Kingston, while at the same time the delay that occurred in transmitting the returns from all the other Presbyteries has proved both harassing and vexatious to your Committee.

Last year, out of 131 settled charges, 107 Reports were received, and about 24 gave in no Report. This year, out of 137 settled charges, only 107 have given in returns, and 30 have failed, apart from 15 vacant charges, making a total of 45 (One or two returns have since been given in.)

The following statement will show in what Presbyteries the defaulters are to be found :—

	Settled.	Vacant.
IN PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.—Kenyon, and English River. The latter sent in no return last year,	2	0
IN PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA.—Ramsay, Dalhousie, Pembroke, Macnab, and Horton. All these Congregations except Ramsay, were defaulters last year,	4	0
No return having been sent by the Presbytery Clerk, it had to be made up by the Committee.		
IN PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.—One. North Augusta, and Burritt's Rapids, which are properly speaking Stations,	1	0
IN PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.—Cobourg, Keene, and Westwood, ..	1	1
IN PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—West Oro, Weston, Union and Norval, York Mills and Fisherville, Bradford and West Gwillimbury, Markham, Collingwood, Caledon, St. Vincent, Flos and Medonte, and Chinguacousy, 12 against 7 last year,	6	6

IN PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—Paris, Wellesly, Guelph, Galt, Wellington Square and Waterdown, Owen Sound, (1st and 2nd Congregations,) Niagara, Grimsby, and Sullivan,—10 against 6 last year. The 3 first-named sent in no returns last year,

6 4

IN PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.—Amherstburgh, Clinton, Lobo and Carradoc, Maudaumin and Enniskillen, Mitchell, Moore, North Easthope, Plympton, Port Stanley, St. Mary's, Saugeen, Wallaceton and Currie Road, Thamesford, and Blandford. The last-named transmitted no return last year,

11 3

Total..... 30 15

From this statement, it is evident that we are increasing in irregularity. And while there has been an improvement in the more easterly Presbyteries, in the three westerly, great laxness has been introduced. Beginning with the Presbytery of Toronto, there has been an increase of delinquents from 7 to 12; in that of Hamilton, from 6 to 10; and in that of London, from 2 to 14; an increase of irregularity that could scarcely have been expected from a young and energetic Presbytery.

While making every allowance for vacant and newly settled charges, your Committee feel bound to state that much irregularity must prevail in this matter, and unless greater attention be given by Ministers and Presbyteries to this subject, our Statistics must become unworthy of confidence.

In the following table, a few of the chief items may be seen at a glance:—

PRESBYTERIES.	Number of Ministers.	Number of Communicants.	Diminution.	Addition.	Prayer Meetings.	Number on Roll of Bible Class.	Number on Roll of Sabbath Schools.	Number of Baptisms.	Average Sabbath attendance.	Number of Elders.	REMARKS.
Montreal,.....	21	2771	87	152	915	431	1512	299	7030	121	
Ottawa,.....	11	1441	26	114	199	180	620	105	3284	50	
Brockville,	8	870	52	171	135	155	425	99	2795	37	
Kingston,.....	7	920	33	103	53	134	719	107	2675	38	
Cobourg,.....	11	1511	56	242	120	174	540	184	1770	51	
Toronto,.....	24	2365	85	455	178	683	1122	176	6788	86	
Hamilton,.....	29	3974	283	550	620	413	2041	408	8355	107	
London,.....	32	2633	172	362	404	402	1827	396	7470	95	
Total this Year,...	143	16485	793	2149	2924	2572	8806	1774	40187	585	

The real increase in the number of Ministers is 6, but if we take into account the number of resignations, the gross increase would be about 12. There were present at Synod last year 99 ministers, and 61 elders; this year there are 109 ministers and 58 elders, making a total of 167,—a fact which shows an increase of 10 ministers, but a falling off in the attendance of elders. All the ministers in each of the Presbyteries of Hamilton and Toronto, were present, except *one*. The actual increase in membership, as based on the columns of admission is 2149, by deducting from which 793 cases of diminution, the real gain is 1356, though there is a difference of 800 between this and the number of members reported last year. This is to be accounted for by the defaulting congregations being different this year from those of last year. The largest increase has been in the Presbyteries of Hamilton and Toronto.

It is distressing to notice an apparent decrease in the numbers attending prayer-meetings and Sabbath-Schools, being respectively, 2924, against 3832 last year, (a diminished attendance of fully 900,) and 8806 against 9128 of last year. We however find 2572 reported as attending Bible classes, against 1413 of last year. Your Committee hope that the smaller attendance at the prayer-meetings does not indicate a decay of vital piety; but the fact at least calls for faithful and frequent heart-searching on the part of office-bearers and members. The column recording Baptisms is interesting as showing the number receiving that sacred ordinance, and important by pointing out to Sessions the duty of keeping correct records of such events. The column giving the number of elders is also of consequence, by pointing out the numerous band of able and self-denying co-laborers, who are gathered round our ministers. Your Committee in connection with this would suggest an additional column for visitation by elders. The amount of average attendance may seem large—it was obtained by adding together the numbers attending forenoon, afternoon, and evening; and as some congregations have only one diet of worship, and others three, by dividing by 2, a correct approximation may be obtained.

Your Committee regret very much that they are unable to present this table in a perfect form; but by adding one-sixth to each of the items to make up for the non-reporting congregations, a pretty correct idea of our actual numbers may be obtained and is now submitted. Ministers, 143; communicants, 20,000; gross increase, 2507. Real deducting diminution by death, &c. 975, 1532; prayer-meetings, fully 3000; Baptisms, upwards of 2000; Elders, nearly 700. Average attendance from 23 to 25,000. An examination of this table shows that the largest number of communicants admitted during the year was in the Presbyteries of Hamilton, Toronto and London. The column for prayer-meetings seems to denote, that the Presbytery of Montreal enjoys the great privilege of embodying the largest proportion of vital piety, within its bounds. Hamilton comes next, though at a considerable distance. The lowest in number in this respect is Kingston. It is well however to bear in mind that the weekly lecture is in many congregations partly a prayer-meeting. But do not statistics read to us in this respect a humbling lesson, and are they not calculated to stir us up to pray without ceasing? Would to God that this were the largest column in the return.

The greatest number of Baptisms was administered in the Presbyteries of Hamilton and London. Montreal possesses the largest staff of elders, and along with Hamilton and London, has the largest number of the young under instruction.

Your Committee in next submitting their financial table, are unable from the reason previously given to lay a full statement before the Synod; and notwithstanding the injunctions of last year, it will somewhat differ from the return of the agent.

PRESBYTERIES.	Amount of Stipend promised.	Amount of Stipend paid.	Knox College.	Buxton Mission and Synod Fund	French Canadian Mission.	Foreign Mission.	Widows' Fund.	Presbytery's Home Mission Fund	Bursaries.	Debt on Churches.	Debt on Manse.	Contributions not otherwise Reported.	Total.	Manse.
1. Montreal, .	\$ 11448	\$ 9794 71	\$ 914 71	\$ 223 21	\$ 261 00	\$ 99 02	\$ 214 47	\$ 284 02	\$ 20	\$ 14078 00	\$ 827 09	\$ 3956 97	\$ 20323 37	10
2. Ottawa, .	5028	4547 53	273 90	79 43	75 50	101 47	73 07	64 80	...	1328 00	132 00	1493 96	6986 21	2
3. Brockville.	3990	3511 47	211 25	72 05	61 72	61 70	63 89	92 94	...	1266 00	.....	1636 59	6271 11	...
4. Kingston, .	4660	2018 50	325 91	64 07	49 09	9 85	58 04	343 17	...	9910 00	.....	2308 88	5940 36	...
5. Cobourg, .	4240	2778 00	301 60	91 25	53 65	74 45	25 31	189 29	...	872 00	1000 00	986 94	13965 23½	4
6. Toronto, .	9120	8075 45	1294 10	220 76	149 14	104 27	181 07	378 53	...	9722 00	3621 35	10425 14	20828 46	6
7. Hamilton, .	14381	13493 31	1331 15	413 06	297 32	230 87	225 02	575 76	124	20990 00	2000 00	10855 00	27545 49	9
8. London, .	11990	11349 60	516 41	168 47	182 26	272 06	137 21	640 10	....	7727 86	750 00	3795 47	17061 58	9
	64857	55568 57	5168 46	1332 30	1129 68	953 69	958 08	2568 61	144	65893 86	8330 44	55458 95	118921 81½	40

The Hamilton Presbytery has again taken the lead as the largest contributor, but this year it shows a considerable falling off, being only \$27,545 49, against \$34,237 last year, though considerably above Toronto, the next in order of liberality; and it is nearly equalled by Montreal. The congregations that have made the largest contributions are Macnab Street Church, Hamilton, \$6,171 93; Knox Church, Toronto, \$5872, and Knox Church, Hamilton, \$4,803. There appears to be a considerable falling off in the contributions of Côté Street Montreal, the highest contributor last year for ordinary purposes. The congregation actually contributing the largest amount is Peterborough, viz., \$9415 59, but though the congregation has been liberal, considering its circumstances, a proportion of the above sum has been contributed by parties unconnected with the congregation.

The following table will show the respective contributions of this and last year, for the five Synodical Schemes, Stipend, and Presbytery's Home Mission Fund:—

	College.	F. C. M.	B. S.	F. Mis.	W. F.	Stipend,	P. H. M
1859.—	5168	1129	1332	953	958	55,568	2568
1858.—	3372	1090	1872	1305	830	56,640	1997
Increase.....	1796				128		571
Deduct Building Fund, Decrease	332	39	540	352		1072	
Actual increase... :.....	\$1464						

It will be seen, that while there is a decrease in most of the schemes, two of the most important show an encouraging increase,—the College, and Presbytery's Home Mission.

These, judging from their financial position, are justly regarded by our people as the most important of all. It is gratifying to find an increase of more than \$1400 in the College Fund; but it is well to bear in mind that this increase is chiefly due to special efforts made by several congregations. The most liberal contributor to this all-important Institution is the Presbytery of Hamilton, though it is nearly approached by that of Toronto, being \$1331 and \$1294 respectively. In the Presbytery of London, however, there appears a considerable falling off. The congregation that has shown most liberality to this scheme, is Knox Church, Toronto, which gives \$800.

The congregations that have not contributed to this important fund are the following (Several of these have since remitted):—

IN THE PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.—St. Sylvester, Richmond, Lachute, Kingston.....	4
IN THE PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.—Mornington, St. Thomas, Stratford....	3
IN THE PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—Berlin, Woolwich, Walpole, and Jarvis.....	3
IN THE PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—Barrie, Innisfil, and Essa.....	1
IN THE PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA.—Perth, Aylmer, Nepean, Renfrew, Osgoode, and Russell.....	4
	15

In the Presbytery of Kingston, there are no defaulting Congregations, and in the Presbyteries of Brockville and Cobourg, all the Congregations sending in returns have contributed to this scheme. This shows only a deficiency of 15, as compared with 18 last year, but if you add those that make no return, you have a total of 58 non-contributing Congregations, or fully one-third of our Church, and 14 more than last year. Your Committee, however, hope that Presbyteries will act as they deem most desirable with the defaulting Congregations within their bounds, and they would also urge upon the Synod the necessity of the claims of the College being brought more prominently before the Home Mission Stations, with the view of their aiding an institution, in whose welfare they are so much interested. It would now seem that the special effort made for the Building Fund having been concluded, the ordinary Fund is gradually assuming larger proportions. It is pleasing to find the Home

Mission Fund growing so rapidly, as it evinces an increasing interest in the Home Mission work. In 1857, this fund only amounted to \$662, and this year it has reached \$2528, having nearly quadrupled within three years.

There is a slight increase in the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, as well as in French Canadian Mission; but a decrease in the other two schemes.

Your Committee regret to notice a slight decrease of \$1072 in the Stipend Fund, but as the distinction between stipend paid and promised, was not made last year, the probability is that there is an actual increase.

It is distressing to find upwards of \$9000 due to Ministers out of the stipend promised to them—a sum that amounts to about one-sixth of their average income. This is a state of matters which should be inquired into by Presbyteries. The Presbytery of Kingston seems most deficient in this respect. The average stipend of each Minister is \$520 per annum. The average income in the Presbytery of Montreal is \$636 against \$842 last year. In Ottawa \$718. In Brockville \$570. (The last two formed one Presbytery last year, with an average of \$429.) In Kingston \$665 against \$376 last year. In Cobourg \$424 against \$402. In Toronto \$701 against \$402. In Hamilton \$654 against \$596. In London \$521 against \$436 last year. The Ministers of the Presbytery of Toronto have the highest average salary, and those of Cobourg, the lowest. The largest stipends, (\$2000,) are given by Knox Church, Toronto, and Coté Street Church, Montreal. It would thus appear, that notwithstanding the commercial depression, the average salaries are somewhat higher than last year, except in the Presbytery of Montreal. On examining the returns sent, it would seem that 25 Ministers have received less than \$400 of stipend during the past year. In Presbytery of Ottawa 1. In Presbytery of Toronto 1. In Presbytery of Brockville 2. In Presbytery of London 6. In Presbytery of Montreal 5. In Presbytery of Cobourg 4. In Presbytery of Hamilton 6. Only 16 were reported last year, but this arises from the amount paid, as well as promised, being now entered. Considering the crisis through which the country is passing, the wonder is that more such cases have not been reported. 15 ministers in Presbytery of Hamilton,—13 in Presbytery of Montreal,—6 in Presbytery of Cobourg,—6 in Presbytery of Brockville,—5 in Presbytery of Ottawa,—12 in Presbytery of London,—10 in Presbytery of Toronto, and 2 in Presbytery of Kingston—in all 69, or about one half of the Ministers of our Church have received less than \$600. The average contribution of each individual member is, for stipend, nearly \$3.50, the same as last year, and for all other purposes about \$3.55, as against \$8 last year. Or adopting the basis of families, \$5 for Stipend Fund, and about the same for general purposes have been contributed by each family. The average contribution of each member to the College has been about 30 cents, against 20 last year; and estimating the actual membership at 20,000, this amount, if universally contributed, would provide for all the ordinary College expenses. There is an apparent decrease of contributions to the amount of about \$10,000, as compared with last year, which is to be accounted for by the extraordinary sums raised for building purposes by several Congregations, and which in the case of two, amounted to nearly \$24,000.

Apart from the Congregations neglecting to send returns, not a few have failed to take up collections for the several schemes.

In the Presbytery of Ottawa, there have failed to contribute for the French Canadian Mission, 4; Kingston 2; Toronto 2; Hamilton 3; London 1.

For Buxton Synod Fund, Ottawa 2; Kingston 1; Toronto 2; Hamilton 2; London 2.

For Foreign Missions, Montreal 4; Ottawa 1; Brockville 1; Kingston 4; Cobourg 1; Toronto 6; Hamilton 5; London 2.

For Widows' Fund 2, Ottawa 1; Cobourg 1; Toronto 3; Hamilton 5.

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This is considerably less than last year—yet if we take into account the defaulting Congregations, probably one-fourth neglect the collections appointed by Synod.

The entire sum reported as contributed for religious purposes is \$118,921. This is considerably less than last year, which was \$128,868. But adding one-sixth to the gross amount for defaulting Congregations, the total would be about \$138,000; and if the amounts contributed to the British and Foreign, and Upper Canada Bible Societies, and to the funds of other denominations be taken into account, the actual sum will not fall short of \$150,000.

On our Churches and Manses lies a debt of upwards of \$80,000, and taking their value at \$450,000, one-sixth remains as a load of debt. Taking the average interest at six per cent., the sum necessary to be raised to meet the interest, amounts to nearly \$5000 a year, or as much as would erect a handsome rural church.

Your Committee, in conclusion, are of opinion that under the present mode of transmitting the returns, the irregularity has become chronic. For several years the same complaint has been made respecting the irregularity in forwarding the necessary returns, and stringent resolutions have been again and again passed by the Synod, but apparently with little beneficial effect. Your Committee have, therefore, concluded that some change of plan is needed, and recommend to the Synod the following scheme:

1. That the year of the five Synodical schemes run from the 1st of June to the 31st of May, when the Agents' books will be closed.

2. That the Agent's books be so constructed, as to show at a glance the contributions to the aforesaid schemes from each Presbytery and Congregation, and that the financial statement be made up from these books.

3. That during the meeting of Synod the Agent enter the various sums which are then usually handed in by members of Synod, and make up, at the earliest period possible, a supplementary statement, so as to furnish a complete view of the financial condition of our Church.

4. That the year of the statistical return proper, run from the 1st January, to the 31st December, and only contain the bona fide facts and figures comprised within the period specified—that returns be handed in to the Presbytery Clerks, on or before the 15th January each year, and be by them transmitted to the Convener of this Committee, not later than the 31st January.

5. That this return, fully completed, and accompanied by the usual Report of your Committee, and the financial statement of the five Synodical schemes, be put in a printed form into the hands of the members of Synod, at the opening of its sederunt.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN GRAY,
Acting Convener.

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ERRATA.

Page 40,—in list of Ordinations in Presbytery of Hamilton, for “ Mr. John McMurray ” read “ Mr. John G. Murray.”

Same page and paragraph—for “ 16th July ” read “ 7th July.”

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MAY 1, 1859

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