

2273

MINUTES  
OF  
PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
Presbyterian Church of Australia.



HELD IN MELBOURNE—SEPTEMBER, 1905.

SESSION FOURTH.

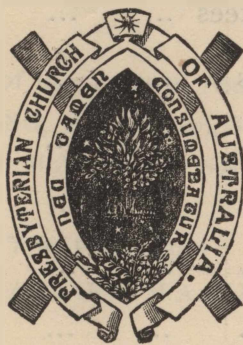
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Sydney :

SAMUEL E. LEES, PRINTER AND STATIONER, 81 CLARENCE STREET.

1905.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
**Presbyterian Church of Australia.**

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Right Rev. the Moderator :

REV. P. J. MURDOCH, M.A., Camberwell, Melbourne.

Clerks of the General Assembly :

REV. JAMES S. LAING, D.D. (Senior), Muswellbrook, N.S.W.

REV. GEORGE TAIT, M.A. (Junior), South Yarra, Melbourne.

The Procurator :

MR. JOHN GARLAND, M.A., LL.B., Sydney.

The Law Agents :

MESSRS. DAVIES & CAMPBELL, Melbourne.

Treasurers :

THE TREASURERSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE NEW SOUTH  
WALES CHURCH,

23 York Street, Sydney.

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

## Presbyterian Church of Australia.

---

### THE THEOLOGICAL HALLS.

#### ORMOND COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

Professor of Christian Philosophy and Apologetic and New Testament Greek Exegesis—  
REV. J. LAURENCE RENTOUL, D.D.

Professor of Church History and Systematic Theology—REV. M. MACDONALD, D.D.

Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis—REV. ALEXANDER SKENE, M.A.

“Wilson” Lecturer on Elocution—REV. EDWARD RORKE, B.A.

#### ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE, SYDNEY.

Professor of Hebrew and Exegetical Theology of Old Testament—REV. ANDREW  
HARPER, D.D.

Professor in Apologetics and Ethics—REV. JOHN KINKROSS, D.D.

Lecturer in Exegetical Theology of New Testament—REV. GEORGE MACINNES, D.D.

Lecturer in Historical Theology—REV. THOMAS E. CLOUSTON, D.D.

Lecturer in Systematic Theology—REV. W. M. DILL MACKY, D.D.

“Steel” Lecturer in Pastoral Theology—REV. JOHN WALKER (1906).

Lecturer in Ecclesiastical Law and Procedure—JOHN GARLAND, Esq., M.A., LL.B.

#### EXAMINERS:

##### FOR ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

Scripture and Catechism—REVS. J. F. MACRAE and A. STUART McCook, B.A.

English—REVS. A. R. OSBORN, M.A., and W. J. HOLT, M.A.

Hebrew—REVS. J. V. McNAIR and DAVID SMITH, M.A.

Greek—REVS. D. PATON, D.D., and D. M. BARNET, B.A.

History—REVS. G. DAVIDSON, M.A., and D. MACRAE STEWART.

Logic and Philosophy—REVS. JOHN GRAY, B.D., and F. E. OXER, B.D.

##### FOR EXIT EXAMINATION.

Theology—RIGHT REV. THE MODERATOR (P. J. MURDOCH, M.A.) and REV. J. AULD, M.A.

Church History—REVS. S. FRASER, M.A., and B. SCOTT WEST.

New Testament Greek—REVS. J. GILLIES, B.D., and B. E. DAVIES, B.A.

Hebrew—REVS. J. COSE B.D., and HUGH M. BURNS, B.D.

Apologetics—REV. W. G. MACGONIGHE, M.A., and R. G. MACINTYRE, B.D.

The Examination Board consists of the Examiners and the College Committee, with the Professors and Lecturers, members *ex officio*.

# NOTANDA.

Special attention is directed to the following matters:—

DATE of Meeting of next General Assembly—At Sydney, on  
Wednesday, 26th September, 1906, at 7 p.m.

## REMITTS—

### To STATE ASSEMBLIES AND PRESBYTERIES.

Addition to Article VIII.	...	...	...	...	Minute 97
Appointment of Foreign Mission Agent	...	...	...	...	Minute 96
Home and Foreign Mission Agents being <i>ex officio</i> Members	...	...	...	...	Minute 56

### To COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION OF MODERATOR.

Official Designation of Moderator	...	...	...	...	Minute 72
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### To PUBLIC QUESTIONS COMMITTEE

Manual of Presbyterianism	...	...	...	...	Minute 33 p.
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### To SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Overture on Rightful Subjects of Baptism	...	...	...	...	Minute 24 p.
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Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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MINUTES

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

---

SESSION FOURTH.

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*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on Wednesday,  
the 20th day of September, 1905, at 7 p.m.*

1. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the Presbyterian Church of Australia convened. Public worship was conducted by the Right Rev. the Retiring Moderator (Dr. Bruce), who preached from John vii. 48. After sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer by the Moderator. Opening of Assembly.

2. THE ROLL of Assembly, as printed in the White Book, was laid on the table, declared of *interim* authority, and ordered to be finally adjusted after the confirmation of the Minutes to-morrow morning. Roll tabled.

3. THE MODERATOR, having intimated that the Moderator and the ex-Moderators of the General Assembly, and the Moderators of Moderator elected.



the State Assemblies, had agreed to nominate for the Moderator's Chair the Rev. P. J. Murdoch, M.A., Minister at Camberwell, Melbourne, the Rev. John Ferguson moved:—That Mr. Murdoch's nomination be sustained, and that he be elected Moderator of this Assembly. The motion was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, and carried on the voices.

Mr. Murdoch was conducted to the Chair, and delivered a suitable address.

Leave of absence  
to Senior Clerk.

**4.** THE JUNIOR CLERK read a letter from the Senior Clerk, addressed to Dr. Bruce, the retiring Moderator, intimating that his sight was not yet sufficiently strong to enable him to read and write with comfort, and asking leave of absence for this Session.

The leave asked was granted, and the Assembly instructed the Junior Clerk to convey by telegram to Dr. Laing its sympathy and its prayer for the full restoration of his sight.

Thanks to Ex-  
Moderator.

**5.** ON THE motion of the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, duly seconded, the Assembly resolved:—That cordial thanks be given to the ex-Moderator for the thoughtful and appropriate sermon preached by him at the opening of the Assembly, and also for his abundant labours in the service of the Church during his term of office.

Hours of  
meeting.

**6.** IT WAS AGREED that after Thursday the hours of meeting for this Session be:—Morning Sederunt, 11 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., with an interval of an hour, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.; Evening Sederunt, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Business  
Committee.

**7.** THE FOLLOWING were appointed the Business Committee for the Session, with instructions to meet each day at the close of the Morning Sederunt (4.30 p.m.):—The Rev. R. G. Macintyre (Convener), the Junior Clerk, the Revs. R. Scott West, J. Walker, Dr. Meiklejohn, A. Stewart, J. Lundie, W. Gray, J. Heyer, H. C. Matthew; and Messrs. W. Wood, J. M. Campbell, R. J. Shilliday, W. J. Hill, and George Kerr.

Committee of  
Selection.

**8.** THE FOLLOWING were appointed a Committee of Selection to nominate Assembly representatives on the Judicial Commission, the Board of Missions, and the Standing Committees:—Rev. Dr. E. Gray (Convener), Revs. Dr. Clouston, J. Paterson, J. T. Robertson, G. Ewan, H. C. Matthew; and Mr. W. Affleck, Hon. J. Balfour, Messrs. Alex. Mayes, Thos. Mitchell, D. Storrer.

The Committee of Selection was instructed to meet to-morrow (Thursday) at 9 a.m., and to give in the names proposed by noon. It was agreed that additional nominations may be received up to the close of Thursday evening's Sederunt, and that a ballot (if required) be taken on Friday at 2 p.m. The following were appointed Scrutineers of the ballot, with instructions to prepare the voting papers :—Revs. R. E. Davies, W. H. Ash, and Mr. W. Wood and Dr. Macfarland. Scrutineers appointed.

**9.** THE ASSEMBLY adjourned to meet to-morrow at 10 a.m. for the observance of the Lord's Supper, and at 11 a.m. for the transaction of business, whereof public intimation having been given, the Sederunt was closed with prayer. Adjournment.

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## SECOND SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on Thursday, the 21st day of September, 1907, at 10 a.m.*

**10.** THE MEMBERS of the Assembly united in a Communion Service, conducted by the Moderator, assisted by Rev. R. G. Macintyre, B.D., and Rev. R. W. Rock. Lord's Supper observed.

**11.** AT the conclusion of the Service the Assembly was constituted with prayer by the Moderator. Assembly constituted.

**12.** THE MINUTES of the First Sederunt were read and confirmed. Minutes confirmed.

**13.** THE final adjustment of the Roll was postponed, and Presbyteries which have not sent in complete returns were instructed to meet and appoint additional representatives, and report before the close of this Sederunt. Adjustment of Roll postponed.

**14.** THE REV. DR. J. G. PATON was appointed a member *ex officio* of this Assembly. Dr. J. G. Paton a member ex-officio.

**15.** THE PETITIONS of the Rev. J. H. Macgoun, W. A. Hobson, Charles D. P. Taylor, D. McFarlane, and the Petition of the Rev. R. A. Redmond and the Reference from the State Assembly of New South Wales were remitted to the Committee on Reception of Ministers, with instructions to report to a future Sederunt. Petitions remitted to Committees.

The Petitions of Messrs. H. M. Ogilvie, G. Cranston, J. C. Gibson, J. Anderson, J. T. Kelly, J. F. Sims, W. Tulloch, F. L. A. Schloeffel, T. V. Charlton, William Bett, Joseph H. Lee, R. B. Garner, Horatio O'Sullivan, Richard B. Osborne were remitted to the College Committee, with instructions to report to a future Sederunt.

Report : Selection Committee.

**16.** THE REPORT of the Selection Committee was received, and ordered to be posted in a prominent place or places.

Report : Home Missions.

**17.** THE REPORT on Home Missions was submitted by the Rev. J. Ferguson, Joint-Convener. The Report was received.

Committee of the Whole.

The Assembly went into Committee of the Whole to consider the Scheme for the training of Home Missionaries, the Moderator as Chairman, and the Clerk as Clerk.

Scheme for training of Home Missionaries.

The Assembly resumed and the Clerk reported that the Scheme of Training of Home Mission Agents had been passed as follows :—

1. That the Agents who are to be admitted to this special course of training be men who are over twenty-three years of age, approved of as to attainments, gifts, and Christian consistency by the State Assembly having proper jurisdiction, and accepted by the General Assembly of Australia.

2. That such accepted Agents shall devote themselves to a preliminary course of training, and (1) within four years from date of their acceptance by the General Assembly pass (a) the Matriculation examination of a recognised University, or (b) the Senior Public Examination in connection with such University, and, also within the same period, attend and pass at least four University classes approved of by the General Assembly's College Committee, or (2) pursue a course of study, with annual examination, for four years under direction of the General Assembly's College Committee on such subjects and text books as are approved by the said Committee.

3. That during the course special attention shall be given to the contents of the English Bible, to English Language and Literature, Logic, Mental and Moral Philosophy, and History.

4. (a) That those who pass either of the authorised courses shall be eligible as candidates for entrance to one of the Theological Halls of the Church, and shall be examined on all the subjects of the syllabus, save Latin, Greek and Hebrew; (b) but where there is no Theological Hall within the State, and attendance at either of the existing Halls is, in the opinion of the College Committee, impracticable, it shall be in the power of the College Committee to appoint a special course of study with periodical examinations in Theological, Biblical, Historical, and Apologetical subjects.

5. That during the recess of the Hall the Agents shall as far as possible be provided with work in their respective States.

6. That after finishing their course and passing the Exit Examination, save in Greek and Hebrew, they shall serve in the State in which their preliminary training was given for a period of at least three years.

7. That, where any dispute shall arise as to the States named in Clauses 5 and 6, it shall be determined by the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly of Australia.

It was moved by the Rev. John Ferguson, and seconded by the Rev. W. D. Fairbairn :—That the Report from the Committee of the Whole be adopted, with the exception of par. (b) of sec. (4). Motion.  
(Adopted.)

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. A. Stewart, and seconded by the Rev. J. V. McNair :—That all the words after the word "Report" be omitted, with a view of inserting the words "be approved of, with the addition of New Testament Greek to the list of subjects in par. 3." Motion.

The amendment was rejected on a division, the numbers being 49 for and 50 against.

The motion was approved.

Paragraph (b) of Section 4 was approved, and the Business Committee instructed to prepare a Remit thereanent.

It was also agreed to send the whole Scheme to Presbyteries for their information. -97-

It was moved by the Rev. A. Stewart, and seconded by the Rev. J. V. McNair :—That the question of the omission of New Testament Greek be remitted to Presbyteries and State Assemblies. Amendment

The motion was rejected.

**18.** THE REV. W. FRASER gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—That the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia heartily support the anti-Opium movement, and, in view of the terrible physical and moral degradation that invariably attends the habitual use of the drug, strongly urge the Commonwealth Government to introduce legislation to prohibit the importation of opium save for medicinal purposes. Notice of  
Motion :  
Rev. W. Fraser.

**19.** THE Board of Management of the Ascot Vale Congregation applied for authority to meet this evening. The authority was granted. Board of  
Management  
meeting.

**20.** THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY adjourned to meet at 7 p.m., which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer. Adjournment.

## THIRD SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on Thursday, the 21st day of September, 1905, at 7 p.m.*

Assembly constituted.

**21.** THE ASSEMBLY met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scriptures, and prayer by the Moderator.

Report :  
Business  
Committee.

**22.** THE REPORT of the Business Committee, with the order of business for Friday, was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee, and approved.

Communication  
Rev. G. Ewan.

**23.** THE LETTER of the Rev. G. Ewan, Convener of Home Mission Committee of Queensland, anent services at Thursday Island, was received, and remitted to the Home Mission Committee, with instructions to report to a future Sederunt.

Home Missions  
Report resumed.

**24.** THE ASSEMBLY resumed consideration of the Report on Home Missions.

Deliverance.

It was moved by the Rev. J. Ferguson, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn :—That the Assembly

Express gratification that the returns from the several States furnish considerable grounds of encouragement ; that the Home Mission Committees show such zeal in furthering the extension of Christ's Kingdom ; that so many agents labour with praiseworthy diligence and loyalty, especially amid the trying difficulties of the sparsely-peopled areas.

Commend the claims of the Churches of Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, and Western Australia upon the sympathy and support of the stronger Churches of New South Wales and Victoria.

Convey cordial thanks to the Home Churches for their generous provision of men and money to Queensland and Western Australia, and express the hope that assistance so valuable in the urgent need of those Churches will be continued.

Addresses.

The Rev. H. C. Matthew, of Western Australia ; the Rev. G. Ewan, of Queensland ; the Rev. A. R. Osborn, of Tasmania ; the Rev. R. Mitchell, of South Australia ; the Rev. D. A. Cameron, of Victoria ; and the Rev. Dr. Clouston, of New South Wales, addressed the Assembly on Home Mission Work in their respective States.

Thanks.

The Moderator, on behalf of the Assembly, thanked the speakers for their addresses.

The motion was approved.

**25.** THE REV. DR. MEIKLEJOHN gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :— Notice of Motion : Article X.

That with the view of giving effect to Article X. of the Articles of Agreement, which provides that reports of a full and definite kind shall be forwarded to the General Assembly from each State Assembly on all matters pertaining to the work and welfare of the Church, including Home Missions, Sabbath Schools, and the State of Religion and Morals, a Standing Committee be appointed to receive these reports and bring them before the Assembly ; that this Committee be named the Sabbath School and State of Religion Committee, and that the Moderator be Convener.

**26.** THE ASSEMBLY adjourned to meet to-morrow at 11 a.m., which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt closed with prayer. Adjournment.

#### FOURTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on Friday, the 22nd day of September, 1905, at 11 a.m.*

**27.** THE ASSEMBLY met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scriptures, and prayer by the Moderator. Assembly constituted.

**28.** THE MINUTES of the Second and Third Sederunts were read and confirmed. Minutes confirmed.

**29.** APOLOGIES for absence were received from the Rev. Dr. D. Paton, Dr. Hay, Messrs. T. W. Fleming, J. Murray, and the Procurator. Apologies received.

**30.** THE REV. J. T. ROBERTSON gave notice of his intention, when the Report of the Sabbath School Hymnary Committee is before the House, to move :— Notice of Motion : Sabbath School Hymnary.

That the Assembly re-affirms the resolution of the Assembly of 1902, as to the urgent need of a Hymn Book for our Sabbath Schools ; affirms the desirability of the compilation, under the authority of the Assembly, of an Australian Sunday School Hymn Book ; instructs the Committee to give special consideration to this proposal, and to obtain full and detailed information as to its practicability ; and empowers the Committee, if they see fit, to proceed

with the work of compilation, with the view of being in a position to submit a definite proposal to next meeting of the General Assembly.

Roll.

**31.** THE ROLL was finally adjusted, and sustained as follows :—

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## PRESBYTERY OF BATHURST.

Rev. David Baird		Dr. H. Kirkland
Alexander Clark		Mr. W. Shaw
S. G. Crawford, M.A.		James Simmonds

## PRESBYTERY OF THE CLARENCE.

Rev. M. Kirkpatrick, B.A.		Mr. James Jolly
J. Beith Wilson, B.A.		Donald Shearer

## PRESBYTERY OF GOULBURN.

## PRESBYTERY OF THE HASTINGS.

Rev. J. Herd Terras		Mr. John Bryson
G. M. Torbett		

## PRESBYTERY OF THE HAWKESBURY.

Rev. James McKee		Mr. James Angus
James Cameron, D.D.		J. Knox
John Paterson		A. Sutherland

## PRESBYTERY OF THE HUNTER.

Rev. John D. Brown		Mr. G. A. Mackay
James S. Laing, D.D.		William S. Pender
A. Stuart McCook, B.A.		W. T. Seaward, B.A.

## PRESBYTERY OF ILLAWARRA.

Rev. D. M. Barnet, B.A.		Mr. Charles Cameron
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## PRESBYTERY OF THE LACHLAN.

Rev. George Paul		Mr. Thomas Brown, M.P.
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## PRESBYTERY OF MONARO.

Rev. J. L. Forbes, B.D.		Mr. J. C. Rylie
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## PRESBYTERY OF THE MURRUMBIDGEE.

Rev. John J. Thorp		Mr. James Watson
--------------------	--	------------------

PRESBYTERY OF NEW ENGLAND.

Rev. A. P. Cameron, B.A.	Mr. W. S. Johnstone
James Love	Alexander Mitchell

PRESBYTERY OF SYDNEY.

Rev. William H. Ash	Mr. John A. Aitken
David Bruce, D.D.	J. Dawson, M.A.
T. E. Clouston, D.D.	Dr. Storie Dixon
Robert E. Davies, B.A.	Mr. Walter G. Geikie
John Ferguson	Colonel Goodlet
George MacInnes, D.D.	Mr. John McIntyre
R. G. Macintyre, B.D.	John Marden, LL.D.
C. H. Talbot	John Mars
John Walker	William Wood

PRESBYTERY OF WAGGA WAGGA.

Rev. Charles Bell	Mr. Peter Bell Munro
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PRESBYTERY OF YOUNG.

Rev. Ewing J. Thomson	Mr. W. W. Twigg
-----------------------	-----------------

ELECTED BY THE STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. Kemp Bruce	Mr. William Affleck
John Burgess, M.A.	J. Angus
James Cosh, B.D.	J. Hugh Balfour
T. S. Crawford, M.A.	John Kirkland
Professor Kinross, D.D.	Alexander Lutton
John Macauley, M.A.	P. D. McCormick
James Marshall	John Ross
Alexander McKinlay	David Walker
R. Scott West	Dr. Walker-Smith

VICTORIA.

ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

PRESBYTERY OF BALLARAT.

Rev. Elder Gray, D.D.	Mr. J. Draffin
M. G. Hart	N. G. Elder
C. Robinson, B.A.	D. McKenzie
J. Smiley, B.A.	W. Rain

PRESBYTERY OF BEECHWORTH.

Rev. H. A. Buntine	Mr. T. J. Finlay
R. Jones	J. McLean
	J. Munro

PRESBYTERY OF BENDIGO.

Rev. Hume Robertson, B.A.	Hon. J. Balfour, M.L.C.
D. Telfer	Mr. J. McKiehan



## PRESBYTERY OF GEELONG.

Rev. A. S. Houston	Mr. D. Smith
J. McKenzie, B.D.	H. Storrer
J. V. McNair	J. L. Willox

## PRESBYTERY OF GIPPSLAND.

Rev. F. Barclay	Mr. W. H. Disher
F. Milne, B.D.	H. Hopkins

## PRESBYTERY OF GOULBURN VALLEY.

Rev. G. M. Baird	Mr. A. H. Campbell
C. A. Fraser	Thomas Dixon
James Weir	George Hossack

## PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

Rev. J. S. Jaffray	Mr. John Smith
W. C. Wallace, M.A.	Alex. Turnbull

## PRESBYTERY OF MACEDON.

Rev. L. Tait, B.A.	Mr. A. Lawrence
--------------------	-----------------

## PRESBYTERY OF MARYBOROUGH.

Rev. F. Paton	Mr. W. Brunton
J. G. Sterling	M. McGillivray
H. Swan	

## PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE NORTH.

Rev. Stewart Byron	Mr. A. Ballantine
J. A. Crockett	A. Byers
W. D. Fairbairn, M.A.	J. Mackinnon
William Fraser, B.A.	J. McCallum
C. Hay Hunter, M.A.	A. McIntosh
J. T. Robertson, M.A.	E. Tilev
R. W. Rock	W. Warrick

## PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE SOUTH.

Rev. J. C. Coutie	Mr. A. Anderson
J. Downey, B.D.	J. S. R. Brown
J. H. Mackay	Hon. J. M. Davies
D. A. McDougall	Mr. W. Johnston
A. F. M. Robb	J. McIndoe
D. M. Stewart	B. Morey
W. S. Whiteside	

## PRESBYTERY OF MORTLAKE.

Rev. A. J. Davidson	Mr. N. W. Black
C. S. Ross	G. S. Mackay

## PRESBYTERY OF PENOLA.

Rev. David A. Souter	Mr. W. F. Loutit
----------------------	------------------

## PRESBYTERY OF WIMMERA.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian	
--------------------	--

ELECTED BY THE STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. T. R. Cairns	Hon. W. Anderson
D. A. Cameron	Mr. J. M. Campbell
H. A. Erskine	Dr. B. S. Cowen
A. Marshall, D.D.	Mr. J. G. Cramond
John Meiklejohn, D.D.	R. Gillespie
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	W. F. Greenwood
F. H. L. Paton	George Howat
Professor Rentoul, D.D.	Dr. Macfarland
W. S. Rolland	Rev. S. G. McLaren, M.A.
Alexander Skene, M.A.	Mr. R. S. Mills
A. Stewart, M.A.	H. R. Reid
George Tait, M.A.	W. Wishart
A. Yule, M.A.	

QUEENSLAND.

ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

PRESBYTERY OF BRISBANE.

Rev. W. Sweyn Macqueen	Captain Bennett
J. McQueen	Mr. T. C. Just
J. S. Pollock	A. S. Lang

PRESBYTERY OF MARYBOROUGH.

PRESBYTERY OF ROCKHAMPTON.

Rev. D. Martin, M.A.	Mr. James de Conlay
----------------------	---------------------

PRESBYTERY OF TOOWOOMBA.

Rev. Joseph Lundie, B.A.	Mr. Alexander Mayes
John Sinclair, B.A.	Robert J. Shilliday

PRESBYTERY OF TOWNSVILLE.

Rev. J. B. Galloway	Mr. W. Aird
---------------------	-------------

ELECTED BY THE STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. George Ewan	Mr. Alexander McIntosh
R. H. Roberts	Charles Patterson

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

PRESBYTERY OF ADELAIDE

Rev. William Gray	Mr. T. W. Fleming
Robert Mitchell	W. J. Hill

## PRESBYTERY OF BELALIE.

Rev. H. J. Lambert, M.A. | Mr. Thomas Mitchell

## PRESBYTERY OF ONKAPARINGA.

Rev. G. C. Love, B.D. | Mr. Matthew Rankine

## ELECTED BY THE STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. David Paton, D.D. | Mr. John Murray

## TASMANIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## PRESBYTERY OF HOBART.

Rev. J. Hoyer, M.A. | Mr. William Duncan

## PRESBYTERY OF LAUNCESTON.

Rev. D. Brown | Mr. David Storer, M.P.  
John Scott

## PRESBYTERY OF THE MIDLANDS.

Rev. J. G. Millar | Mr. C. R. Weeding

## ELECTED BY THE STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. F. E. Oxer, B.D. | Mr. George Kerr

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## PRESBYTERY OF FREMANTLE.

## PRESBYTERY OF THE GOLDFIELDS.

## PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.

## ELECTED BY THE STATE ASSEMBLY

Rev. H. C. Matthew, M.A. |

MEMBERS *Ex-officio*.

*The Procurator*—Mr. John Garland, M.A., LL.B.

*The Law Agent*—Mr. J. M. Campbell.

Rev. J. G. Paton, D.D.

**32. REPLIES** from Lord Tennyson and Lord Northcote to addresses of the Assembly to them, and from the Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society to a letter from the Senior Clerk forwarding a Resolution of the Assembly, were received. Communication.

A Communication from the Women's Christian Temperance Union was received. W.C.T.U.

It was agreed to recommend that some Sabbath in November be observed as Temperance Day.

The Resignation of the Rev. Jas. Leask of his status as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia was received. The resignation was accepted, and Mr. Leask's name was removed from the Roll of Ministers. Resignation :  
Rev. J. Leask.

**33. THE OVERTURE** on a Manual on Presbyterianism was introduced by the Rev. R. G. Macintyre, who moved.—That the overture be remitted to a small Committee, with instructions to prepare recommendations on the subject, and report to next Assembly. The motion was seconded by the Rev. to report to next Assembly. Overture :  
Manual of  
Presbyterianism  
Remit. ?

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Chas. Robinson, and approved.

**34. THE OVERTURE** on the Rightful Subjects of Baptism was introduced by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, who moved.—That the Overture be remitted to a small Committee, with instructions to prepare recommendations on the subject, and report to next Assembly.\* Overture :  
Subjects of  
Baptism. R.M.  
Remit  
Committee.

The Committee to consist of the Revs. Dr. Meiklejohn (Convener), Dr. Clouston, A. Yule, A. Stewart.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. T. R. Cairns, and approved.

**35. THE RETURNS** on the Overture relative to *ex officio* members were laid on the table. The Overture, not having been approved by a majority of Presbyteries and State Assemblies, was discharged. Committee.  
Returns,  
*ex-officio*  
Members.

The Returns on the Remit relative to Rules for the Reception of Ministers were laid on the table. Reception of  
Ministers.

The words "or a Presbytery" were inserted in Section A after the word "Assemblies."

The Rules as thus amended were approved and declared to be the Rules of the Church under Article IX. Addition to  
Article IX.

Scrutineer : Mr.  
John Kirkland.

**36. MR. JOHN KIRKLAND** was appointed as an additional Scrutineer.

Communication:  
Colonial Com-  
mittee of Church  
of Scotland.

**37. THE COMMUNICATION** from the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland was laid on the table.

It was agreed to receive the letter, and instruct the Convener of the Committee on Reception of Ministers to communicate with the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland regarding it.

Hours of  
meeting.

**38. THE ASSEMBLY** agreed to meet to-morrow from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and on Monday at the usual hours.

Returns :  
Procedure in  
Discipline.

**39. THE RETURNS** on the Remit relative to Procedure in regard to Discipline were laid on the table.

The word "thereby" was inserted in Rule 12 after the word "is" in line 5.

The word "communicants" was substituted for the word "members" in Rule 25, line 1.

The word "after" was inserted before the word "it" in Rule 27, line 3.

The word "expulsion" was deleted from Rule 34, line 2.

The word "for" in line 1 of Rule 36 was moved from before "sine die" to before "any."

The words after the word "removed" in line 2 of Rule 38 were changed to the following—"only by the Presbytery or State Assembly which pronounced the sentence, or by the General Assembly of Australia."

Rules adopted.

The Rules relative to Procedure in regard to Discipline, as thus amended, were adopted and declared to be the law of the Church in this matter.

Return : Rev.  
F. H. L. Paton.

**40. THE RETURN** from the State Assembly of Victoria, relative to the Rev. F. H. L. Paton, was received.

Legal opinion :  
Designation of  
Assemblies.

**41. THE OPINION** of the Law Officers of the Assembly relative to the Remit on Designation of Assemblies was read.

Returns.

A majority both of Presbyteries and State Assemblies having approved the Remit, it was agreed to substitute the word "State" for the word "local" wherever the latter occurs in the Articles of Agreement in connection with the Designation of Assemblies.

Report :  
Scrutineers.

**42. THE REPORT** of the Scrutineers was received, and the result of the ballot announced.

The members of the Judicial Commission, the Board of Missions, the Assessors and the members of the various Standing Committees were elected by the General Assembly. Election of Standing Committees.

[For list of Standing Committees, Judicial Commission, Board of Missions, and Special Committees, see pages 39 to 42].

**43.** THE REPORT of the Judicial Commission was submitted by Dr. Bruce, and was received. Report :  
Judicial  
Commission.

**44.** THE REPORT of the Committee on Public Questions was submitted by Dr. Bruce. The Report was adopted. Report :  
Public  
Questions.

The Moderator, the Clerk, Revs. J. Walker, Dr. Paton, Dr. Meiklejohn, R. Mitchell, H. C. Matthew, R. H. Roberts, W. Gray, and Mr. W. Affleck, and the Hon. James Balfour were appointed to wait on the Prime Minister and protest in the name of the Assembly against the deportation of Kanakas who have settled in the country, acquired property, have married, and who are members of the Church. Deputation.  
  
Deportation of  
Kanakas.

**45.** THE REPORT of the College Committee was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, who moved :— Report :  
College  
Committee.

That the Assembly receive the Report.

Agree to pass the Syllabus for the Entrance Examination for 1907 and 1908, and agree to leave the completion of the Exit Examination for 1907 in the hands of the Committee. Deliverance

Approve of the effort to have arrangements made for the securing degrees in Divinity for students in the Commonwealth, and instruct the Committee to take such steps as may seem to them wise and needful to attain the end in view.

Agree to remit the question of the difference of the length of study in particular subjects to the Senatus of each of the two Halls for consideration.

Agree to appoint the following as Examiners for Entrance Examination :—For Scripture, Revs. J. F. Macrae, A. Stuart McCook, B.A.; for English, Revs. A. R. Osborn, M.A., W. J. Holt, M.A.; for Hebrew, Revs. J. V. McNair, David Smith, M.A.; for History, Revs. G. Davidson, M.A., D. Macrae Stewart; for Philosophy, Revs. J. Gray, B.D., F. E. Ozer, B.D.

For the Exit Examination :—For Hebrew, Revs. J. Cosh, B.D., Hugh Burns, B.D.; for Church History, Revs. S. Fraser, M.A., R. Scott West; for Theology, Right Rev. P. J. Murdoch, M.A.,

Rev. John Auld, M.A. ; for New Testament Greek, Revs. John Gillies, B.D., R. Evan Davies, B.A. ; for Apologetic, Revs. W. G. Maconochie, M.A., R. G. Macintyre, M.A., B.D.

Further appoint the Rev. J. Kemp Bruce as Chairman of New South Wales Section, the Convener as Chairman of Victorian Section, and the Rev. J. Mathew, B.D., as Joint-Convener.

It was agreed that Dr. Meiklejohn be allowed to incorporate in his Report the Reports of St. Andrew's College and of Ormond College.

Notice of  
Motion : Art. III.

**46.** THE REV. A. STEWART gave notice of his intention to move :—That the following Overture be sent to State Assemblies and Presbyteries with instructions to report their consent or otherwise to next Assembly :—

It is humbly overtured by the undersigned that Article No. III. of the Articles of Agreement of this Church be amended by adding the following words :—Provided nevertheless that in addition to the members of Assembly hereinbefore mentioned, the Home and Foreign Mission Agents of the Church for the time being shall be *ex officio* members of the Assembly.

A. STEWART.

Notice :  
John Knox  
Celebration.

**47.** THE RIGHT REV. THE MODERATOR intimated that this evening a celebration of the John Knox quater-centenary would be held in Town Hall, Melbourne, the Right Rev. the Moderator to preside, and the Revs. W. S. Macqueen, J. Ferguson, and J. S. Rentoul, D.D., to address the meeting.

Adjournment.

**48.** THE ASSEMBLY adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 11 a.m., which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

#### FIFTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on Saturday, the 23rd day of September, 1905, at 11 a.m.*

Assembly  
constituted.

**49.** THE ASSEMBLY met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scriptures, and prayer by the Moderator.

Minutes  
confirmed.

**50.** THE MINUTES of the Fourth Sederunt were read and confirmed.

**51.** THE REV. A. SKENE gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move the following motions relative to (1) the Entrance Examination and (2) the Reception of Ministers :—

Notice of Motion :  
Rev. A. Skene

(1) That, as eligibility for attending the Entrance Examination of the Theological Hall, Ormond College, by having passed through the Home Missionaries' Course of Training terminated with students commencing such course not later than June, 1904, and as the proposed new curriculum for Home Missionaries will not materially differ from the curriculum still being followed in Victoria, the General Assembly resolve that, until the new curriculum comes into operation, all Home Missionaries qualifying under the existing course of training in Victoria shall be eligible to sit for the Entrance Examination of the Theological Hall when they have completed the Home Mission Course.

Entrance Examination.

(2) Receive the Report

Confirm the action of the Committee in granting the petition of the Minister and Congregation of the Congregational Church, Devonport, to be received into the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Reception of Ministers.

Confirm the action of the Home Mission and Church Extension Committee of the Church of Queensland in receiving the Rev. James Manwill Rodgers Dale, the Rev. Samuel Martin, and Mr. Allan Macdonald Mackinnon.

Grant the petition of the Rev. D. MacFarlane to be received as an ordained Minister.

Condone the irregularity of the Presbytery of the Hawkesbury in inducting the Rev. Robert Alexander Redmond, B.A., to the Charge of Leura and Wentworth Falls without his being first received into the Church of Australia, and declare his induction valid.

Grant the petition of Rev. G. D. Lee to be reinstated a Minister of the Church.

Grant the petition of the Rev. Charles Taylor to be received as a Minister of the Church, and declare him eligible at once for a call.

Grant the petition of the Rev. Charles Edward James to be received into the Ministry of the Church, and declare him eligible at once for a call.

Grant the petition of the Rev. J. H. MacGoun to be received as a Minister in full standing.

Grant the petition of Mr. W. Tulloch, and authorise the Presbytery of Hobart to grant him license with a view to his ordination



and induction into the Pastoral Charge of Queenstown, stipulating that after ordination he remain not less than three years in Queenstown.

Resolution :  
Importation of  
Opium.

**52.** THE REV. W. FRASER moved the motion, relative to the importation of Opium, of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minutes of Second Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. S. Pollock, and approved; and the Right Rev. W. S. Rolland and Rev. J. S. Pollock were appointed to represent the Assembly on the public deputation which is to interview the Premier on this question.

Resolution :  
Art. X.

**53.** THE REV. DR. MEIKLEJOHN moved the motion, relative to Article X. of the Articles of Agreement, of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the Third Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. John Walker, and approved; and the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn and the Rev. John Walker were appointed to nominate the Committee at a future Sederunt.

Report :  
S.S. Hymnary.

**54.** THE REPORT of the Sabbath School Hymnary Committee was received.

It was agreed to appoint the Revs. D. Macrae Stewart and J. T. Robertson to nominate the Committee for this year and to report to a future Sederunt.

Resolution :  
S.S. Hymnary.

**55.** THE REV. J. T. ROBERTSON moved the motion, of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the Fourth Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. W. H. Ash, and approved.

Resolution :  
*Ex-officio*  
Members.  
Art. III.

**56.** IN THE absence of the Rev. A. Stewart, and by leave of the House, the Rev. John Walker moved the motion of which Mr. Stewart had given notice in the following form :—

That the General Assembly agree to send down to Presbyteries and State Assemblies for their approval or disapproval the following Overture on Home Mission Agents as *ex officio* members of the General Assembly :—

Overture :  
Art. III.

Whereas it is very desirable that the Home and Foreign Mission Agents of the General Assembly for the time being should be *ex officio* Members of Assembly, it is hereby humbly overtured by the undersigned, being members of this Assembly, to the Venerable the

General Assembly of the Church of Australia, to take these premises into consideration and to enact that in addition to the members of Assembly mentioned in Article III. of the Articles of Agreement of this Church, the Home and Foreign Mission Agents be *ex officio* members :—Alex. Stewart, Ronald G. Macintyre, John Walker, John Ferguson, Hume Robertson, W. Gray, J. A. Hugh Balfour.

Remit.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. R. G. Macintyre, and approved.

**57.** THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE were instructed to arrange for a Statement upon the Institutional Church on Monday evening, and to make Addresses on Foreign Missions an order of the day for 8 o'clock the same evening.

Instructions to Business Committees.

**58.** MR. WILLIAM WOOD gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move :—

Notice of Motion : Designation of Moderator.

That the Assembly resolve that the official title of the Moderator shall be "The Right Reverend the Moderator-General."

Further, that a communication be sent by the Clerks immediately after the election, giving the name, address, and official title of the Moderator to (1) the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor-General ; (2) the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of each State ; (3) to the Chief Secretary of each State.

**59.** THE ASSEMBLY adjourned to meet on Monday at 11 a.m., which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

Adjournment.

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## SIXTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on Monday, the 25th day of September, 1905, at 11 a.m.*

**60.** THE ASSEMBLY met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scriptures, and prayer by the Moderator.

Assembly constituted.

**61.** THE MINUTES of the Fifth Sederunt were read and confirmed.

Minutes confirmed.

**62.** THE REPORT of the Business Committee was approved.

Report : Business Committee.

Notice of  
Motion :  
Commissions, &c

**63.** THE REV. DR. MEIKLEJOHN gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move the following motions relative (1) to Commissions and (2) to Meetings of Committees:—

1. That Commissions of this Assembly be granted only to Members ; and that the Business Committee, together with the Moderator, be empowered to issue them.

2. (a) That the Convener of the Business Committee appointed to arrange for the Assembly business arrange for a meeting in April of such Committees as the Conveners may wish to summon.

(b) That the members of these Committees in the States other than the State in which the Committees meet appoint not more than two of their number to represent them.

(c) That the expenses of the members be paid, where the expenses do not exceed £5 ; and when the expenses exceed this sum £5 be paid towards them.

(d) That the business done at these meetings be submitted to the Committee Meetings held prior to the Assembly for revision and approval.

Re Resolution  
anent Opium.

**64.** IT WAS AGREED that a copy of the resolution relative to the importation of Opium be sent to the Prime Minister.

Report :  
Finance.

**65.** THE REPORT of the Finance Committee was submitted by Colonel Goodlet, who moved :—

Deliverance.

Receive the Report.

Authorise the payment of expenses of Assembly on the same basis as formerly, namely :—

That members attending the General Assembly in September, 1905, have the following percentage of their travelling expenses (calculated upon the basis of second-class return railway fares) paid by the Church, namely : (a) those paying less than £1, nothing ; (b) those paying from £1 to £4, to receive half ; (c) those paying £4 upwards, to receive three-quarters, provided that no one in class (b) shall pay less than £1 himself, and no one in class (c) less than £2.

Authorise the assessments for the General Assembly Expenses Fund on the same basis as formerly, namely :—New South Wales, £40 ; Victoria, £40 ; Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania, each £13 6s. 8d., and Western Australia, £10 per annum.

Resolve to forward the sum of £55 received from the Presbyterian Church in England as follows :—£27 10s. to the Presbyterian Church of Western Australia ; £27 10s. to the Presbyterian Church in Queensland for Bush Work, and that the thanks of the Assembly be accorded to the Presbyterian Church in England for their liberal donation.

Authorise the transfer of the sum of £6 13s. 3d. from the Foreign Missions Fund Account to Travelling Expenses Account, as part refund of travelling expenses incurred.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. Ferguson, and approved.

**66.** THE following Supplementary Report was submitted by the Rev. J. Ferguson, on behalf of the Home Mission Committee :—

Report :  
Home Missions.  
Supplementary.

The Home Mission Committee resolved to recommend that the Assembly should determine as follows :—

Resolution.

In regard to all recognised Home Mission Agents at present at work under the Home Mission Committees in all the States throughout the Commonwealth, it be resolved that they be accepted as students, under the Assembly's scheme for the training of Home Mission Agents, and also that it be remitted to the College Committee to grade the said students with respect to their position under the Assembly's Scheme.

To establish a Home Mission station at Thursday Island ; that the Home Mission Committee of Queensland be left to initiate the movement ; and, further, that it be a recommendation to the State Assemblies to give authority to their respective Home Mission Committees to make such grants in aid of this movement as they may find practicable from the funds at their disposal.

Thursday Island.

It was moved by the Rev. J. Ferguson, and seconded by the Rev. John Walker :—That the Report be received and approved.

The motion was approved.

**67.** THE REPORT on the *Record* was submitted by the Right Rev. W. S. Rolland, who moved :—That the Report be received and approved.

Report : *Record*.

That the following Committee appointed for this year :  
Right Rev. W. S. Rolland (Convener), Revs. J. Heyer, H. C. Mathew, R. H. Roberts, G. C. Love, D. McKay Barnet ; Messrs. T. W. Fleming, H. H. Kemp, F. A. Moseley, W. Walker, C. Paterson, R. J. Shilliday.

Committee.

S. Schools and  
Religion and  
Morals  
Committee.

**68.** THE following were appointed the Committee on Sabbath Schools and Religion and Morals :—Right Rev. W. S. Rolland (Convener); Revs. Dr. Meiklejohn, John Walker, W. G. Maconochie, M.A., J. T. Robertson, M.A., R. H. Roberts, R. Hope Waugh, M.A., G. Davidson, M.A., John Gray, B.D., W. Sweyn Macqueen, John Russell (Fas.), Dr. Walker-Smith; Messrs. David Walker, James Hugh Balfour, M. McGillivray, Duncan Love, A. Stewart (Brisbane), F. McDonald, M.L.A., A. H. Bryson, Hon. James Murdoch, M.L.C.

S.S. Hymnary  
Committee.

**69.** THE following were appointed the Sabbath School Hymnary Committee :—Rev. D. Macrae Stewart (Convener); Revs. Hume Robertson, T. J. Smith, J. T. Robertson, John Walker, R. E. Davies, W. H. Ash, Robt. Mitchell (S.A.), W. Mathew, F. E. Oxer, J. Heyer, W. S. Macqueen, Joseph Lundie; Messrs. Neil Black, W. Wishart, Lachlan Fraser, J. Macintyre, P. D. McCormick, David Ensart, M. F. Culliford, Robert Robertson, W. F. Greenwood.

Reports on  
Petitions from  
Students.

**70.** THE REPORT on the Petitions from Students was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, who moved :—

Mr. A. M. Ogilvie

1. That the Petition of Mr. A. M. Ogilvie be granted; but that the case be regarded as a wholly exceptional case, and shall not be made a precedent. Further, that the Presbytery of New England be instructed to take Mr. Ogilvie on trials for license.

Mr. G. Cranston.

2. That the Petition of Mr. G. Cranston be granted.

Mr. J. C. Gibson.

3. That the Petition of Mr. J. C. Graham be granted.

Mr. J. Anderson.

4. That with regard to the Petition of Mr. James Anderson, the Presbytery of New England be instructed to make inquiry with reference to his character and standing in the Church during the twenty years referred to in the Petition, and in the event of these being found satisfactory by the Presbytery, the prayer of the Petition be granted.

Mr. J. T. Kelly.

5. That the Petition of Mr. J. T. Kelly be granted.

Mr. J. F. Sims.

6. That the Petition of Mr. J. F. Sims be remitted to the College Committees to deal with according to circumstances as they emerge.

Mr. F.V. Charlton

7. That the Petition of Mr. F. V. Charlton be granted.

Mr. W. Bett.

8. That the Petition of Mr. William Bett be sent to the Theological Hall Committee of Ormond College, with power to deal with it.

260-1  
260-2  
260-4

9. That the Petition of Mr. F. L. A. Schloeffel be granted. Mr. F. L. A. Schloeffel.
10. That the Petition of Mr. J. A. Lee be not granted. Mr. J. A. Lee.
11. That the Petition of Mr. R. B. Garner be not granted. Mr. R. B. Garner.
12. That the Assembly regard the Petition of Mr. R. B. Osborne with favour, and empower the College Committee to deal with it according to the circumstances as they emerge. Mr. R. B. Osborne
13. That the Petition of Mr. H. O'Sullivan be not granted. Mr. H. O'Sullivan

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Jno. Walker, and approved.

**71. THE OVERTURES** from Western Australia and from Tasmania were received and discharged, as having been dealt with under the Report of the Home Mission Committee. Overtures discharged.

**72. THE MOTION** of which Mr. W. Wood gave notice, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the Fifth Sederunt, was withdrawn. Motion : Designation of Moderator

It was agreed to remit the question of the official designation of the Moderator of the General Assembly of Australia to the Committee relative to the nomination of the Moderator, with instructions to report to next Assembly. Remit

**73. THE REPORT** of the Committee on the Reception of Ministers was submitted by the Rev. A. Skene, who moved :— Report : Reception of Ministers.

Receive the Report.

Confirm the action of the Committee in granting the Petition of the Minister and Congregation of the Congregational Church, Devonport, to be received into the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Petition Devonport Congregation.

Confirm the action of the Home Mission and Church Extension Committee of the Church of Queensland in receiving the Rev. James Maxwell Rodgers Dale, the Rev. Samuel Martin, and Mr. Allan Macdonald Mackillop. Rev. J. M. R. Dale, Rev. S. Martin, Mr. A. M. Mackillop.

Grant the Petition of the Rev. D. McFarlane to be received as an ordained Minister. Rev. D. McFarlane.

In view of the exceptional circumstances condone the irregularity of the Presbytery of the Hawkesbury in inducting the Rev. Robert Alexander Redmond, B.A., to the Charge of Leura and Wentworth Falls without his being first received into the Church of Australia, and declare his induction valid. Rev. R. A. Redwood.

Rev. G. D. Lee. That the Petition of Rev. G. D. Lee to be reinstated a Minister of the Church be referred to the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, with power to deal with it.

Rev. C. Taylor. Grant the Petition of the Rev. Charles Taylor to be received as a Minister of the Church, and declare him eligible at once for a call, provided he remain for at least three years in the service of the Western Australian Church.

Rev. C. E. James. Grant the Petition of the Rev. Charles Edward James to be received into the Ministry of the Church, and declare him eligible at once for a call.

Rev. J. H. MacGoun. Grant the Petition of the Rev. J. H. Macgoun to be received as a Minister in full standing.

Mr. W. Tulloch. Grant the Petition of Mr. W. Tulloch, and authorise the Presbytery of Launceston to grant him license with a view to his ordination, stipulating that after ordination he remain not less than three years in the service of the Tasmanian Church.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Bruce, and approved.

Resignation of Rev. A. Skene. The Rev. A. Skene intimated his resignation of the Convener-ship of the Committee on the Reception of Ministers.

Rev. Dr. MacInnes appointed. The resignation was accepted, and the Rev. Dr. MacInnes was appointed Convener.

Date of next Assembly : Resolution. **74.** IT WAS AGREED that the General Assembly hold its next meeting in St. Stephen's Church, Sydney, on the fourth Wednesday in September, 1906, at 7 p.m.

Business Committee. **75.** IT WAS MOVED by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, and seconded by Mr. R. J. Shilliday :—That a Business Committee be appointed to prepare the White Book for next Assembly, and to make arrangements for Assembly Meetings specially interesting to the public.

That the Committee consist of :—Revs. R. G. Macintyre, Dr. Clouston, Dr. Laing, John Walker, Dr. MacInnes, and Mr. Wm. Wood. Rev. R. G. Macintyre, Convener.

The motion was approved.

Notice of Motion : Rev. W. Gray. **76.** THE REV. W. GRAY gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

That the scale of payment of expenses of members of Assembly and the possibility of increasing the revenue of the fund be remitted

to the Finance Committee for consideration and report to next Assembly.

**77.** THE REV. DR. RENTOUL gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

Notice of  
Motion :  
Resignation of  
Professor  
Macdonald.

The Assembly hear with deep regret the announcement of Dr. Macdonald's intended resignation of his two-fold Chair of Church History and Systematic Theology.

Though the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria have not yet dealt with that resignation, this Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia desire to express their deep sense of the great services Dr. Macdonald has rendered to the Church, to the Theological Hall, Ormond College, Melbourne, and to the training of the Church's ministry.

Express sincere regret at the prospect of the flight of time and the wear of years causing Dr. Macdonald to separate himself from high and sacred work which has been to him an object of intense love, and into which he has thrown ungrudgingly his life's energy and powers.

The Assembly assure Dr. Macdonald of their great esteem, their brotherly regard, and their unfailing confidence.

**78.** THE PRESBYTERY of Geelong applied for authority to meet to-morrow at 1 o'clock.

Presbytery  
Meeting.

The Board of Management of Healesville Congregation applied for authority to meet to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock.

Committee of  
Management.

The authority in each case was granted.

**79.** THE ASSEMBLY adjourned to meet this evening at 7 o'clock, which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

Adjournment.

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### SEVENTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on Monday, the 25th day of September, 1905, at 7 p.m.*

**80.** THE ASSEMBLY met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scriptures, and prayer by the Moderator.

Assembly  
constituted.



Notice of  
Motion :  
Rev. W. Gray.

**81.** THE REV. W. GRAY gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move :—

That Conveners of Standing Committees hold office from one Assembly to the next.

That the Selection Committee nominate Conveners for each Standing Committee, when nominating members for such Committees. In the event of additional nominations being made by members of the Assembly, the election shall be determined by ballot.

And that this resolution come into force at next Assembly.

Report : Business  
Committee.

**82.** THE REPORT of the Business Committee was approved.

Address :  
Institutional  
Church.

**83.** ACCORDING to arrangement, an address on "The Institutional Church" was delivered by the Rev. J. Ferguson.

Thanks.

The thanks of the Assembly were conveyed by the Moderator to Rev. J. Ferguson for his interesting address.

Report : Foreign  
Missions.

**84.** THE REPORT on Foreign Missions was submitted by the Rev. T. R. Cairns, and received.

Addresses.

Addresses on "Foreign Missions" were delivered by the Rev. Dr. J. G. Paton; by Dr. D. Macdonald on "French Aggression"; by the Rev. J. Gillan on "Work on the New Hebrides Islands at Present"; by the Rev. W. S. Macqueen on "Mission Work in Queensland"; and by the Rev. John Walker.

Thanks.

The thanks of the Assembly were conveyed, by the Moderator, to the various speakers.

The consideration of the Report was postponed.

Adjournment.

**85.** THE ASSEMBLY adjourned to meet to-morrow at 11 a.m., which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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#### EIGHTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on Tuesday, the 26th day of September, 1905, at 11 a.m.*

Assembly  
constituted.

**86.** THE ASSEMBLY met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scriptures, and prayer by the Moderator.

**87.** THE MINUTES of the Sixth and Seventh Sederunts were read and confirmed. Minutes confirmed.

**88.** THE REPORT of the *Year Book* Committee was submitted, in the absence of the Convener, by the Convener of the Business Committee. Report :  
*Year Book*.

It was agreed to thank the Convener and the Publishers for their services, and to discharge the Committee. Committee discharged.

**89.** THE REPORT of the Committee on the Federation of Protestant Churches was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Clouston, who moved :— Report :  
Federation of  
Protestant  
Churches.

Receive the Report, and re-appoint the Committee with certain changes. Deliberance.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Jno. Walker, and approved ; and the Committee appointed as follows :—

Rev. T. E. Clouston, D.D. ; Revs. J. Kemp Bruce, Professor Harper, D.D., James Lamont, George MacInnes, D.D., John Walker, R. Scott West, R. H. Waugh, M.A., C. A. White, B.A., R. E. Davies, B.A., James Kinghorn, John Auld, M.A. ; Colonel Goodlet, Messrs. John Kirkland, William Wood, W. G. Geikie. Committee.

Revs. W. Fraser, W. G. Maconochie, M.A., J. Mathew, B.D., John Meiklejohn, D.D., P. J. Murdoch, M.A., Alexander Stewart, M.A., T. R. Cairns, M.A., Alexander Yule, M.A. ; Hon. W. Anderson, Hon. James Balfour, Messrs. T. J. Finlay, Robert Gillespie, W. F. Greenwood, D. Love.

Revs. G. Davidson, B.D., David Paton, D.D., Robert Thomson ; Messrs. A. H. Bryson, T. W. Fleming, J. Murray.

Revs. Alexander Hay, D.D., W. C. Radcliffe, B.A., R. H. Roberts, Peter Robertson, J. Sinclair, D. McLennan ; Messrs. D. Ewart, George Hall, Alexander S. Lang, A. Mackellar, W. A. Smith, George Stupart.

Revs. C. Jones, F. E. Ozer, B.D., John Russell, A. R. Osborn, M.A., William Beck ; Messrs. F. Burbury, D. McKinnon, Hon. J. Murdoch, Messrs. J. K. Reid, F. Williams, J. Wright.

Revs. Alexander Crow, Alexander McCarlie, H. C. Matthew, J. H. Fordyce ; Dr. S. Macaulay, Messrs. F. McDonald, F. A. Moseley, R. Robertson.

The Moderator, Clerks, and Law Officers, members *ex officio*.  
Rev. Dr. Clouston, Convener.

Report :  
Statistics.

**90.** THE REPORT on Statistics was submitted by the Rev. Hume Robertson, who moved :—

Deliverance.

That the Report be received ; the Convener cordially thanked.

The recommendations of the Committee adopted, and the alterations suggested in the Schedule recommended, together with the notes explanatory of the Schedule.

The motion was seconded by Mr. W. Affleck, and approved.

Resolutions :  
Commissions.

**91.** IT WAS AGREED to issue Commissions to represent this Church in the Courts of the Churches of the Home Lands to the Rev. R. Mitchell and the Rev. R. Scott West.

Report : College  
Committee,  
Supplementary

**92.** A SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT from the College Committee was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, who moved :—

Deliverance.

That for the Entrance Examination to the Theological Halls, Rev. D. McK. Barnet, B.A., and Rev. Dr. D. Paton be appointed Examiners, and that Rev. Robt. Steel, M.A., who has resigned as an Examiner in Greek be thanked for his services :

Further, that in future Students who pass the Exit Examination with 85 p.c., or over, on the aggregate average receive First-class Honours, and that those who have 75 p.c., or over, receive Second-class Honours.

That a special Certificate be printed to be given to Students with Honours, to be signed by the Moderator of the General Assembly of Australia and the Convener of the College Committee.

Hon. Secretary

That the Rev. H. M. Burns, B.D., be appointed Honorary Secretary of the Committee.

And that the results of the Exit Examination be received.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Dr. D. Bruce, and approved.

Address :  
Dr. Cameron.

**93.** THE REV. DR. CAMERON, of Richmond, New South Wales, made a statement regarding the forthcoming History of the Church of New South Wales.

Reports :  
Ormond  
College, St. An-  
drew's College.

**94.** THE REPORT of the Senatus of the Theological Hall, Ormond College, and the Report of the Theological Hall, St. Andrew's College, were received.

Resolution :  
Dr. Macdonald's  
retirement.

**95.** THE REV. DR. RENTOUL moved the motion, of which he had given notice, relative to the retirement of the Rev. Dr. M. Macdonald, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the Sixth Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Cameron, and approved.

**96.** THE consideration of the Report on Foreign Missions was resumed. Report resumed:  
Foreign  
Missions.

It was moved by the Rev. T. R. Cairns, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Clouston :—

That the Assembly thank the Board, and especially the Convener; also the Convener and Committee of Queensland. Deliverance.

Adopt the Report and Balance Sheet.

Rejoice in the excellent service rendered by the Missions Agent of the Church, Rev. F. H. L. Paton, and regret that through ill-health he was obliged to resign, but express gratification that he has been enabled to undertake full ministerial work, after a prolonged rest.

Thank God for the good work being done in North Queensland by our Missionaries, and commend them anew to Divine care and blessing.

Approve heartily of Mr. Hey's generosity in providing a boat for the Aborigines at Mapoon, and express the hope that this may not only be the means of keeping them at the Station, but also of enabling them later on to earn a living for themselves.

Thank the Queensland Government for its generosity to the Mission.

Thank the Commonwealth Government for its generous help in subsidising the Maritime Service, and urge it to encourage the settlement of Australians in the New Hebrides, and to take such steps as may result either in the annexation of the group or in securing their perpetual independence.

Also thank the Treasurer and Hon. Auditor for their services.

Urge all the Churches to increased liberality toward Foreign Missions, and resolve that the salaries and ordinary expenses at North Queensland for next five years—that is, from 30th September, 1905, to 30th September, 1910—shall be paid by an assessment on the basis of membership of the State Churches, also that the present balance of £246 15s. 9d., and the amount owing to the Moravian Board be paid on the same basis, and that the payment be extended over two years from the present date.

Remit: Foreign  
Missions Agent.

Remit to the State Assemblies the question of giving authority to the Foreign Missions Board to appoint a Missions Agent, provided a suitable man can be obtained, and commend most heartily to the blessing and care of God the work of all our Missions.

The motion was approved.

Resignation of  
Convenership.  
Rev. A. Stewart  
appointed.

The Rev. T. R. Cairns intimated his resignation as Convener of the Board of Foreign Missions. The resignation was accepted, and the Rev. A. Stewart was appointed Convener.

Apology.

An Apology for absence was received from the Rev. C. H. Talbot, Convener of the Foreign Missions Committee of the Church of New South Wales.

Remit: Art. VIII.

**97.** THE following Remit, relative to the Articles of Agreement and the scheme for the training of Home Missionaries, was approved, and ordered to be sent down to Presbyteries and State Assemblies for approval or disapproval:—

Remit.

The General Assembly of Australia having resolved, in connection with the scheme for the training of Home Mission Agents, that "where there is no Theological Hall within the State, and attendance at either of the existing Colleges is, in the opinion of the College Committee, impracticable, it shall be in the power of the College Committee to appoint a special course of study, with periodical examinations in Theological, Biblical, and Apologetic subjects," send down to Presbyteries and State Assemblies this resolution with the object of having the resolution enacted as an addition to paragraph 1 of Article VIII. of the Articles of Agreement in the deed of Union, and in the same Articles to add to the introductory paragraph of Article VIII. the words "except as hereinafter provided."

Resolution:  
Expenses of  
Members.

**98.** THE REV. W. GRAY moved the motion, of which he had given notice, relative to the Expenses of Members, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the Seventh Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, and approved.

Resolution:  
Commissions to  
Members.

**99.** THE REV. DR. MEIKLEJOHN moved the motion, of which he had given notice, in the following form:—

That Commissions of this Assembly be granted only to Members; and that the Moderator and the Clerks be appointed a Committee with power to issue Commissions.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. A. Yule, and approved

**100.** THE REV. R. PHILP, President of the Methodist Church, the Rev. Dr. Gosman, Minister of the St. Augustine Congregational Church, Hawthorn, the Rev. S. C. Kent, of the Church of England, and the Rev. J. G. Wheen, Secretary of the Methodist Conference, deputies from the Council of Churches, were welcomed by the Moderator, and addressed the Assembly.

Deputation :  
Council of the  
Churches.

It was moved by the Rev. R. G. Macintyre, and seconded by the Rev. D. Macrae Stewart :—

That the General Assembly warmly welcome the deputies from the Council of Churches, and thank them for the words they have spoken. The Assembly cordially reciprocate the brotherly feeling expressed on behalf of the Churches represented in the Council, and pray that, working together under one Lord and in one spirit, they and we may have the rich blessing of God upon us.

Thanks

The motion was carried by acclamation, and the thanks of the Assembly were conveyed to the deputies by the Moderator.

**101.** THE REV. DR. MEIKLEJOHN moved the motion, relative to meetings of Committees, of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the Sixth Sederunt.

Resolution :  
Meetings of  
Committees.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. W. Gray, and approved.

**102.** THE REV. W. GRAY moved the motion, relative to Conveners of Committees, of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the Seventh Sederunt.

Resolution :  
Convenerships.

The motion was seconded by Mr. W. Affleck and approved.

**103.** THE REV. J. T. ROBERTSON was added to the Committee on the Federation of Protestant Churches.

Rev. J. T.  
Robertson.

**104.** IT WAS MOVED by the Rev. R. G. Macintyre, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Clouston :—

Thanks for  
Hospitality.

That the General Assembly desires to cordially thank the Hospitality Committee of the Church of Victoria, the ladies of the Presbyterian Women's Missions Union, for their most kind hospitality, and the ladies and gentlemen who offered private hospitality to members of Assembly.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

**105.** THE MINUTES of the Eighth Sederunt were read and confirmed.

Minutes  
confirmed.

Closing Address. **106.** THE BUSINESS of the General Assembly now being concluded, the Moderator delivered a brief closing address.

Assembly closed.

**107.** THE ASSEMBLY joined in singing the last three verses of the 122nd Psalm, after which the Moderator having intimated that, in pursuance of the General Assembly's appointment, the next General Assembly of Australia will be holden in St. Stephen's Church, Sydney, on Wednesday, the 26th day of September, 1906, at 7 p.m., the Session was closed with the Benediction.

Signed in the name and by authority of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

P. J. MURDOCH, M.A., Moderator.

GEORGE TAIT, M.A., Clerk.

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## APPENDIX.

### COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES.

##### I.—JUDICIAL COMMISSION.

Rev. John Auld, M.A.	Rev. David Paton, D.D.
David Bruce, D.D.	Professor Rentoul, D.D.
John Burgess, M.A.	R. H. Roberts
T. R. Cairns	Peter Robertson
T. F. Clouston, D.D.	John Russell
W. Gray	Alexander Stewart, M.A.
Principal Harper	George Tait, M.A.
Alexander Hay, D.D.	Alexander Yule, M.A.
James S. Laing, D.D.	Mr. William Affleck
J. C. McDonald, M.A.	John A. Aitken
Professor Macdonald, D.D.	Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C.
George MacInnes, D.D.	Mr. J. M. Campbell
R. G. Macintyre, B.D.	F. J. Finlay
S. G. McLaren, M.A.	T. W. Fleming
W. Sweyn Macqueen	R. Gillespie
A. Marshall, D.D.	Colonel Goodlet
J. Meiklejohn, D.D.	Mr. A. S. Lang
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	F. A. Moseley

THE RIGHT REV. THE MODERATOR, Chairman.

##### II.—BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Rev. W. M. M. Alexander	Rev. W. Sweyn Macqueen
T. R. Cairns	H. C. Matthew, M.A.
T. E. Clouston, D.D.	John G. Paton, D.D.
James Cosh, B.D.	David Paton, D.D.
W. Fraser	Alexander Stewart, M.A.
J. Gibson (Queensland)	C. H. Talbot
W. Gray	Mr. A. Byers
Andrew Hardie, M.A.	Colonel Goodlet
J. Heyer, M.A.	Mr. F. A. Moseley
James Lamont, F.L.S.	

REV. ALEXANDER STEWART, Convener.

##### III.—THE CODE.

Rev. John Auld, M.A.	Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.
John Burgess, M.A.	Peter Robertson
W. H. Cooper, B.D.	John Russell
J. H. Fordyce, M.A.	George Tait, M.A.
Elder Gray, D.D.	Mr. John A. Aitken
W. Gray	J. M. Campbell
Henry J. Lambert, M.A.	John Kirkland
James S. Laing, D.D.	D. Storrer, M.P.
George MacInnes, D.D.	The Procurator
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	

THE CLERKS, Joint-Conveners.



## IV.—THE COLLEGE.

Rev. J. Kemp-Bruce	Rev. F. E. Oxer, B.D.
John Burgess, M.A.	David Paton, D.D.
John Ferguson	Robert Steel, M.A.
Alexander Hay, D.D.	Alexander Stewart, M.A.
Henry J. Lambert, M.A.	George Tait, M.A.
Joseph Lundie, B.A.	R. Scott West
J. Mathew, B.D.	Alexander Yule, M.A.
J. Meiklejohn, D.D.	Mr. James Dawson, M.A.
A. S. Osborn	John Marden, LL.D.

Together with the Professors and Lecturers, members *ex officio*.

REVS. DR. MEIKLEJOHN and J. MATHEW, Joint-Conveners.  
REV. J. KEMP BRUCE, Convener, New South Wales Section.

## V.—HOME MISSION.

Rev. William Beck	Rev. P. J. Murdoch, M.A.
David Bruce, D.D.	R. Murray
D. A. Cameron, M.A.	F. E. Oxer, B.D.
T. E. Clouston, D.D.	W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.
John Ferguson	J. Sinclair
Principal Harper, D.D.	D. B. Smith, M.A.
M. Johnstone	John Walker
Henry J. Lambert, M.A.	Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C.
H. C. Matthew, M.A.	Mr. Wm. Wood
J. Meiklejohn, D.D.	

REVS. JOHN FERGUSON and P. J. MURDOCH, Joint-Conveners.

## VI.—FINANCE.

Rev. Henry J. Lambert, M.A.	Colonel Goodlet
John Walker	Mr. W. J. Hill
Mr. William Affleck	John Kirkland
Hon. W. Anderson	A. S. Lang
Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C.	F. A. Moseley
Mr. J. G. Cramond	Hon. James Murdoch, M.L.C.
Walter G. Crane	Senator J. T. Walker
T. J. Finlay	Mr. W. M. Walker
T. W. Fleming	William Wood
R. Gillespie	

COLONEL GOODLET, Convener

## VII.—RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

Rev. John Auld, M.A.	Rev. George MacInnes, D.D.
David Bruce, D.D.	J. G. Millar
T. E. Clouston, D.D.	W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.
G. Davidson, M.A.	J. T. Robertson, M.A.
G. Ewan	Alexander Skene, M.A.
R. Hanlin	Alexander Stewart, M.A.
Principal Harper, D.D.	Alexander Yule, M.A.
James S. Laing, D.D.	Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C.
Henry J. Lambert, M.A.	Mr. John Kirkland
J. C. McDonald, M.A.	

DR. MACINNES, Convener.

## VIII.—STATISTICS.

Rev. Elder Gray, D.D.	Mr. William Affleck
W. Gray	Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C.
James Jackson	Mr. A. Byers
Henry J. Lambert, M.A.	John Cameron
A. McCarlie	Colonel Goodlet
Hume Robertson, M.A.	Mr. George Hall
P. Robertson	A. S. Lang
John Russell	John Kirkland
Robert H. Waugh, M.A.	W. M. Walker
Charles A. White, B.A.	

REVS. HUME ROBERTSON and C. A. WHITE, Joint-Conveners.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

## I.—THE RECORD.

Rev. D. McKay Barnet, B.A.	Mr. T. W. Fleming
J. Heyer, M.A.	H. H. Kemp
George C. Love, B.D.	F. A. Moseley
H. C. Matthew, M.A.	C. Paterson
R. H. Roberts	R. S. Shilliday
W. S. Rolland	W. M. Walker

REV. W. S. ROLLAND, Convener.

## II.—FEDERATION OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES.

Rev. John Auld, M.A.	Rev. John Walker
J. Kemp Bruce	Robert H. Waugh, M.A.
T. E. Clouston, D.D.	R. Scott West
R. E. Davies, B.A.	Charles A. White, B.A.
Principal Harper, D.D.	Mr. Walter G. Geikie
James Kinghorn	Colonel Goodlet
James Lamont	Mr. John Kirkland
George MacInnes, D.D.	William Wood
Rev. T. R. Cairns	Rev. Alexander Yule, M.A.
W. Fraser	Hon. William Anderson
W. G. Maconochie, M.A.	Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C.
J. Mathew, B.D.	Mr. T. J. Finlay
John Meiklejohn, D.D.	Robert Gillespie
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	W. F. Greenwood
J. T. Robertson	D. Love
Alexander Stewart, M.A.	
Rev. Alexander Hay, D.D.	Mr. D. Ewart
D. McLennan	George Hall
W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.	Alexander S. Lang
R. H. Roberts	A. Mackellar
Peter Robertson	W. A. Smith
J. Sinclair	George Stupart
Rev. G. Davidson, B.D.	Mr. A. H. Bryson
David Paton, D.D.	T. W. Fleming
Robert Thomson	J. Murray
Rev. W. Beck	Mr. D. McKinnon
C. Jones	Hon. J. Murdoch, M.L.C.
A. R. Osborn	Mr. J. K. Reid
F. E. Oxer, B.D.	F. Williams
John Russell	J. Wright
Mr. F. Banbury	
Rev. Alexander Crow	Dr. S. Macaulay
J. H. Fordyce	Mr. F. McDonald
H. C. Matthew	F. A. Moseley
Alexander McCarlie	R. Robertson

The Moderator, Clerks, and Law Officers, members *ex officio*.

DR. CLOUSTON, Convener.

## III.—PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

Rev. the Moderator	Rev. Professor Rentoul, D.D.
David Bruce, D.D.	C. H. Talbot
John Burgess, M.A.	Alexander Yule, M.A.
T. E. Clouston, D.D.	Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C.
John Ferguson	Mr. John Cameron
Principal Harper, D.D.	T. W. Fleming
David Paton, D.D.	Colonel Goodlet

With the Clerks, and the Moderators and Clerks of the State Assemblies.

The Executive to consist of the members from the State to which the Moderator belongs.

THE MODERATOR, Convener.

## IV.—SABBATH SCHOOL HYMNARY.

Rev. W. H. Ash	Rev. T. J. Smith
R. E. Davies, B.A.	John Walker
J. Heyer, M.A.	Neil Black
Joseph Lundie, B.A.	Mr. M. F. Culliford
W. Sweyn Macqueen	Lachlan Fraser
W. Mathew	W. F. Greenwood
Robert Mitchell (S.A.)	J. Macintyre
F. E. Oxe, B.D.	P. D. McCormick
Hume Robertson, M.A.	Robert Robertson
J. T. Robertson, M.A.	W. Wishart
D. Macrae Stewart	
REV. D. MACRAE STEWART, Convener.	

## V.—SABBATH SCHOOLS AND RELIGION AND MORALS.

Rev. G. Davidson, M.A.	Rev. Robert H. Waugh, M.A.
John Gray, B.D.	Mr. J. Hugh Balfour
W. G. Maconochie	A. H. Bryson
W. Sweyn Macqueen	Duncan Love
J. Meiklejohn, D.D.	J. McDonald, M.L.A.
R. H. Roberts	M. McGillivray
J. T. Robertson, M.A.	Hon. James Murdoch, M.L.C.
W. S. Rolland	Dr. Walker-Smith
John Russell	Mr. Alexander Stewart (Brisbane)
John Walker	David Walker
REV. W. S. ROLLAND, Convener.	

## VI.—RIGHTFUL SUBJECTS OF BAPTISM.

Rev. T. E. Clouston, D.D.	_____
John Meiklejohn, D.D.	_____
Alexander Stewart, M.A.	_____
DR. MEIKLEJOHN, Convener.	

## VII.—BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

Rev. T. E. Clouston, D.D.	Rev. R. G. Macintyre, B.D.
James S. Laing, D.D.	John Walker
George MacInnes, D.D.	Mr. William Wood
REV. R. G. MACINTYRE, Convener.	

## VIII.—SITES IN FEDERAL CAPITAL.

Hon. William Anderson	Colonel Goodlet
Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C.	Mr. William Wood
MR. WILLIAM WOOD, Convener.	

## IX.—TO NOMINATE THE MODERATOR OF NEXT ASSEMBLY.

The Moderator and the ex-Moderators of the General Assembly and the Moderators of the State Assemblies who are in office.  
THE MODERATOR, Convener.

# REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

AND OTHER PAPERS

PRESENTED TO THE

General Assembly of Australia.



MELBOURNE, SEPTEMBER, 1905.

FOURTH SESSION.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

## (1.) REPLY TO ADDRESS TO LORD TENNYSON.

Adelaide, January 20th, 1904.

REVEREND SIR,—I desire to convey to you, the Ministers and Elders, and Members of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, my sincere thanks for your expression of loyalty to His Majesty the King, and for your very kind appreciation of my work during my tenure of the responsible office of Governor-General.

It has afforded me great pleasure to see the good work done by the Presbyterian Church in all parts of Australia.

Lady Tennyson and I leave Australia with real regret, and we are very grateful to you for your good wishes for our welfare.

TENNYSON,  
GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

## (2.) REPLY TO ADDRESS TO LORD NORTHCOTE.

Melbourne, January 28th, 1904.

MR. DAVIDSON,—May I ask you to convey to the Ministers, Elders, and Members of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia my deep appreciation of the welcome you extend, as representatives of the Presbyterians of the whole Commonwealth, to Lady Northcote and myself on our taking up our residence amongst you? It is my earnest hope that I may be able to justify to some small extent the confidence you so generously repose in me; and I trust that the Almighty may be graciously pleased to listen to your prayers for my guidance in the performance of my duties to the Commonwealth.

NORTHCOTE.

Ministers, Elders and Members,  
General Assembly Presbyterian Church of Australia.  
Presented by Rev. Arthur Davidson, Moderator (Vic.).

## (3.) FROM THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

December 2nd, 1903.

Rev. J. S. Laing, D.D., The Manse, Muswellbrook, Australia.

MY DEAR DR. LAING,—Thank you for your kind note of October 20th, covering the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Our Committee are very grateful to the Assembly for this expression of its appreciation of the Bible Society's work. They feel how much they also are indebted to the Presbyterian Churches all over the world for sympathy and practical help so readily given during the hundred years of the Society's work.

They are specially pleased to know that Sunday, March 6th, is to be observed as Bible Sunday, and are thankful that the appeal is to be made for prayerful interest and the generous gifts of the Church members.

Believe me to be,  
Yours very faithfully,  
JOHN H. RITSON, Secretary.

(4.) FROM THE ALLIANCE OF THE REFORMED CHURCHES HOLDING THE  
PRESBYTERIAN SYSTEM.

25 Christ Church Avenue,  
Brondesbury, London, N.W.  
January, 1905.

Rev. Jas. S. Laing D.D., Senior Clerk General Assembly Presbyterian  
Church of Australia.

DEAR BROTHER.—Will you kindly submit this letter to the next Annual Meeting of the Supreme Court of your Church, and call its attention to the following Resolutions adopted by the General Council of the Alliance which met in Liverpool last June. They refer to the celebration of certain important anniversaries of Reformation events, which the Council considered should not be suffered to pass without suitable remembrance.

Liverpool, June 29th, 1904.

*Inter alia*: "The Business Committee having taken into consideration that the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of John Knox falls in 1905, that the three hundredth anniversary of the death of Theodore Beza falls in the same year, and that the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Calvin falls in 1909, recommends that it be remitted to the Clerks to prepare a suitable Minute on the subject, to be embodied in the Minutes of Council, with a recommendation to the various Churches of the Alliance to commemorate events at suitable time (Proceedings of Council, p. 34).

Liverpool, July 4th, 1904.

*Inter alia*: "Rev. Dr. Roberts now submitted a report from a sub-committee suggesting the observance of certain anniversaries in connection with the Reformation.

"The attention of the Committee has been called to the observance by the Reformed and Lutheran Churches of the European Continent and elsewhere, of the first Sabbath of November as a day of special thanksgiving for the blessings resulting to so many Churches and countries from that great religious revival, which we call the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century.

"Such Commemorative Thanksgiving exercises your Committee regard as fitted to render most important service in our own day to the Reformed and Presbyterian Churches of the world. They would also form another link between the Churches of the European Continent and those located in other parts of the world.

"Your Committee would therefore recommend that the Council suggest the observance of such 'Reformation Day' by the different Churches of the Alliance, and would point out that the present is a most opportune season for arranging for such commemoration, since the birth of Knox is held to have occurred in 1505; the death of Theodore Beza, colleague and successor of Calvin, in 1605; and the birth of Calvin himself in 1509.

"All which is respectfully submitted.

"After some remarks by Professor Szabo, and by M. Ch. Merle d'Aubigné, the Report was accepted and adopted, on the understanding that the Churches might observe either the last Sabbath of October or the first Sabbath of November, as on the Continent the brethren themselves varied as to the day to be observed!" (Proceedings of Council, p. 180).

The Eastern Section of the Alliance understands that some Churches, especially in Great Britain, have already taken steps toward commemorative exercises in regard to John Knox during the year now opening; but in view of the danger that these may lead to merely local or individual action, it would respectfully urge that an agreement be come to in the interests of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches alike, among the different Church Committees as to a common date of celebration. It is desirable that so far as possible, the same Sabbath day be selected for sermons, in which the benefits of the Reformation and the part which John Knox had in obtaining

these for Scotland, shall be considered. The same week might be fixed on for public meetings, at which other aspects of his work could be fitly set forth. If this be not done, the National character of the Commemoration will be absent, and the moral impression of such a National honouring of the memory of the great Reformer will be in danger of being dissipated and in great measure lost.

Since the precise day and year of Knox's birth are uncertain, there is no obvious reason for the observance of one day more than another; but to permit of our kinsmen beyond the Atlantic and in the far distant Colonies of Great Britain, as well as our Continental neighbours (none of whose Churches will have this matter before their Assemblies till May or June of the present year), joining with us on this occasion, the date selected by the British Churches for a united observance would need to be late in the year. The Section therefore respectfully suggests that one or other of the Sabbath days mentioned in the Resolution of Council—either the last Sabbath of October or the first Sabbath of November—be chosen for this purpose. In this way we who are brethren in faith and polity would stand together the whole world over, as a United Church, in paying honour to the memory of one to whom we are all indebted.

Should this suggestion commend itself to your Church, the Executive Committee of the Alliance (Eastern Section) ventures to hope that the Committee, if any, already appointed by your Church, will place itself in early and friendly communication with those of sister Churches, with a view to a simultaneous, and possibly also, a combined celebration.

In name and by appointment of the Alliance,

J. OSWALD DYKES, President.

G. D. MATHEWS, General Secretary.

P.S.—Since the above letter was written, the Committees appointed by the different Assemblies of the Scottish Presbyterian Churches have agreed that the services Commemorative of the birth of John Knox be held throughout their several Churches on Sabbath, May 21st, 1905, and they will ask, we understand, all their brethren throughout the world, to unite with them, if possible, in similar exercises on that day.

G. D. MATHEWS, General Secretary.

London, January 26th, 1905.

(5.) FROM THE COLONIAL COMMITTEE OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

22 Queen Street, Edinburgh,

March 29th, 1905.

The Rev. James S. Laing, D.D., Senior Clerk of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, Muswellbrook, New South Wales.

DEAR SIR,—The subject of granting commissions to ministers of the Church of Scotland who have gone abroad and who desire to connect themselves with Churches in the Colonies, has been under consideration by the Colonial Committee recently, and at their last meeting the following resolution was unanimously adopted, viz.:

“That in future no commission other than a special one be granted by the Committee, unless the Minister has been appointed directly to a charge by the Committee, or has been selected and sent out by them at the request of one of the Colonial Churches.

I was instructed to send to each of the Colonial Churches a copy of this resolution, and to say that the Committee have been led to adopt it owing to the fact that in judging of the propriety of granting such commissions they were dependent to a great extent upon the report of others as to the unsuitability of the applicants. The Committee feel that a Presbyterian Certificate ought to be a sufficient guarantee of character and ministerial efficiency, and should certainly be preferable to one granted by them, as the Presbyteries are more likely to have fuller information. They wish the responsibility henceforth to rest upon the Presbyteries as the responsible court.

This resolution has been come to with a view to safeguard the interests of the Colonial Churches as well as of the Colonial Committee.

I am, yours faithfully,  
J. MITFORD MITCHELL.

(6.) FROM THE WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia is most earnestly requested to recommend the observance of the fourth Sabbath in November as the World's Temperance Day.

ANNA R. MAHOOD,  
Supt. S.S. Dept., W.C.T.U.  
Brickenbridge Avenue, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

(7.) RESIGNATION OF THE REV. JAMES LEASK.

1 Canning Street, Launceston.  
February 6th, 1905.

Right. Rev. the Moderator Presbyterian Church of Australia.  
RIGHT REV. AND DEAR SIR,—I beg leave to place in your hands my resignation of my position and status as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.—I am, Right Rev. and dear Sir,  
Yours most respectfully,

JAMES LEASK.

(8.) LETTER FROM THE SENIOR CLERK.

The Manse, Muswellbrook,  
September 6th, 1905.

The Right Rev. the Moderator, General Assembly of Australia.

DEAR DR. BRUCE,—It is with great regret that I find that the sight of the eye which was operated on is not yet sufficiently matured to enable me to read and write with comfort, and I therefore feel it necessary to seek the forbearance of the General Assembly, and to ask the Venerable Court to grant me leave of absence for this session.

I may state that I have compiled and issued the White Book, and shall be prepared to do the same for the Blue Book, at the close of the Assembly's meeting.

If I may be allowed, I should like to make a suggestion in the interest of my Junior Colleague, to the effect that a competent member be appointed as Joint-Convener of the Business Committee, to arrange the business and prepare advertisements, etc.

The Junior Clerk, thus relieved of such details, would, I think, easily prepare the daily Minutes as I usually do.

With the earnest desire and prayer that the Assembly may have a useful and profitable session, I remain, yours faithfully,

JAMES S. LAING, Senior Clerk.

(9.) THE OPINION OF THE LAW OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RELATIVE TO THE DESIGNATION OF ASSEMBLIES.

The General Assembly of 1901 made the following remit to Presbyteries:—"That wherever the word 'local' occurs in the Articles of Agreement, the word 'State' be used."

The returns to this remit showed that a majority of the Presbyteries approved, but as only one State Assembly had made a return, the General Assembly of 1903 resolved to "remit the overture to Presbyteries and State Assemblies in terms of Articles XIII."



The returns to this remit show that a majority both of the Presbyteries and of State Assemblies approved of its terms.

In my opinion, therefore, the General Assembly of 1905 has power to alter the Articles of Agreement by substituting the word "State" for the word "local" wherever the latter occurs in connection with the designation of Assemblies.

The suggestions as to the best designations for the State Assemblies contained in certain of the returns are entirely outside the terms of the remit, but do not in my opinion affect the validity of the returns.

JOHN GARLAND, Procurator.

6th September, 1905.

We concur in the above opinion.

DAVIES & CAMPBELL, Law Agents.

8th September, 1905.

## II.

### OVERTURES.

#### (1.) OVERTURE ON THE TRAINING OF HOME MISSION AGENTS WITH A VIEW TO ORDINATION.

*From the State Assembly of Western Australia.*

Whereas the supply of ministers is limited; whereas the Assembly employ, through their Home Mission Committee, a number of Lay Missionaries and Pastors, and have pledged themselves to offer some inducement to these and other young men desirous of study for the ministry; whereas it will tend to encourage and stimulate these Missionaries to prosecute their studies to offer them the prospect of entering the regular ministry: It is humbly overtured to the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia, cited to meet in Perth on the 8th day of November, 1904, to take these premises into consideration and send the following recommendations as an overture to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia:—

1. That the Lay Missionaries and Pastors be encouraged to study for the ministry; and that those who intimate their desire to study with a view to ordination undergo a course of training extending over six years.

2. That the Home Mission Committee be empowered to supervise and direct the studies of the students, in co-operation with and in accordance with a course approved by the College Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

3. That the course of study include: Scripture, English Literature, Christian Ethics and Evidences, New Testament Greek, Theology, Church History, and Practical Training.

4. That each student be examined annually in the prescribed subjects and text-books; his year of study to be regarded as one of the six years of the course, only on condition of his reaching an efficiency which satisfies the Home Mission Committee.

5. That at the close of the six years' study, providing the student has continuously and satisfactorily served the Home Mission Committee, and passed the necessary examinations, the missionary be ordained to the ministry.

HENRY C. MATTHEW,

Acting Clerk of State Assembly.

## (2.) OVERTURE ON A MANUAL OF PRESBYTERIANISM.

*From the Committee on Religion and Public Morals, N.S.W.*

Whereas it is most desirable that members and adherents of the Church should be acquainted with the history and principles of Presbyterianism; and whereas the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the State of New South Wales instructed this Committee to bring the matter before the General Assembly of the Church of Australia: it is hereby humbly overtured by the Committee on Religion and Public Morals to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Church of Australia to take these premises into consideration, and to deal with the matter as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem best.

RONALD G. MACINTYRE, Convener.

## (3.) OVERTURE ON THE RIGHTFUL SUBJECTS OF BAPTISM.

*From the Presbytery of Melbourne South.*

Whereas, despite the explicit statement contained in the Confession of Faith, Chapter XXIII., par. 5, some uncertainty of view seems to prevail in our Church as to who are the rightful subjects of baptism; and whereas the practice of different Ministers of the Church in the administration of this ordinance would appear to be different: the General Assembly of Australia is humbly overtured to take this important matter into consideration, with the view of issuing such advice or instructions anent it as will help to guide Ministers and Church Sessions, and lead to some uniformity of practice with regard to this Holy Sacrament.

P. J. MURDOCH, Presbytery Clerk.

## (4.) OVERTURE ON TRAINING OF HOME MISSIONARIES.

*From the State Assembly of Tasmania.*

At Launceston and within Chalmers Church on 24th day of March, 1905, at 10 a.m., the Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted by the Moderator.

*Inter alia*: The Rev. A. R. Osborn, with leave of the Assembly, moved the following motion:—That this Assembly overture the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to recognise its course of training for Home Missionaries, and to grant to those who have completed whole or part of that the same recognition and privileges as are granted to Missionaries who have done like work in other States. This was seconded by Mr. G. Kerr, and agreed to.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Assembly by

JOHN RUSSELL, Clerk.

## COURSE PRESCRIBED FOR FIRST YEAR.

English Grammar; Composition, selected pieces; an Old Testament Study and a New Testament Study; Salmond's Handbook or Shorter Catechism, Part 1; Sermon Preparation; Reading of Scripture and Delivery of Sermons.

## REPORT ON ABOVE COURSE.

Your Committee have to report that last August arrangements were made whereby a fortnight's instruction was given to Missionaries entering on the course prescribed by the Assembly of 1904. Four Missionaries, namely, Messrs. L. Donaldson, A. Jessop, J. Palamountain, and E. W. Walker, attended the classes. Instruction in New Testament study, Catechism, and Sermon Preparation was given by Rev. F. E. Oxer, M.A., D.D. Instruction in Old Testament study, English, and Sermon Delivery was given by Rev. A. R. Osborn, M.A. Examination tests have since been given to Messrs. A. Jessop and A. E. Walker; Mr. Palamountain has relinquished work in our Church; Mr. Donaldson has been suffering from eye trouble. We recommend that the Assembly should consider him, as well as Messrs. Jessop and Walker, as having completed one year of the Mission Course.

## DELIVERANCE.

The Assembly adopt the report, and thank Revs. A. R. Osborn and F. E. Oxer, Messrs. A. J. Hawkins and D. Inglis, and all those who assisted during the Missionaries' stay in Launceston. Accept Messrs. Donaldson, Jessop, and Walker as having completed one year of the Mission Course, and take such steps as may be needful to secure recognition of this work by the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Approve Syllabus for 1905.

Extracted from the report by

J. RUSSELL, Clerk.

(5.) OVERTURE ON HOME AND FOREIGN MISSION AGENTS BEING *ex officio*  
MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Whereas it is very desirable that the Home and Foreign Mission Agent of the General Assembly for the time being should be *ex officio* members of the Assembly: It is humbly overtured by the undersigned, being members of the Assembly, to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Church of Australia, to take these premises into consideration, and to enact that in addition to the members of Assembly mentioned in Article III. of the Articles of Agreement of the Church, the Home and Foreign Mission Agents be *ex officio* members.

ALEXANDER STEWART  
RONALD G. MACINTYRE  
JOHN WALKER  
JOHN FERGUSON  
HUME ROBERTSON  
W. GRAY  
J. HUGH BALFOUR

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III.

PETITIONS.

(1.) PETITION OF MR. A. M. OGILVIE TO BE TAKEN ON TRIALS FOR LICENSE.

To the College Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Humble Petition of Archibald Macfarlane Ogilvie, of Manilla, in the State of New South Wales, respectfully sheweth:—

1. That your Petitioner is, and has been for two and a half years, engaged as an Agent on behalf of the Home Missions Committee of the Presbyterian Church in New South Wales, and is at present in charge of the Home Missions Parish of Manilla.

2. That he was educated in Scotland, and was in course of training for the Ministry when he was compelled to leave Scotland in search of health.

3. That before leaving Scotland he laboured for five years in connection with the Students' Settlement in Glasgow. During the first three years he acted as Assistant Missionary, and during the last two years as Missionary. He also had charge for two years of a large Mission in connection with the Caledonia Road United Free Church, Glasgow.

4. That after coming to New South Wales he acted as Assistant to Rev. James Kinghorn at Bathurst for nineteen months, and afterwards had charge of Warren Parish for three months until July, 1904, when his services were specially requisitioned for the difficult post of building up the Home Missions Parish of Manilla. He still continues to labour at Manilla, and the result of his work is shown in the letter of the Secretary of the Church at Manilla, which is attached.

5. That he has received a good education, possesses a fair knowledge of Latin, and is now studying Greek.

6. That at the time of the breakdown in his health he was a Student of Glasgow University, and attended classes in the following subjects:—Moral Philosophy, English Literature, Political Economy, Logic, including Psychology and Metaphysics.

7. That he is unable to complete the ordinary students' course, because the only Universities in Australia are situated near the sea-coast, and his health is such that he cannot remain for more than a few days near the sea, although he enjoys good health in a dry climate.

8. That he desires to enter the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and to labour for the Church in the inland centres, where a dry climate is to be found.

Your petitioner therefore prays that he may be admitted and ordained as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, either with or without further examination.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Dated this sixth day of February, 1905.

A. M. OGILVIE.

EXTRACT MINUTE FROM PRESBYTERY OF NEW ENGLAND.

At Armidale, the 21st day of March, which day the Presbytery of New England met, and was constituted with prayer.

*Inter alia*: The Presbytery took up consideration of a petition from Mr. A. M. Ogilvie, postponed from last meeting. Mr. Ogilvie, Home Mission Agent at Manilla, desired to be received into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Australia. A number of testimonials accompanied the petition.

After consideration, the Presbytery resolved to transmit the petition to the General Assembly of Australia, *simpliciter*. Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Records of the New England Presbytery by me,

A. P. CAMERON, Clerk.

EXTRACT MINUTE FROM THEOLOGICAL HALL COMMITTEE.

Within St. Stephen's Church, Sydney, April 11th, 1905, which day and place the Theological Hall Committee held a special meeting, opened with prayer.

*Inter alia*: The Petition of Mr. A. M. Ogilvie to the College Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, together with Extract Minute of the Presbytery of New England, several testimonials from Ministers in New South Wales and Scotland, and certificates of attendance and work at Glasgow University Sessions, 1897-8-9, were read and considered, whereupon it was moved, seconded, and agreed—That the Theological Hall Committee cordially support Mr. Ogilvie's petition on condition that he pass an examination satisfactory to the College Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Extracted from the Records of the Theological Hall Committee this day, April 11th, 1904, by me,

ROBERT STEEL, Secretary.

CERTIFICATE FROM MANILLA COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

Presbyterian Church, Manilla.

February 6th, 1905.

The Clerk of the Presbytery of New England.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to state that Mr. A. M. Ogilvie has been in charge of Manilla Home Mission Parish since July, 1904, and during that time he has shewn himself a man of the highest character, and with marked ability, both as a preacher and as an administrator. He took charge of Manilla at a time when the work presented great difficulties, but nevertheless he has worked

with very great success, and the whole people have become attached to him. I might say that, if he were eligible, our people would with gladness call him as our Minister, with every confidence that he is worthy of us and of the high position of a Minister of the Presbyterian Church.

On behalf of the Committee,

I am, yours faithfully,

JOHN D. KENNEDY.

CERTIFICATE FROM REV. JAMES KINGHORN.

These are to certify that Mr. A. M. Ogilvie assisted me in the work of the Bathurst Parish for nearly two years, and that his services gave complete satisfaction to the congregation and to myself.

As a colleague, I ever found him loyal and unselfish; as a companion, affable and interesting; as a man, worthy of respect on account of his high character, unaffected goodness, and simple devotion to his Master.

His pulpit ministrations were of a high order, and gave satisfaction to all; and his personal intercourse with the people endeared him to the whole congregation.

Although his health did not permit of his finishing his course in Scotland, I venture to say that he is a fit person educationally, as well as in point of tact, character, and experience, to be ordained without further study, and I shall be glad to hear that his qualification and services have received this recognition. I am, etc.,

JAMES KINGHORN,

Minister of St. Peter's Church, North Sydney.

Sometime of St. Stephen's Church, Bathurst.

The Manse, North Sydney, Sept. 20th, 1904.

EXTRACT MINUTE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

At Sydney and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip Street, on Monday, the fifteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and five years, which day the General Assembly in the State of New South Wales being met and duly constituted.

*Inter alia:* The Assembly called for petition from Mr. A. M. Ogilvie to be taken on trials for license. It was moved, seconded, and agreed:—That the petition be received and transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly of New South Wales, by me.

JAMES S. LAING, D.D.,

Clerk of Assembly.

(2.) PETITION OF MR. GEORGE CRANSTON TO BE ADMITTED AS A STUDENT OF DIVINITY.

To the General Assembly of Australia.

The humble Petition of George Cranston, of St. Andrew's College, Sydney, respectfully sheweth:—

That your Petitioner attended the following graduating Course in the Faculty of Arts, in the University of Glasgow, and for each class he received the ordinary Class Ticket.

*1st Year:* Middle Latin and Greek.

*2nd Year:* Middle Latin and Greek.

The above standards were accepted by the late United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, of which your petitioner was a member.

*3rd Year:* English Literature (including Philology); Moral Philosophy.

*4th Year:* Logic (including Psychology and Metaphysics); Junior Hebrew.

*5th Year:* History; Senior Hebrew.

The latter subject is recognised by the Senatus of Glasgow University as a graduating subject for the degree of M.A.

That he studied in the Divinity Hall of the United Free Church in Glasgow for one year, and took the following classes:—(1) Greek Exegesis, Dr. Denny. (2) Junior Hebrew, Dr. Eaton (pro tem. Dr. G. A. Smith). (3) Christian Ethics, Dr. Hislop. (4) Elocution, Mr. Harrover.

Your petitioner wishes to inform you that he did not sit the Entrance Examination to the Divinity Hall for the following reasons:—That he was Assistant Missionary in the Kinning Park U.F. Church under the Rev. Arch. Russell, M.A., and that owing to Mr. Russell taking his holidays a month later than usual (July), he had the whole responsibility of the Congregation of about 800 members in regards to visiting and supplying of pulpits for six weeks; also, that he had to do the ordinary work of the Mission, as well as the above. These duties left no time for classical studies.

On entering the Hall your petitioner was informed that his attendance of the classes would be allowed to count on condition that he passed the Entrance Examination in the following year. As he received appointment from the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales, when the first session expired he was unable to sit the Entrance Examination, which would not take place till six months after he left Glasgow to come to Australia.

Your petitioner has been allowed to sit the Entrance Examination here in June.

On condition that he is successful in this examination, he therefore prays that he may be received by the Presbyterian Church of Australia as a Divinity Student of the second year.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

GEORGE CRANSTON.

Dated this 9th day of May, 1905.

This is to certify, in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney, that on 10th May, 1905, the Presbytery received a Petition from Mr. G. Cranston, praying to be admitted to the Theological Hall as a student of the Second Year; that the Presbytery resolved to transmit the petition to the General Assembly of Australia through the State General Assembly, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted, provided that (1) he pass the Entrance Examination, and that (2) he place in the Clerk's hands the necessary certificates.

Certified this 11th May, 1905, by me,

G. MACINNES, Clerk.

EXTRACT MINUTE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

At Sydney and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip Street, on Thursday, the eighteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and five years, which day the General Assembly in the State of New South Wales being met and duly constituted.

*Inter alia*: The Assembly called for petition from Mr. George Cranston to be admitted as a Theological Student. It was moved, seconded, and agreed:—That the petition of Mr. G. Cranston be forwarded to the College Committee of Australia, with the recommendation that it be granted.

Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly of New South Wales, by me,

JAMES S. LAING, D.D.,  
Clerk of Assembly.

(3.) PETITION OF MR. J. CHARLES GIBSON TO BE ADMITTED AS A THEOLOGICAL STUDENT.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the State of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth, that:—

1. He is desirous of studying for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

2. That he has been a matriculated student in the University of Sydney for the past two years, and has passed the yearly examination in the first year of Arts, and is at present attending a course in Philosophy.

3. That he wishes now to proceed with his theological studies in the Theological Hall.

Your petitioner therefore asks your Venerable Court to approve of his admission to the Theological Hall.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

J. CHARLES GIBSON.

This is to certify in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney that, on 10th May, 1905, the Presbytery received a petition from Mr. J. Gibson, praying for admission to the Theological Hall as a student of the first year. The Presbytery resolved to transmit the petition to the General Assembly of Australia through the State General Assembly, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted, provided that (1) he pass an examination in Greek, and (2) that he place in the Clerk's hands the necessary certificates.

Certified this 11th May, 1905, by me,

G. MACINNES, Clerk.

EXTRACT MINUTE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

At Sydney and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip Street, on Thursday, the eighteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and five years, which day the General Assembly in the State of New South Wales being met and duly constituted.

*Inter alia*: The Assembly called for petition from Mr. J. Charles Gibson to be admitted as a Theological Student. It was moved, seconded, and agreed:—That Mr. Gibson's petition be forwarded to the College Committee of Australia, with a recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted, provided he passes an examination in Greek, and that he places in the Clerk's hands the necessary certificate.

Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly of New South Wales, by me,

JAMES S. LAING, D.D.,

Clerk of Assembly.

(4.) PETITION OF MR. JAMES ANDERSON CRAVING LICENSE.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia, to meet at Melbourne in September, 1905.

The Petition of the undersigned, Mr. James Anderson, respectfully sheweth:—

1. That your petitioner studied for the Christian Ministry under the care of the Presbytery of Adelaide, and, in the year 1886, fulfilled the whole Course prescribed at that time for students preparatory to being taken on trials for license, and duly passed all his trials for license.

2. That family circumstances necessitated that he should take up business concerns in connection with the involved affairs of his brother, and consequently he requested the Presbytery of Adelaide to defer license.

3. That after some years he succeeded in putting these business matters on a satisfactory footing, and felt himself at liberty again to look forward to the Ministry of the Gospel.

4. That your petitioner has been employed as a Home Mission Agent, both in South Australia and New South Wales, and is now in charge of the parish of Walgett, to the satisfaction of the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales.

5. That your petitioner applied to the Presbytery of Adelaide to be licensed, but his application was refused, on account of the lapse of nearly 20 years, and the fact that the course of study required of candidates for the Ministry at the present time is much fuller than it was at the time when your Petitioner was a student.

Your petitioner therefore prays that your Venerable Court will take these premises into consideration, and accord to him the status that he once occupied, namely, as a student who fulfilled the course of study prescribed, and passed his trials for license, and authorise the Presbytery of New England, New South Wales, to license him.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JAMES ANDERSON.

Walgett, July 3rd, 1905.

Glen Innes, July 24th, 1905.

This is to certify that on the 21st July the Presbytery of New England transmitted the petition of Mr. James Anderson, to the Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Certified by me this 24th day of July, 1905,

A. P. CAMERON, Presbytery Clerk.

(5.) PETITION OF THE REV. J. H. MACGOUN TO BE RECEIVED AS A MINISTER OF THE CHURCH.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

That your petitioner received education in Dunedin under private tutors for five years, and in the Government Public School for six years, and further prosecuted his studies while in business there under the guidance of his minister; that he resided in Dunedin until 1896.

That he acted as supply in various Churches of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand in Otago during a period of 18 months, and went to India in 1897 after a further course of training in the Missionary Training College, South Australia, under the superintendence of Rev. W. Lockhart Morton.

That he engaged in school work as Principal of the Christian Training School and Orphanage, Mussoorie, India, during a period of five years, and held appointments as Pastor of the Union Church, Mussoorie, on different occasions.

That for two years he studied under a Committee of the Presbytery of Ludhiana, with a view to ordination (the President of the Theological Hall, Saharanpur, being a member); that he was recommended to the Presbytery of Ludhiana, from whom he received the accompanying certificate, dated 10th October, 1904.

That he resigned his position in the School for family reasons, and returned to Australia in December, 1904. That he was engaged in work under the direction of the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales, and was appointed Assistant Minister in the Culcairn Parish under Rev. Alexander McClinchie.

That petitioner therefore prays to be admitted into the Presbyterian Church of Australia as a Minister in full standing.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JOHN HUNTER MACGOUN.

This is to certify, in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney, to the General Assembly of Australia, that on the 8th August, 1905, the Presbytery transmitted to the General Assembly a petition from Rev. John MacGoun for admission to the Ministry of the Church of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be not granted.

Certified this 12th August, 1905, by me,

G. MACINNES,

Clerk of Presbytery.



## SUPPLEMENTARY PETITION OF THE REV. J. H. MACGOUN.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Supplementary Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

That your petitioner was born in Dunedin, New Zealand; that he was born on 5th April, 1875, and is now 30 years of age.

That he studied the following subjects:—

Languages—French, Latin, Greek, Hindi, Urdu, Marathi.

Mathematics—Euclid, Algebra, Geometry (solid and plane).

English History, Geography, Geology (Sir W. Dawson's works), Theology (Hodge), Christian Evidences, Butler's Analogy of Religion, Logic, Church History (Waddingham's), Scripture, Comparative Religion, English.

That he entered the Missionary College, South Australia, and resided there about two months when en route to India as an accepted candidate of the Poona and Indian Village Mission; was generally engaged in evangelistic work or in preaching in the Churches in Adelaide—(vide letter from Rev. W. Lockhart Morton)—Studies: Scripture Analysis, Sermon Outlines and Criticism, Biographies of eminent missionaries and preachers, Elocution.

That your petitioner engaged in missionary work in India under Mr. C. F. Reeve, of the Poona and Indian Village Mission, during a period of 14 months, and left at his request, being unable to approve of the working out of the professed interdenominational principle. The Rev. (now Dr.) P. R. Mackay, Secretary of the Anglo-Indian Evangelisation Society, immediately and with full knowledge of the circumstances and reasons for my leaving, invited your petitioner to become an Agent of the Society.

That owing to the scarcity of Scottish Missionaries in the district of Dehra Dun, your petitioner was connected with the American Presbyterian Church there, the Presbytery being associated with the Assembly in United States of America. The licenses issued by the Ludhiana Presbytery to your petitioner therefore mentions only the American Church.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JOHN HUNTER MACGOUN.

## PRESBYTERIAL CERTIFICATE.

Saharanpur, October 10th, 1904.

This is to certify that the Rev. J. H. MacGoun is a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, and is connected with the Presbytery of Ludhiana (Synod of India), by which he was ordained to the ministry. He is hereby dismissed from this Presbytery to the Presbytery of New South Wales, Australia, to whose care he is affectionately commended.

By Order of the Presbytery,

K. B. SIVEAR,  
Moderator Ludhiana Presbytery.

P. C. UPPAL,  
Stated Clerk of Ludhiana Presbytery.

(6.) THE PETITION OF THE REV. ROBERT ALEXANDER REDMOND, B.A., TO BE RECEIVED AS A MINISTER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

1. That he was born at Slievenaboley, County Down, Ireland, in the year 1869.

2. That in training for the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church he matriculated in the Royal University of Ireland; that he attended the prescribed classes in the Queen's College, Belfast; that he graduated B.A. in the Royal University of Ireland; that he studied theology in the Assembly's College, Belfast.

3. That he was licensed by the Presbytery of Belfast in May, 1900.
  4. That in November, 1900, he was ordained by the Presbytery of Ballymena to the pastoral oversight of the congregation of First Broughshane.
  5. That in the year 1903 your petitioner came to Australia for health reasons, having received leave of absence from the Presbytery of Ballymena.
  6. That during his residence in New South Wales your petitioner was appointed by the Home Mission Committee to supply Leura and Wentworth Falls; that he occupied the pulpit in St. Stephen's, Sydney, for over five months, and preached at various other Churches.
  7. That your petitioner, finding his health restored and the climatic conditions congenial, demitted his charge in Ireland on August 4th, 1904, and received Presbyterian credentials which accompany Petition.
- Your petitioner prays the Venerable Court to admit him as a Minister in full standing.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

R. A. REDMOND.

Leura, 17th May, 1905.

(7.) THE PETITION OF REV. CHARLES EDWARD JAMES TO BE RECEIVED AS A MINISTER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

To the Right Reverend the Moderator and members of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of the undersigned Charles Edward James respectfully sheweth:—

1. That the petitioner was until yesterday (September 30th, 1904) a Methodist Minister in full standing, having been Superintendent of Toowong Circuit since April, 1903, and previously Minister of the Albert Street Church for five years (the extreme limit of the itinerating law).
2. That the petitioner was born at Hull (Yorkshire) in 1859 (November 17), and is now nearly forty-five years of age.
3. That the petitioner is the son and grandson of Wesleyan Ministers, and received his early education at the school established for the benefit of Ministers' sons at Woodhouse Grove, near Leeds (Yorks.), and thereafter at Huddersfield College, at that time affiliated with the London University.
4. That in 1876 the petitioner received an appointment as an Assistant Master in a private school at Stockton-on-Tees, and from that date until the last quarter of 1881 followed the calling of a teacher in three other schools, amongst which was the Wesleyan Collegiate Institution, Taunton (Somerset), now known as the Queen's College, from which school your petitioner removed to Jersey (Channel Islands) to study for the Wesleyan Ministry.
5. That your petitioner was accepted as a candidate for the Wesleyan Ministry by the British Conference of 1881, and entered at Richmond College, near London, the same year.
6. That in 1882 the New South Wales Wesleyan Church commissioned the late Rev. Francis Tait to proceed to England for the purpose of recruiting the ranks of the Colonial Ministry, and your petitioner was persuaded to join the band of eleven young men who came out to Australia towards the end of that year under the direction of the aforesaid Conference.
7. That the petitioner has laboured successively in Townsville (Queensland), Sydney (Chippendale and Bourke Street Circuits), Berry, Tonga (Friendly Islands, from which station a removal was necessitated after a short period, owing to domestic affliction), West Maitland, Bathurst, Sydney (Montague Street Mission), Albert Street, Brisbane, and Toowong.
8. That the petitioner's life and work are therefore known to a wide and fairly representative circle in the Methodist Church, as well as to many respected Ministers and laymen of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales and Queensland.
9. That the petitioner is moved to make application for admission into the Presbyterian Church by the fact of the more permanent character of the bond between pastor and people in that Church, and, to him, the more satisfactory methods by which the Ministerial settlement is made.

10. That the petitioner's experience of a more extended pastorate than has, up to recently, been possible in the Methodist Church, leads him to believe that if the Assembly be graciously pleased to grant his Petition and associate him with the Presbyterian Church of Australia, he will find a sphere of more congenial and extended usefulness in the Kingdom of God.

11. That in the event of his admission to the Presbyterian Church the petitioner hereby pledges himself to obey that Church's authority and serve its interests to the best of his ability.

12. That the documents in support of this Petition are as follows:—

- A. Copy of letter from the President of the Methodist Conference, Queensland.
- B. Copy of letter from Rev. Dr. Youngman, Chairman of the Brisbane District.
- C. Copy of letter from Sir Arthur Rutledge, K.C.
- D. Copy of document or petition presented by the Albert Street Trustees to the Queensland Conference of 1903.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

CHARLES E. JAMES.

Gore Street, Toowong,  
October 3rd, 1904.

(8.) PETITION OF REV. WALTER A. HOBSON TO BE RECEIVED AS A MINISTER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of the undersigned Walter Alfred Hobson respectfully sheweth:—

1. That the petitioner is a Congregational Minister in full standing, having been trained for the Ministry at the Congregational Theological College, Northingham, England, publicly ordained for the Ministry of the Gospel at Crouch End, Congregational Church, London, May 28th, 1902, and set aside for the work in Queensland; and unto January, 1905, Minister of the Congregational Church, Rockhampton, Queensland (see certificate appended), and was President of the Rockhampton Ministers' Union.

2. That the petitioner was born at Birmingham, England; is thirty-six (36) years of age, and is an unmarried man.

3. That the petitioner was educated at the King Edward Grammar School, Birmingham, for which he obtained a scholarship by competition; that he entered the Undenominational College, presided over by the Rev. F. B. Meyer, at Kennington, London, for one year's theological study, afterwards completing his studies for the Ministry by passing the entrance examination and taking the regular Ministerial course of study at the Congregational College, Nottingham, England, the curriculum of which includes:—

Languages—Hebrew, New Testament Greek, and Exegesis.

Philosophy, Logic, Apologetics, Metaphysics.

Psychology, Social and Political Economy.

Theology—Dogmatic and Pastoral.

New Testament—Exegesis and Introduction.

Sermon-making and Preaching.

Duration of Course—three to four years.

4. That the petitioner previous to entering College was employed nearly four years as City Missionary, New Brighton, England, during which time he gained invaluable experience as a preacher and pastor.

5. That the petitioner is in full accord with the standards of the Presbyterian Church, including Declaratory Statement.

6. That the petitioner feels drawn to the Presbyterian Church by its freedom of congregational life and action, and by its organised system of government, and leaves Congregationalism owing to its lack of organised unity.

7. That the petitioner is at present working in connection with the Presbyterian Home Mission of Queensland at Green Mount, Darling Downs, Queensland, and forwards this petition for presentation by the Toowoomba Presbytery, and pray the General Assembly to receive the same.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

WALTER A. HOBSON.

Green Mountain, Darling Downs,  
May 20th, 1905.

(9.) THE PETITION OF REV. CHARLES D. P. TAYLOR TO BE RECEIVED AS A  
MINISTER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Your Petitioner, the Rev. Charles Daniel Philip Taylor, seeks admission into the ranks of the Presbyterian Ministry, and in furtherance thereof submits the following items of personal history, educational qualifications, and ministries in England and in Australia:—

I was born on the 10th of January, 1853. Up to the age of 16 years I was educated at the Devonport College. In 1869 I became an Admiralty Pupil, winning the eighth position in a competitive list of 179 applicants. Up to the year 1874 practical engineering and theoretical studies were pursued under Admiralty supervision at the Royal Naval Dockyard and College. In May, 1874, I won a scholarship in the Science and Art Department for General Proficiency, securing highest marks in seven subjects. In June, 1874, the South Kensington Art Examinations were passed and valuable prizes secured. In July, 1874, the examinations for entry into the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, were passed, and 12 months' residence and studies entered upon. In the June, 1875, examinations I was successful in winning one of the three Honour Certificates. On the 9th August, 1875, I received my commission as an officer in H.M. Navy, and was appointed to H.M.S. "Sapphire." The years 1875 to 1879 were spent on the Australian Station, and experiences gained of the several States, of Tasmania, of New Zealand, and of the South Sea Islands, have greatly helped my ministry. During these voyagings I did a good deal of Christian work, and colonial friends appreciated these labours in a very practical manner. They gave me £600 to enable me to resign my commission, and to enter upon a College Course for the Ministry. At the Western College, Plymouth, the years 1878 to 1882 were spent as a Theological Student. After passing the final examinations I was ordained by Dr. Chapman, Prof. Anthony, and the Rev. C. Wilson, M.A., and a Church at Stonehurst placed under my care. Four years of arduous but successful Ministry followed. A new Church and School were built, and every penny of the £2300 raised. In the midst of our joys a call from New South Wales greeted me, and on the 30th October, 1886, Plymouth was left for Parramatta. From 1886 to 1904 the Congregational Churches at Parramatta, South Melbourne, and Fremantle have been the scenes of my labours, and the copied testimonials will testify to gracious results. In the June of 1904, and after consultation with brethren in the Eastern States and in West Australia, I decided to take a step cherished for several years past—namely, to seek work amongst my Presbyterian friends. Right heartily was I welcomed at Subiaco, and a pathway of self-sacrifice and strenuous endeavour entered upon. Lowly indeed was the condition of the Subiaco cause in June last. The building used for Church and School purposes was sadly out of repair, the congregations were small, the monetary position weak indeed, but eleven months of hard work have resulted in a building up-to-date, a new class-room built to hold 70 people, congregations averaging between 157 and 210, a growing number of members and adherents, the largest Fellowship in West Australia, and Choir, C.E. Society, Literary Society, and Tennis Club all evidencing growing strength. A serious attempt will be made to erect a manse before the end of 1905.

More I cannot say. My brethren here and elsewhere are willing to testify of my life and Ministry, and of the great help rendered by my wife and family in strengthening all endeavours for Christian life and work. Never

did the Presbyterian Church in West Australia stand more in need of experienced Ministers of Christ than now, and the growing importance of this vast State only serves to emphasise this need that must be seen to be understood.

Praying that my petition might receive favourable reply, believe me, yours very respectfully,

CHARLES D. P. TAYLOR.

The Manse, Subiaco,  
2nd May, 1905.

Approved by Presbytery of Perth, 3rd May, 1905.

W. FLOYD SHANNON, B.A., Moderator.

(10.) THE PETITION OF THE REV. D. MCFARLANE TO BE RECEIVED AS A MINISTER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

That your petitioner was born in Scotland, and is 49 years of age; that he studied for the Ministry, and passed through the usual curriculum in Arts and Theology at the University of St. Andrews; and was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Presbytery of St. Andrews in May, 1879; that he was thereupon appointed Assistant to the Minister of the East Parish Church, Perth, where he laboured until 1891, when he was appointed Minister of Newcastle, Natal, and, after ordination by the Presbytery of Perth, has laboured there since October, 1891, until December, 1904; that, finding the emoluments of the office at Newcastle insufficient to provide for the needs of a young family, your petitioner resigned his charge at Newcastle last December, with a view of proceeding to and obtaining a change in Australia or elsewhere; that the usual certificate from the Presbytery of Natal, with a special recommendation from that Presbytery and testimonials from Ministers in Natal, are submitted along with this Petition; and that your petitioner now makes application to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to be received therein with the status and privileges of an ordained Minister of that Church.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

D. MCFARLANE.

Ravenswood, Alma Road, E. St. Kilda,  
31st March, 1905.

(11.) PETITION OF MR. JAMES T. KELLY TO BECOME A THEOLOGICAL STUDENT.

To the Venerable General Assembly of Australia.

I, James Thompson Kelly, am desirous of becoming a Candidate for the Entrance Examination to the Theological Hall, Ormond College, to be held in February, 1906.

I am 27 years of age; was born at Dumbarton, Scotland; was educated at Dumbarton Academy, and at Glasgow University, where I matriculated, passing in Latin, Greek, Mathematics, and English. I attended the University for 3½ years studying Medicine. In the Degree Examinations I passed in Zoology, Botany, Chemistry, Physics, Physiology, and Materia Medica; also attended Lectures in Anatomy, Medical Jurisprudence, Pathology, Clinical Medicine, and Clinical Surgery. (Certificates enclosed.)

After leaving the University I was employed as a Missionary under the Highlands and Islands Committee of the United Free Church of Scotland, and while engaged in this work, my interest in the work and needs of the Church in Western Australia was first aroused. As a result, I left for Western Australia to take up the position of Lay Assistant to Rev. Alex. Crow, Kalgoorlie, and with the intention of pursuing my studies in Divinity while engaged in work there, and of qualifying myself to become a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

After a year of Mission work at Kalgoorlie, Bulong, and Kanowna, the West Australian Assembly passed a resolution to petition the College Committee of the General Assembly as follows:—"That the Home Mission Committee recommend that Mr. Kelly be admitted as a student at Ormond College on the same terms as a graduate." (See W.A. Blue Book, 1903, pages 15 and 27.) The result of this petition I have not yet heard.

From March, 1904, till June, 1905, I was employed by Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn as Missionary at Montague Mission.

At present I am studying to pass two subjects of the first year Arts Course, viz., Latin and Greek, as recommended by the College Committee, on the understanding that by so doing I shall be admitted as a Candidate for the Entrance Examination at Ormond College. But in the event of my failing in these subjects, I would still humbly petition this Assembly to admit me as a Candidate, on the ground of the foregoing statements.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JAMES THOMPSON KELLY.

(12.) THE PETITION OF MR. JOHN F. SIMS TO BECOME A THEOLOGICAL STUDENT.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of John Frederick Sims humbly sheweth:—

1. That your petitioner is a Home Mission Agent in the employment of the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, and has been thus employed for the last five and a half years—for the first two years and a half under the supervision of the Presbytery of Gippsland, the Rev. Robert Mitchell, of Rosedale, being his Moderator, and since that within the bounds of the Presbyteries of Maryborough and the Wimmera, the Revs. H. T. Hull and Geo. B. Murphy supervising his work.

2. That before taking up work as a Home Mission Agent your petitioner spent two years at Angas College, Adelaide, the Rev. Lockhart Morton's Training Institution for workers in the Home and Foreign Field, where, under the Rev. D. M. Berry, M.A., and other teachers, he studied various branches of Theology, English, Greek, and Homiletics, and received a practical training in Christian work.

3. That your petitioner presented himself at the Melbourne University Matriculation Examination last May, and passed in Greek, English, and Arithmetic, but failed to get a sufficient percentage in his other subjects—History, Latin, and Algebra—to secure a pass, being handicapped by the fact that most of his work has been done in districts where it is impossible to get help in preparing for University Examinations.

4. That your petitioner now asks that your Venerable Court will permit him to present himself for the Entrance Examination in the Theological Hall of Ormond College next February, with the understanding that he will also present himself at the next Matriculation Examination and do his utmost to pass.

5. That your petitioner has done work that his Moderators have been good enough to speak well of, and thinks that his training at Angas College, his almost six years' service of the Home Mission Committee in various parts of Victoria, and the fact that he has already passed Matriculation Examination in Greek and English, should induce your Venerable Court to permit him at this stage to present himself for the Ormond Entrance Examination.

6. That your petitioner was not aware of the existence of the June Classes for Missionaries until he had been in Victoria some considerable time, and was not informed that it was necessary to attend them. He feels that under all the circumstances his Petition might well be granted.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed) JOHN FREDERICK SIMS.

August 29th, 1905.

Had the above Petition been forwarded in time for Presbytery Meeting, I have no doubt it would have received the approval of Wimmera Presbytery.

THOMAS GRAY, Presbytery Clerk.

Horsham, August 30th, 1905.

## (13.) PETITION OF MR. JOSEPH A. LEE TO BECOME A THEOLOGICAL STUDENT.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of the undersigned, Joseph A. Lee, Presbyterian Missionary of the Charge of Bothwell and Green Ponds, in the State of Tasmania, and an Elder of the Church, humbly sheweth:—

That your petitioner, before coming to Tasmania, completed his course of training as Home Mission Agent, passed all the prescribed examinations, and consequently is eligible to sit for the entrance examination to the Theological Hall.

That your petitioner served the Church faithfully in Victoria for about six years, at Stawell, Mount William and Natimuk, and Ministers throughout the Wimmera whose pulpits he supplied can testify to the manner in which he filled their pulpits.

That your petitioner for the past fifteen months has laboured in the Charge of Bothwell and Green Ponds in the Presbytery of Hobart, Tasmania, and, has reason to believe, with acceptance to the people, and he is desirous of remaining there.

That it is impossible for your petitioner to attend the three years' course at Ormond College without leaving his present Charge, and he has a wife and family depending upon him for support and education, and he has not the means of doing so should he have to proceed to Melbourne to attend Ormond.

That your petitioner begs leave to present letters of recommendation.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that the Venerable the General Assembly will allow your petitioner to be received as a Student in Divinity by the Church in Tasmania.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JOSEPH A. LEE.

## EXTRACT MINUTE OF THE PRESBYTERY OF HOBART.

In St. Andrew's Vestry, Hobart, on Tuesday, 9th May, 1905, at 8 o'clock p.m., at which time and place the Presbytery met and was duly constituted.

*Inter alia:* The Clerk submitted and read a letter from Mr. Joseph A. Lee, Missionary in charge of Bothwell and Green Ponds, covering a Petition to the Venerable the General Assembly praying that he might be allowed to be trained in Divinity in Tasmania, and thus relieved from the necessity of attending a three years' course at Ormond College.

On the motion of the Clerk, seconded by Mr. George Kerr, it was resolved—That the said Petition be transmitted to the Venerable the General Assembly, with a request that favourable consideration may be given to the prayer thereof.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Presbytery of Hobart by

J. K. REID, Clerk.

## (14.) PETITION OF MR. R. B. GARNER TO BECOME A THEOLOGICAL STUDENT.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.  
The humble Petition of Richard Bourne Garner respectfully sheweth:—

1. That your petitioner has been engaged in Home Mission work in Queensland and New South Wales for the past eight years. That prior to his taking up work under the Home Mission Committee of the Queensland Church, he was employed in a similar capacity by the Wesleyan Church in Victoria for about eight years.

2. That your petitioner is happy to believe that his work has been successful, so much so that the Charge of Braidwood, in the Presbytery of Goulburn, N.S.W., is anxious to obtain his services as their Minister.

3. That your petitioner is unable to comply with their wish, inasmuch as he has not received any special training in Theology.

4. That your petitioner has only received an ordinary Public School education, and feels that it would be impossible for him to begin now to study for matriculation at the University, as he is in the 37th year of his age.

Your petitioner therefore respectfully requests the General Assembly to exempt him from attendance on the Arts course, and to grant him admission to the Theological Hall with the view of preparing for license, or to deal with his case in any other way so as to facilitate his entrance into the Ministry.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

RICHARD BOURNE GARNER.

Dated this 12th day of August, 1905.

## EXTRACT MINUTE OF THE PRESBYTERY OF GOULBURN.

Within St. Andrew's, Goulburn, on Friday, 8th September, 1905, the Presbytery of Goulburn met, and was duly constituted.

*Inter a ia.*: A Petition from Mr. Richard Bourne Garner, Home Mission Agent at Braidwood, to the General Assembly of Australia, praying that he be admitted to the Theological Hall, with exemption from attendance on the Arts course, with the view of preparing for license, or to deal with his case in any other way so as to facilitate his entrance into the Ministry, was received.

Accompanying the Petition was a petition from the Braidwood Congregation signed by 128 members and adherents supporting the prayer of Mr. Garner's Petition.

After careful consideration, it was resolved to forward Mr. Garner's Petition to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Meeting closed with prayer.

Extracted by me this 11th September, 1905, from Records of Presbytery.

CHARLES CRANE, Presbytery Clerk.

## (15.) PETITION OF MR. THOMAS V. CHARLTON TO SIT FOR ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of Thomas Vercoe Charlton humbly sheweth:—

That your petitioner has completed the first year of the Arts course of the University of Melbourne, and has passed in Greek and Latin of that year.

That he has attended also a second session and has passed in Inductive Logic and Mental Philosophy.

That he is upwards of thirty (30) years of age, and his means are exhausted.

That he was prevented by unforeseen circumstances from applying at the end of last (1904) session to the General Assembly of Victoria for admission to the Entrance Examination under Rule 2 (a) [re exceptional cases].

That by the advice and consent of the Theological Hall Committee, he attended the classes in Christian Philosophy, Systematic Theology, Church History, New Testament and old Testament Exegesis of the session of 1905 as a *privæ* student.

That he was admitted to the examination at the end of the session (the results of which are not yet known).

That he now petitions the General Assembly to be admitted to the Entrance Examination in 1906; and prays that the session just completed be a regular session, in the event of his passing the first year intersessional and the Entrance Examinations.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

THOMAS V. CHARLTON.

Ormond College, 14/9/05.

## (16.) PETITION OF MR. WILLIAM BETT TO SIT FOR ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

To the General Assembly of Australia.

I wish humbly and respectfully to state that I am at present studying with a view to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. It is ten years ago since I decided upon the above course. Two alternatives were placed before me—(1) Four years' work in the Home Mission field; (2) Some University work. After either of the above courses I could sit for entrance to the Theological Hall. I sought advice on the matter, and decided upon the latter course. I had no money to educate myself with, so I had to go to work for six years before I could start study. I ceased work three years ago, and last year matriculated in seven subjects—namely, Latin, Greek, English, French, Euclid, Algebra, Arithmetic. I proceeded to Ormond College and University to do first year B.A., with the object of doing Philosophy next year. I do not think that I will be successful. Should my anticipation prove correct, I desire your permission to go on to do a course of Philosophy next year and then sit for entrance to Hall in 1907. I am aware that a pass in first year Greek and Latin qualifies for to sit for the Hall examination, but I consider that it



would be a waste of time and money to study the same work again, and that more knowledge would be acquired by an introduction to different work. Hoping that my petition may receive your approval,—I am, yours respectfully,

WILLIAM BETT.

I enquired from the classical master of Ormond re my attainments in Latin, and Greek, and he informed me that I had a fair chance of passing, but would not say I would pass for certain.

(17.) PETITION OF MR. F. L. A. SCHLOEFFEL TO SIT FOR ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:—

1. That your Petitioner was born at Dubbo in 1875, and obtained his primary education in the Superior School of Dubbo, and in the Grammar School of Dubbo.

2. That for several years he was actively connected with the Presbyterian Congregation of Dubbo.

3. That being desirous of entering the Presbyterian Ministry he passed the Matriculation Examination in Sydney University in 1900, taking Greek as one of the subjects, and attended all the classes and lectures prescribed for the first year of Arts in 1903, and in the examination passed in Science, but failed in Classics and Mathematics.

4. That since then he has been engaged in Home Mission work at Double Bay, Campsie, and Shoalhaven. Not being in a financial position to devote the whole of his time to study, he is obliged to continue taking Home Mission appointments, and, in view of that fact, he sees no prospect of his passing in Mathematics.

5. That your petitioner, however, is prepared to be examined in Greek, either in the University of Sydney or by the College Committee.

6. As an examination in Mathematics constitutes an almost insuperable bar to his entering the ministry, which he strongly desires to do, he asks that without further Arts examination in Mathematics, your Venerable Court will permit him to sit for the Entrance Examination to the Theological Hall, with a view to his becoming a student of Theology.

And petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

F. L. A. SCHLOEFFEL.

Dated this nineteenth day of August, 1905.

EXTRACT MINUTE THEOLOGICAL HALL COMMITTEE.  
In re SCHLOEFFEL.

Church Offices, York Street, Sydney, 6th July, 1905, which place and date the Theological Hall Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the State of Nw South Wales met, and was duly opened with prayer.

*Inter alia*: It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Clouston, seconded by Rev. R. Inglis, and carried—Recommend Mr. Schloeffel to apply through the Presbytery of Sydney to be admitted to the Entrance Examination of the Theological Hall, and commend his application to the favourable consideration of the Assembly.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Records of the Theological Hall Committee this day, 25th August, 1905, by me.

ROBERT STEEL, Secretary.

This is to certify that at the Presbytery of Illawarra, at its meeting held in Berry on August 21st, 1905, received a petition from Mr. F. L. Schloeffel, student, asking for exemption from further Arts examination, and for permission to sit for the Entrance examination to the Theological Hall, and resolved to forward it to the Presbytery of Sydney for transmission to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

RICHARD MILLER, Presbytery Clerk.

The Manse, Albion Park, August 25th, 1905.

## (18.) PETITION OF MR. W. TULLOCH FOR LICENSE.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, convened to meet in the Assembly Hall, Melbourne, on the 20th day of September, 1905.

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:—

That over twelve years ago your petitioner commenced Mission work, under the Rev. D. A. Cameron, M.A., then of Bairnsdale; that his work there, carried on under exceptional difficulties, and with small remuneration (on which he had to support a wife and family), was eminently successful; that he passed all the Home Mission examinations, and received a Home Mission license; that at the end of six years, on account of hard work, his health failed, and he was transferred to Borung Mission, in the Presbytery of Bendigo, where he laboured with success for several years, a new church was built where there had been none before, and part of the Mission became part of a regular charge; that he was then transferred to the Scarsdale district, where his labours were attended with such numerical and financial increase, that the Presbytery of Ballarat sent an ordained minister, with the view of raising it to a regular charge; that at the end of nine months, on the urgent representation of the needs of Queenstown, on the West Coast of Tasmania, he accepted an appointment to the Mission charge, where he has laboured for two years so successfully that it is now ready to become a regular charge with an ordained minister; that, being unordained, your petitioner labours under many disadvantages, both to himself and the congregation, especially as he is over 300 miles by rail from the seat of Presbytery.

Your petitioner trusts that your Venerable Court will take the premises into consideration, and authorise the Presbytery of Hobart to grant him license, with a view to his ordination and induction into the Pastoral charge of Queenstown, Tasmania.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

W. TULLOCH.

Queenstown, Tasmania, 8th August, 1905.

PETITION OF THE SESSION OF QUEENSTOWN, TASMANIA, IN SUPPORT OF  
MR. TULLOCH'S PETITION.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia convened to meet in Melbourne on the 20th day of September, 1905.

We, the members of the Session of Queenstown Presbyterian Church, Tasmania, acting on behalf of the Committee of Management and Congregation, do hereby humbly pray and petition that the Presbytery of Hobart be granted leave to ordain Mr. William Tulloch, the Missionary now in this charge.

By the unanimous wish of the congregation, a petition to this effect was forwarded to the last sitting of the General Assembly, and a Select Committee was appointed to inquire into the matter, who recommended that the prayer should be granted unconditionally.

We append herewith a brief summary of Mr. Tulloch's work here, and trust that your Venerable Court will authorise the Presbytery of Hobart to grant our request, and your petitioners will ever pray.

DAVID W. SMITH, Moderator.

G. R. BARNDOLLAR, }  
A. F. W. JORDAN, } Elders.

Queenstown, Tasmania, 7th August, 1905.

To the Venerable the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Venerable Sir,—In support of the Petition attached, we beg to submit the following, viz:—

That, during Mr. Tulloch's ministry in Queenstown, the Church has increased spiritually, numerically, and financially, more than at any other period since its inception, as the report appended herewith will show to some extent, and that he has endeared himself to the people by his genial disposition and sincerity of purpose, and possesses the entire confidence of his congregation.

We feel that the rapid progress of this Church, which is mainly due to Mr. Tulloch's labours amongst us, justifies us in making this request, apart from his long and eminently successful career as a labourer in the Master's vineyard.

DAVID W. SMITH, Moderator of Session.

G. R. BARNDOLLAR, } Elders.  
A. F. W. JORDAN, }

Queenstown, Tasmania, 7th August, 1904.

Mr. Tulloch's Petition, and the Petition from the Session of Queenstown, are transmitted and recommended to the General Assembly for favourable consideration by a Commission of the Presbytery of Hobart.

#### IV.

### REFERENCE.

#### REFERENCE ANENT THE INDUCTION OF THE REV. R. A. REDMOND TO LEURA AND WENTWORTH FALLS.

It is hereby certified in the name and by the authority of the General Assembly in the State of New South Wales, that on the 16th day of May, 1905, the said Assembly resolved to transmit the following report to the General Assembly of Australia:—

The Report of the Presbytery of the Hawkesbury in the matter of the Settlement of the Rev. R. A. Redmond, B.A., at Leura and Wentworth Falls.

On the 14th day of December, 1904, a petition from Leura and Wentworth Falls, asking for moderation in a Call, was presented to the Presbytery. The prayer of the petition was granted, and the Rev. J. McKee was appointed to moderate on the first day of January, 1905. On the 11th day of January, the edict of moderation, duly served, was laid on the table of the Presbytery, together with a Call in favour of the Rev. Robert Alexander Redmond, B.A., signed by 92 persons. The Call was sustained, but as Mr. Redmond's Presbyterian Certificate was not before the Court, it was resolved to deal with the Call at an adjourned meeting, and the Clerk was instructed to write to Mr. Redmond, intimating that the Presbytery had been adjourned to afford him an opportunity of sending forward his certificate. On the 23rd of January the Call was again taken up, when the Rev. W. Steel moved, and the Rev. R. Edgar seconded that the induction be proceeded with in the absence of documentary evidence, and that the whole matter be reported to the General Assembly of Australia, which, after discussion, was carried by a majority. From this decision the Rev. H. Wilson dissented. On the 8th of February, the Presbytery met at Leura, and inducted Mr. Redmond into the Pastoral Charge of Leura and Wentworth Falls.

ALAN DANDIE, Presbytery Clerk.

and further:—

That the Assembly, while unable to approve of the action of the Presbytery of the Hawkesbury in inducting Mr. Redmond to the charge of Leura and Wentworth Falls without his being first received into the Church of Australia, recognise that the action taken by the Presbytery was so taken in the expectation that a commission in favour of Mr. Redmond would be in hand immediately.

That in the meantime Mr. Redmond be recommended to abstain from voting in Church Courts.

That Mr. Redmond be recommended to petition the General Assembly of Australia in accordance with the Regulations (Section B) for the Reception of Ministers.

Certified this 22nd July, 1905, by me,

JAMES S. LAING, D.D.,

Clerk of Assembly.

## V.

## REPORTS.

## I.

## REPORT OF BOARD OF MISSIONS, 1905.

The Board of Missions, in presenting its report and balance-sheet to the Assembly, desires to express gratitude to Almighty God for the success which has attended the labours of the Missionaries since last Assembly. It submits also the reports and audited balance sheets of the several State Churches.

## THE MISSIONS' AGENT.

The Board places on record its keen sense of the loss sustained by the whole Church in the enforced retirement, through ill-health, of the Rev. F. H. L. Paton, the Missions Agent.

Mr. Paton entered on his work with characteristic enthusiasm, and brought into it that fine Christian spirit and missionary zeal which mark his whole family. When he was unanimously appointed by the Assembly, it was felt that a new era had commenced in our Foreign Mission Work. His visits were hailed with great pleasure in all the States, and a new impulse was given by his stirring missionary addresses.

His work went on most hopefully for a time, but in the providence of God he was forced to retire in June, 1904, and while the Board felt, and feel now, the necessity of such an Agent, as well to stimulate zeal as to form a bond of union amongst the State Churches, still in view of the expense entailed, and after consulting with the Foreign Mission Committees of the various States, it was resolved that the matter should remain over till the meeting of the Assembly. At the same time, the Board is of opinion that if the Assembly is to prosecute Foreign Missions with vigour, and if the people are to be aroused to a sense of their duty in this respect, an Agent is necessary.

The Board is pleased to be able to inform the Assembly that Mr. Paton's health has been so far restored that he has felt strong enough to undertake the work of a settled pastorate.

## NORTH QUEENSLAND.

The work at the different stations has gone on very satisfactorily since the last meeting of the Assembly. The Rev. N. and Mrs. Hey returned from their visit to Europe early in 1904, greatly benefited in health, and prepared to take up their work with renewed energy.

Mr. Hey found a great many things needing attention at Mapoon, and till recently his whole time was taken up at his own station. The last letter received from him was written on the eve of his departure to visit Mr. Brown and Mr. Richter at their stations. The report of his own station is most satisfactory.

Rev. E. Brown, finding that his old church was no longer fit to use, set about building another, and made an appeal to friends in the different States for help. The Women's Missionary Union in Victoria responded very liberally, and although no report has been received by the Executive, it is presumed that the ladies in the other States have also responded, and that the church is now completed.

Rev. A. and Mrs. Richter have settled at the Archer River, and are now fully engaged in meeting and overcoming the difficulties incident to a new station. The influence gained by Mr. Hey, and the help which can be rendered by the aborigines trained in building by him, make the initial expenses of settlement much less than formerly.

As usual, the Queensland Government has treated the Mission with great generosity, both in the matter of reserves and in practical help for building, and the Board would again request the Assembly to express its indebtedness to the Government.

In consequence of the evils attending the recruiting of natives, the Government of Queensland directed that all recruiting at our stations should cease after the 31st of July, 1904, and the best results are anticipated from the new regulation. A difficulty has arisen, however, from the fact that many of the young men had become attached to boating through their engagement with the pearl fishers. To meet this, Mr. Hey has purchased a small cutter for their exclusive use. The arrangement is that those who are in charge of the boat may carry stores for cattle and telegraph stations, payment for which would later on enable them to discharge their liability to Mr. Hey. In the meantime, the natives are permitted to use the boat for fishing purposes, the fish taken to be used exclusively for food. The matter has been reported to Dr. Roth, who heartily approves of Mr. Hey's action.

#### FUTURE OPERATIONS.

The Board is strongly of opinion that the United Church should take up some additional Foreign Mission work. A strong appeal was made by the New Hebrides Synod last year. A medical missionary is very much needed at Fila, and the Synod pleaded with the General Assembly to make an appointment. The matter was submitted to the several State Committees, but nothing definite has been done. It is hoped that the Assembly will consider the request very favourably, and arrange for the appointment of a missionary. The French are specially active just now, and if we are to hold our own, attention must be given to this at once. While acknowledging with gratitude what the Government has done in subsidizing the maritime service, the Board is of opinion that it should be urged to foster in every possible way the interests of Australian settlers, by the remission of duties and by offering further inducements to settle in the islands. In view of the large expenditure of life and money which the Presbyterian Church has made for over forty years in the Group, and in view also of the proximity of the Islands to the Australian continent, it is necessary that strong measures should be taken either to annex them or to secure their perpetual independence.

#### FINANCE.

A reference to the balance-sheet appended shows that since last meeting of Assembly there has been an expenditure under current account of £1778 9s 11d. The Board commenced the period with a liability of £226 14s. 1d. This, unfortunately, has been increased to £313 13s. 3d., but there are certain sums to be received which will reduce this to £246 15s. 9d. There has, however, to be added to this a sum of £200 in round figures, which is owing to the Moravian Board for the passage and outfit of Mr. and Mrs. Richter, and for payment to that Board's Beneficiary Funds on behalf of the three Missionaries.

It is most desirable that this liability should be removed, and the Treasurer suggests that it should be paid by the various States on the basis of membership, and that the payments should be allowed to extend over two years. He suggests also that in future the amount required to meet salaries and ordinary expenses should be assessed on the same basis.

Before closing this report, the Board desires to call the attention of this Assembly to the loss which has been sustained by the Foreign Mission in the lamented death of Mrs. J. G. Paton and Mrs. F. J. Paton, and the enforced retirement, of Rev. R. Fraser through ill-health, and of Dr. McCausland through the illness of his wife, and would suggest that letters of sympathy be sent to those friends who have been bereaved and afflicted.

T. R. CAIRNS, Convener.

#### REPORT OF MISSIONS' AGENT—SEPTEMBER, 1903-JUNE, 1904.

The Manse, Dunolly, August 9th, 1905.

The latter part of 1903 was spent in visiting congregations in the Presbyteries of Mortlake, Gippsland, and Melbourne, in the State of Victoria. During that time a Conference on Missions was held in Melbourne, when representatives from New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania

took part. The object of the Conference was to draw the State Committees into closer line as regards Foreign Missionary organisation among the home Churches. Nothing very definite resulted.

The month of January, 1905, was devoted to the preparation of a course of lectures on Modern Missions. These lectures were afterwards delivered to the Theological Students in Ormond College, Melbourne, and St. Andrew's College, Sydney.

February and part of March were spent in visiting congregations in Victorian Presbyteries, and then the Missions Agent proceeded to Sydney, and thence to the Clarence, Richmond, and Tweed Rivers. There, despite abnormal rains, most of the meetings were well attended, and only one or two lapsed owing to flooded creeks and impassable roads.

In all these tours the usual method was followed of preaching three times on Sunday and conducting a lantern lecture each week evening except Saturday. Blank promise slips were also distributed at each week evening meeting, and many promises of regular weekly contributions were received in this way. Also a good deal of missionary information was disseminated in a memorable way through the pictures thrown on the screen. The ministers heartily carried out the arrangements made by the State Conveners, and everywhere the Missions Agent received the greatest possible kindness and hospitality.

Various matters appeared to the Foreign Missions Agent to require the consideration of the General Assembly, and especially the following:—

(a) The bringing into line of the various State methods of organising the home field for Foreign Mission work, so that there might be one common Missionary organisation for the Commonwealth.

(b) The organising of the men as well as the women of our Church for prayer, study, and giving in regard to our Foreign Mission work.

(c) The wider dissemination of missionary news and literature.

(d) The more effective organisation of the Sabbath School forces for Foreign Missionary work.

Unfortunately, a very serious break-down in health occurred at the end of the Tweed River tour, and most of the meetings arranged in Sydney and other parts had to be cancelled. The Convener and all concerned extended the most kindly sympathy and consideration. As soon as able to travel, the Foreign Missions Agent returned to Melbourne, and as a result of urgent medical advice he was compelled very reluctantly and sorrowfully to hand in his resignation. This was accepted by the Board, to take effect from the end of June, 1904. In closing this brief report the Foreign Missions Agent would very heartily thank the Convener of the Board, the State Conveners, and the many ministers and friends who showed him so much kindness during his term of office.

FRANK H. L. PATON.

REPORT OF WEIPA MISSION STATION FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1905.

*Written for the Queensland Presbyterian Committee.*

*I. Population.* — Owing to the action of the Government in suddenly reducing the amount of our grant by nearly a half for the past year, and our consequent inability to supply our people with food but to a very limited extent, we have had but few residents during the year under review compared with other years. Again and again the people have come in and wanted work, but, excepting to a very few, our answer has had to be that we could not give them for want of food to pay them with. The great pity of this is not so much that work which we wished to do has had to be left undone, but that we are practically out of touch with our people, they being in the bush and we tied to the station.

On a few special occasions large numbers have been in for a short stay, coming, I fear, with only a thought for the meat that perisheth, and soon forgetting what little they hear of higher things. This almost entire separation from our people causes us to deplore the above-mentioned action of the

Government, the more so that the Church cannot see its way clear to appoint two Missionaries (as suggested in my last year's report) so that we might itinerate amongst the people in their native haunts.

*II. Spiritual.*—The machinery for this part has gone on working smoothly. All the services have been maintained—two on Sunday and a short service every morning, with an evening service on Wednesday. These are not attended oftentimes as well as they might be, for many of the blacks, like many of their white brothers and sisters, would come to Church readily enough if any temporal gain could be acquired thereby, but do not see the force of attending when there is not.

In our little Church there has been a loss and a gain. One woman, who was baptised earlier in the year, died in November. On Easter Sunday two young men and a lad were baptised, thus bringing our total up to seven. Another young man was being prepared for baptism, but an old woman (almost old enough to be his grandmother) took a fancy to marry him, and although for some time he stoutly stood firm, at last he gave way under pressure of her persistency and the urgings of some of the old men, and was led astray for awhile, but soon repented and turned again from the evil. Sometimes our people strangely blend the old and the new, shewing that the new is gaining some influence, e.g., a man died away in the bush lately, and for a few weeks the usual corroborees were held over the corpse; then the friends came for a shovel to dig a grave, and at the burial two of the men present engaged in prayer! May the Lord more fully send out His light and His truth, and lead them into the way of Life!

On June 29th our new Church was opened. The writer and Mrs. Brown spent that day (and many others) in the grip of dengue fever. But Mr. Hey and Mr. Richter, who had come to rejoice with us in our rejoicing, kindly did what was necessary ministerially. For the occasion the children had learnt a portion of Solomon's dedication prayer, which they, kneeling, used in the service as a prayer. Then they had also learnt and sang hymn No. 516 in Church Praise, some taking the treble and some the alto. This they did also in an anthem, in which some of the young men sang the tenor and others the bass. By some friends it was thought impossible to get them to sing the four parts, but they sang very well indeed. Mr. Hey had brought with him the male members of the Mapoon Brass Band, and in the services, as well as during other parts of the day, they enlivened the proceedings with their music, which was quite a novelty to our people. We trust that the new building may be owned by God as His House, so that very many souls may therein be brought out of the darkness into the light of the Gospel.

*III. Medical.*—Not much special calls for mention under this heading. Day by day throughout the year there has been some attendance (sometimes many, sometimes few) at the dispensary for treatment for the various ailments that flesh is heir to, some even seeking a cure for old age. In October whooping-cough took hold of most of the children, and in this connection the (in some places) much-lauded theory of leaving them alone to their own treatment was again shewn to be faulty, for whilst three children in the camp died from it, all those under our care recovered.

*IV. Educational: 1. Children's (a) Day School.*—This branch of the work has pursued the even tenor of its way, and Miss Schick hopes and believes that progress has been made. But as no official inspection has been made for over three years, no authoritative statement can be made to that effect. Unofficial visits were made at different times by H. Milman, Esq., of Thursday Island, and Sub-Inspector Garraway, of Coen, and both complimented the teacher on the accomplishment of her pupils, though neither saw more than what they could do in the three R's. When the corner-stones of our new Church were laid in August, the children, under their teacher's leadership, gave a capital little entertainment, consisting of songs, recitations, a round, and pole drill. Then for the several Church festivals of the year they learnt and repeated suitable portions of Scripture and sang special hymns, e.g., for Palm Sunday they learnt the Hosanna anthem, girls and boys taking their respective parts.

*(b) Sunday School.*—The results from this cannot be so well tabulated, but we trust the result is similar to the case of the old Scotch woman who

compared her Sunday sermon hearing to the action of the sun in bleaching her linen, no definite result to be ascribed to any one day, but nevertheless the effect was certain.

2. *Adults.* — The three members of the staff have continued their several classes for men and women. During several months the young men on two or three evenings of the week practised singing, specially with a view of shewing what they could do in this line at Church-opening, and, as mentioned under heading "2," they acquitted themselves splendidly.

V. *Manual Labour.* — Owing to the reduction of the Government grant, many works of improvement have had to be neglected. But our gardens, being our chief source of food supply, could not be. The principal work has been the building of a new church, 50ft. by 26ft. inside. The walls are made of Pisé and the roof covered with Ruberoid. The gables could not be made of Pisé, as owing to the nearness of the wet season by the time the walls were done, we had to rush on the roof as soon as possible, and for the wet season cover the gables temporarily with galvanised iron. To be able to build up the gables we had to start new industry, viz., brickmaking, and though the first attempts were poor, a few of the men are now able to do tolerably well at it. In October a change of assistants was effected. Tom Collope left us, and went to be assistant to Mr. Richter at the Archer River, and A. Richter, who was formerly with us for two and a half years, returned to take up his old position. For us a Kanaka is only a makeshift, a white man being an absolute necessity. A married white man would be far better still, but, unfortunately, the salary we can offer will not, I am afraid, tempt a married white man in North Queensland.

VI. *Visitors.* — An unexpected and unofficial visit was received on May 7th from H. Milman, Esq., Government Resident at Thursday Island. He went over the station, enquired fairly fully into all the affairs of the station, and spent a short time in the school. The latter would have been prolonged, only that his stay here was unavoidably very brief. Sub-Inspector Garraway, of Coen, visited us twice to see that all was going on well, and Sergeant Whiteford, also of Coen, came once for the same reason. Again we have been disappointed at receiving no visit from the Official Inspector, Dr. Roth. Though somewhat out of the world, we are not entirely cut off from communication therewith. During the year we received ten visits from the "J. G. Ward," and two from the "Minnie."

VII. *Gifts.* — As usual, in July and December, we received practical and most useful expressions of sympathy from kind friends in the South in the shape of boxes of clothing, etc. Without these I hardly know how we could get on, as we could not afford to buy clothes for our large family. Then several kind friends in the South kindly sent us donations toward our new Church. Some congregations, Young People's Bands, and Sunday Schools have assisted us more by adopting some of our children. But what was most of all prized by our people, as long as it lasted, was a gift of two bullocks from our neighbour, Mr. Shadforth, of York Downs, for the Church opening day. That was the crowning event of the year to them.

In closing, we would express our thanks to all who have been our helpers, especially to Him who is the help of all the needy, for such are we and our people, and we have greatly and thankfully experienced His Divine aid and support.

EDWIN BROWN,

Weipa, August 2nd, 1905.

REPORT OF MAPOON REFORMATORY AND INDUSTRIAL HOME.

To the Under-Secretary, Home Secretary's Department.

July 1st, 1905.

Sir,—I have the honour to forward you my Annual Report of the condition of the inmates in the Reformatory and Industrial School under my care.

As will be seen in the monthly returns, 22 half-caste children have been sentenced under various dates from 1901 up to the present time to the Mapoon Reformatory.



Considering the many nationalities these children partly represent, and the degrading and demoralizing environments they have been rescued from, it is surprising how soon under proper management and more congenial conditions they will submit to discipline as a matter of course.

It is, however, very desirable that these children should be sent to the respective Reformatories at an early age, in order that all their former associations are entirely obliterated from their minds.

No trouble has been experienced in the management of these children, and all have without exception greatly improved in every respect.

All the inmates of the Reformatory have attended the Mapoon School with the other half-caste and full-blooded black children, both morning and afternoon, and have made more or less fair progress.

Much trouble is taken to train these children as far as possible into useful citizens. The boys receive instruction in carpentering, gardening, and cattle training, the bigger ones also in the management of sailing boats. The girls, besides learning housework and sewing, have to prepare their own gardens, and the vegetables and fruits thus realised were used mostly for the children themselves.

The health of the children has been all that could be desired, with the exception that during the first month of the year an epidemic of whooping-cough visited our home, but has not proved fatal to any of the inmates, although some of the black children in the native camps succumbed to it. Great care has been taken of the moral safety of the girls. The gardens, houses, and even playgrounds are fenced in with netting wire, and social habits and mutual improvement among themselves has been cultivated, with very gratifying results.

So far none of the girls are of a marriageable age, but the time will soon come, and I think it is hardly fair to get them mated to full-blooded blacks, who as a rule are not able to provide for them. To hire them out for service is not at all desirable, for many reasons.

The small allowance of 2s. 6d. per week for each child has been of the greatest use to us; indeed, we found it sometimes difficult to make ends meet.—I have the honour to be, Sir,

N. HEY, Hon. Superintendent.

REPORT OF THE ABORIGINAL MISSION STATION AT THE ARCHER RIVER, 1904-05.

July, 1905.

Dear Sir,—It is now eleven months since I made the commencement at the Archer River, and I may gladly state that, like a red line through black writing, God's blessing and mercy can be seen through all the difficulties and trials, joy and sorrow, hope and disappointment, sickness, dangers, etc., which we met. This gave us comfort in all our insufficiency, and we trust and pray that His blessing may work a greater success during the next year, especially in spiritual matters.

The mission-house is not quite finished, though I had a very able man, Peter Bee, who would have finished everything until November, had he not been kept back so much in his work by the want of tools. It was not until August that I received news about making use of the Government ration-money, and the tools, ordered after this time, did not arrive before the end of October. So most of the work was done without the proper tools, which took him double the time. The fact that he had to work under these circumstances made him leave it before it was finished. His successor, Tom, is not much of a carpenter, but he is very good for garden and other outdoor work. So I do occasionally some work at the house, as much as the time allows me. Of course, it will take years now, before everything will be completely done, as so much other work presses.

For the Assistant a bark house is made on high piles. This gives him a simple, but healthy, living. The old Assistant-house, enlarged and furnished with rough benches, serves for the time being as school and Church. As soon as the fences around the premises are finished, I will build a girls' dormitory. Till now the children are sleeping in the camp with their parents.

The school-work, started after Christmas, made a fair progress until April. This is the time when the rainy season is past, and all people begin their endless wanderings, taking their children with them. The whole attendance was about 60, but since April we had only about ten and less a day. Still, we kept school, except sickness prevented it. A great hindrance was the want of means of instruction, which the Government is supposed to send us. I have asked for, and hope to get them soon. We helped ourselves as well as we could with a self-made alphabet-card and blackboard.

The spiritual work is mostly done by explaining Bible pictures twice on Sunday and once a week-day evening. Every work-day morning I speak a few words about a Bible passage, taken from a text-book. On Monday evening singing-class is held. They do not yet show much interest in the salvation of their souls. The men are interested in horses, cows, boats, etc., if they see some on the pictures, but the women don't show any interest at all. The Spirit of God has a hard work here, but we hope He will conquer the hearts of many. In the singing-class they show great ability, as they learn a tune very quickly, long before they are able to speak the words. The pastoral work, the most important of all, is not flourishing yet, for different reasons, but I seek a chance, and occasionally I find some to speak to one personally by himself.

There is a great work waiting for me. This is to find out which of the nine or ten dialects I have to deal with I might have to learn. I started one when I was still at Mapoon, but coming here I found that this dialect is spoken by four persons only. So I gave it up. I would like to catch one of the southern dialects, but the people are so very wild that I cannot get a man to stay with me a few weeks or months. They come here, work a few days, and go away. Now, the northern people, who are a little more civilised, do not understand the southern tribes. So I have decided at present to go on with the study of that almost dead language until I find another chance. I am sure I can expect more success, as soon as I am able to speak native languages.

A great difficulty I have to meet in financial way. The fact is that I have nothing received of the Government ration account since New Year. This amounts for the past six months to £75. I paid the stores from my private money. Though I was told I might have an assistant from the beginning, I never yet received any money as his salary. This is to the end of June eleven months (£55). Would you be so kind as to make some arrangements that it soon might be sent on to the Bank? Will you excuse my asking for it, but I am really in need? As I have paid all of my own, and have received no salary for myself since New Year, except £25, there is nothing more in the Bank left. I have already asked Mr. Hey to pay my Assistant's salary for the time being. I am unable to pay any bill now in Thursday Island, neither private nor natives, and this is a painful state for a Missionary to be in debt with enemies of the Mission work. About my private affairs, I will get in order with Mr. Pryde, but I would be very much obliged to you if you kindly would forward the £130 (£75 and £55) as soon as possible. Writing about money, I have also to mention the bath and stove which I was told to buy in Thursday Island. Mrs. Richter brought most of the things from Brisbane, where she got them much cheaper than in Thursday Island. I am copying a list of expenses here:—Stove, £5; pipe (chimney), £1 11s.; bath, £1; flat iron, 17s. 6d.; shower-bath, 10s.; freight and wharfage, 17s.; total, £9 15s. 6d.

As to the Government ration account, I venture to ask whether you would be so kind (if it is possible) to forward it quarterly in advance. It would be a great advantage, for if I pay the stores cash, as I have done it now, I will get 2½ per cent. discount. If I want to get the discount, and the ration-money is paid afterwards, I have to pay of my own for the time being, and there will be a constant paying and repaying into the Bank. A statement expenses I have sent to the Chief Protector.

Concerning ourselves, I have to state thankfully that we both escaped the dengue fever, and trust we will not be caught now; but we did not escape sickness altogether. As our rooms were not finished when the rainy season set in, we were too much exposed to the wet, and Mrs. Richter caught some rheumatism. Malaria also has visited us both, and especially Mrs. Richter had very heavy attacks, which robbed her of all her strength. Of course, we expected it at a new place like this. Mr. Hey, after his visit here, took Mrs. Richter to Mapoon for a few weeks, and I hope that the change will have

freed her of the fever. A very heavy case of dengue has thrown a South Sea Islander down, who came here for a few weeks to help me in the work. He was laid up a fortnight, and then he died—I think, of heart affection. (This is not my assistant).

The place here we consider to be very healthy, 12 feet above high-water mark, and the house is built on 6½ft. piles. It is now especially dry here, but the ground is good and fertile, and we hope that after some strong labour we will have a better crop next year than the year past.

Committing our work for the coming year to the care and blessing of our dear Master, and to the prayer and intercession of our dear friends,

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

ARTHUR RICHTER.

N.B.—I received news with the last boat that £37 6s. 3d. has been paid into the Bank as Archer River ration account, for which I thank very much. It would only remain the amount for the second quarter of the ration account the eleven (end of July 12 months) months' salary for the Assistant, and the £9 15s. 6d. for bath and stove.—A.R.

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# The Treasurer in Account with the General Assembly's Foreign Missions Board.

From 15th August, 1903, to 30th June, 1905.

## GENERAL ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.	EXPENDITURE.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Contributions from Victoria up to 30/6/05 (including contributions from the Ormond College Missionary Society to 31/12/04) £120	791 14 8	By Balance		226 14 1
„ Contributions from New South Wales to 31/3/05	202 0 6	„ Salaries, for two years—		
„ „ Queensland to 31/3/05	300 0 0	Rev. N. Hey, to 30/6/05	400 0 0	
„ South Australia	54 10 4	E. Brown	400 0 0	
„ Western Australia	49 7 6	A. Richter, to 12/6/05	400 0 0	
„ Transferred from Rev. N. Hey Furlough Account	51 18 11	N. Hey's Assistant, to 30/6/05	120 0 0	
„ Interest on Deferred Deposit Receipt	12 0 8	E. Brown's Assistant, „	120 0 0	
„ „ Bequest of late Mrs. S. L. Currie (1 year)	3 4 1			1,440 0 0
Debit Balance	313 16 3	„ Towards building Archer River House	41 4 0	
		„ Interest on Bank Overdraft to 31/3/05	24 11 0	
		„ Cost of Drafts, etc.	18 19 4	
		„ Transshipment Charges on Mission Boxes	9 8 0	
		„ Printing, Postages, etc.	8 13 6	
		„ Queensland Convener's expenses	8 0 0	
		„ Bank Charge for keeping Account	1 0 0	
	<u>£1,778 9 11</u>			<u>£1,778 9 11</u>

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## SPECIAL ACCOUNTS.

### AGENTS' SALARY AND EXPENSES ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Proportion of Agent's Salary, to 30/6/04—Victoria	256 5 0	By Balance	164 4 10
„ „ „ „ „ N. S. Wales	183 1 10	„ Agents' Salary 11 months, to 30/6/04	366 13 4
„ „ „ „ „ Queensland	33 0 0	„ „ Travelling Expenses	4 10 0
„ „ „ „ „ S. Australia	17 0 0	„ Lantern Slides and Chemicals	2 18 2
„ „ „ „ „ W. Australia	6 15 0	„ Printing	8 13 6
„ „ „ „ „ to 30/9/05—Tasmania	7 0 0		
„ Proportion of Travelling Expenses—Victoria	17 0 5		
„ „ „ „ „ N. S. Wales	9 7 11		
„ „ „ „ „ Queensland	3 11 8		
„ „ „ „ „ S. Australia	1 1 9		
„ „ „ „ „ W. Australia	0 14 6		
„ Balance due by Tasmania	11 11 9		
	<u>£546 19 10</u>		<u>£546 19 10</u>

REV. N. HEY'S FURLOUGH ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance	50	13	11	By Rev. N. Hey—balance re furlough	28	15	0
„ Queensland Church	30	0	0	„ Balance transferred to General Account at suggestion of Mr. Hey	51	18	11
	<u>£80</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>		<u>£80</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>

WEIPA BUILDING ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance for Upkeep of Rev. E. Brown's house	25	4	6	By Rev. E. Brown, on account Church	20	0	0
„ Donations for Weipa Church	25	10	6	„ Balance	30	15	0
	<u>£50</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>£50</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>0</u>

BOAT MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT.

To Queensland Church	£105	0	0	By Wages of Boatman—21 months, to 24/4/05	£105	0	0
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WEIPA RATION ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Queensland Government Grant	200	0	0	By Balance	20	3	8
				„ Rations	171	2	10
				„ Cost of Drafts	2	7	1
				„ Amount placed to credit of Rev. E. Brown's Account in Bank of North Queensland, Thursday Island	6	6	5
	<u>£200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>£200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

MAPOON RATION ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance	21	0	6	By Rations	153	15	0
„ Queensland Government Grant	237	10	0	„ Cost of Drafts	2	12	7
				„ Amount placed to credit of Rev. N. Hey Ration Account in Bank of North Queensland, Thursday Island	102	2	11
	<u>£258</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>		<u>£258</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
Deposit in A. D. and M. Bank, due 13/9/10, in the name of the Federal Assembly's F.M. Committee	£172	9	9

A. L. PRYDE, Treasurer, 9/8/05.

I certify that I have audited the accounts of the General Assembly's Foreign Mission Fund, and that the above statement of accounts is, in my opinion correct.

9/8/05.

WM. L. MOLLISON, Hon. Auditor.

## APPENDIX.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

## REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS FOR 1904.

Your Committee is pleased to report another successful and encouraging year of Foreign Mission work. The awakened interest in the work generally throughout the Church, mentioned in last year's Report, has been well maintained; and what has been accomplished calls forth our deepest gratitude to Almighty God.

## THE NEW HEBRIDES.

*Missionaries.* — Malo and Tutuba: Mr. D. L. Paterson and Mrs. Paterson.

The work is progressing with general satisfaction and the health of the Missionaries and the natives during the year has been excellent, though the season has been somewhat trying owing to the unusually heavy and continuous rains.

A new boat has been obtained and sent to Mr. Paterson, and he reports that it is admirably suited for his work. The old boat has been sold, and the proceeds used in part payment of the new one.

Rev. J. D. Landels has completed the translation of certain portions of the Scriptures into Maloese, and the British and Foreign Bible Society has generously undertaken the cost of printing and publishing the same.

Mr. W. S. Park has again shown his deep interest in Mission work, and all that pertains to its maintenance, by superintending the sale of arrowroot prepared by the natives in the Mission.

The Committee has found it necessary to revert to the Christmas Collecting Cards. The form of the Card has been slightly altered, owing to there being now no "Dayspring." The amount raised by the Cards this year has been fairly satisfactory; but it is considered that, with a more complete and systematic organisation in the various parishes, a much larger sum would be obtained.

The Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Australia has approved of the proposal to appoint a Medical Missionary to Vila, in the Island of Efate, and has asked your Committee for counsel and assistance in the matter. In view, however, of the state of the funds, and liabilities already incurred, it has been found necessary to decline any further financial responsibilities at present. Vila is the commercial centre of the New Hebrides, and numbers of English and French settlers reside there.

The political state of the New Hebrides is, at the present time, anything but satisfactory, owing to active French aggression. Your Committee made a strong representation to the Commonwealth Home Secretary regarding the matter, and was assured that everything would be done to secure dominant British interests there. Your Committee feels strongly that the Church needs to watch this matter very closely.

## CHINESE MISSIONS.

*Missionaries.* — Sydney: Rev. John Young Wai; Newcastle, Mr. James Kem Yee.

The work at Sydney continues to prosper. At Newcastle it is exceedingly hopeful and encouraging.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

It is with the utmost pleasure your Committee reports another successful financial year. The income has not only covered the expenditure, but at the present time there is a credit balance. This happy result is the outcome of an increasing interest in Foreign Mission work throughout the Church, the very liberal contributions of the Women's Missionary Association, and a sum of £40 10s. received from the Chinese Church at Foster-street, in aid of the salary of Rev. J. Young Wai.

The Committee is again glad to report the receipt of £5 5s. from his Excellency Sir Harry Rawson and Lady Rawson towards our Foreign Mission work.

Your Committee cannot close its Report without expressing its heartiest appreciation and thankfulness for the help rendered by individual congregations, the Women's Missionary Association, and others who have come to its help during the year; and trusts that past blessings and success will encourage each and all in their future efforts, so that we shall not only fully maintain our present Missionary services, but also open up new and promising fields that are awaiting us.

The Committee invites the earnest and united prayers of the whole Church in this great work that lies so close to the Divine Master's heart, and the hearty co-operation of every Christian man and woman. The Divine command is, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations"; and the Divine reminder, "Freely ye have received, freely give."

On behalf of the Committee,  
C. H. TALBOT, Convener.

#### THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.

Missionaries.—Sholinghur, India: Miss McLean, Miss McNeill, M.P.S., and Miss Symonds, B.A.

An exhaustive and most interesting account of the work of this Mission will be found in the Annual Report of the Women's Missionary Association, which is now on the Table of the Assembly. The Women's Missionary Association has again been a tower of strength in our Foreign Mission work. In fact, it would be quite impossible to fulfil our present engagements without its assistance, so heartily and liberally rendered.

Miss McLean was with us during the earlier portion of the year, and visited many of our Congregations. Her addresses were very interesting and instructive, and have done much to awaken a deeper interest in Foreign Missions. Miss McLean has returned to her work in India.

Miss McNeill, M.P.S., has been with us for some months, and, though on furlough, has visited a large number of our Congregations, delivering addresses on the Medical Work of the Mission, and has met with gratifying success.

For some time the W.M.A. has wished to have a fully qualified Medical Missionary for Sholinghur, to act with the Missionaries at present there, and to take charge of the Hospital which has just been completed. Your Committee has expressed its hearty approval of the desire of the Women's Missionary Association, and has agreed that, while that Association would, as far as possible, endeavour to provide the extra amount required for the salary of the Missionary, in the event of there being any shortage the amount would be paid out of the General Funds. The Board of Missions has been advised of this forward movement.

Since your Committee approved of this additional service to the Mission, two of our most honoured and enthusiastic workers in the cause of Foreign Missions (Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Park) have generously offered to defray the travelling expenses of a Lady Doctor from the Home land to India, and provide her salary for the first two years.

E. M. GOODLET.

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# NEW SOUTH WALES CHURCH.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, TO DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 1904.

RECEIPTS.			PAYMENTS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
General Missions—			New Hebrides Missions	697	0 4
Church Collections	432	5 9	Chinese Missions	1016	5 8
Sabbath Schools Collections	379	8 2	Aborigines Missions	265	10 0
Per Missionary Association	329	10 2	Zenana Missions	708	10 5
Donations, etc.	160	10 2	General Assembly Mission Agent	243	18 0
			Sundry Missions	13	10 3
New Hebrides Missions		1301 14 3	Sundry Expenses	168	3 5
Chinese Missions		460 10 0			
Aborigines Missions		272 11 4			
Zenana Missions		267 8 9			
General Assembly Mission Agent		654 19 0			
Sundry Missions		5 15 9			
Debit Balance (13/12/04)		13 10 3			
		136 8 9			
		<u>£3112 18 1</u>			<u>£3112 18 1</u>

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## VICTORIA.

## REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

## NEW HEBRIDES BRANCH.

Interesting and encouraging reports have been received from each member of our Mission staff, and from the Agents of the John L. Paton Mission Committee. Many of the natives who have been long connected with the Mission have given increasing proof of their attachment to the truth, while many others have given up their heathen practices and have sought the guidance and teaching of our representatives. The Missionaries themselves have been very busy, and in addition to their ordinary work several of them have been engaged in translating portions of the Holy Scriptures into the dialects of the people.

But while there has been all this to encourage, there has been much to try the faith of our Agents and those who are charged with the carrying on of the work of the Mission. In May of the present year we were called upon to mourn the sad and unexpected deaths of Mrs. John G. Paton and her daughter-in-law, the wife of Rev. Fred. J. Paton. They were both devoted workers, and they both drew to themselves the love and esteem of all who were associated with them.

Early in 1904 Dr. McCausland, who had only entered on his work, was forced, through the continued serious illness of his wife, to return to Victoria, and as there seemed no hope of his being able to go back to the Islands, he handed in his resignation, which was accepted by the Committee with much regret.

Dr. Sandilands also resigned through ill-health after ten years of earnest and successful work.

At the end of 1904, Rev. George Fleming became very seriously ill, and under the direction of his doctor came to Melbourne. At first the symptoms were most unfavourable, but he so far recovered that he was able to return recently to his station.

Rev. D. MacDonald, D.D., was also forced by illness to return to Victoria in April. His physician has taken a very serious view of his illness, and has pronounced him unfit for further work in a tropical climate, but it is hoped that after a few months' rest in Victoria he may still be enabled to render service to the Church.

T. R. CAIRNS, Convener.

## CHINESE.

Several changes have taken place since last report. The Rev. James Chue, who for upwards of twenty years had been Superintendent of the Mission, resigned and returned to China, where he continues to reside and preach to his countrymen. He has been succeeded by the Rev. John Tong Wai, who for many years acted as his assistant in Ballarat. Paul Chan has taken charge of the Beechworth Mission, and has added to it Wangaratta, Rutherglen and Wahgunyah. Since his appointment he has raised among the Chinese upwards of £100 for church building and renovation. At all our stations our Agents have faithfully discharged their duties, and at present report several candidates for baptism.

We have to report the death of Andrew Goon, the catechist at Ararat.

## ABORIGINES.

The Rev. F. A. Hagenauer continues the supervision of the station at Ramahyuck. The Aborigines Protection Board has supplied a teacher for the children in place of the one removed by the Education Department. Both at Ramahyuck and Corranderrk the blacks, though not demonstrative, are very attentive to their religious duties. It is some satisfaction to know that the remnants of a once numerous and badly-used race are now being carefully looked after, and that they are responding intelligently to the efforts put forth to enlighten them in the knowledge of the truth and of Jesus as their Saviour.

## KOREA.

The work in Korea advances. Spheres of work in the southern portion of the province of Kyeng Sang have been mutually agreed upon by the two

Missions therein interested, viz., the American Presbyterian and our own. The population committed to the care of our missionaries is estimated at 750,000.

Dr. Currell is under instruction to proceed into the interior and begin work in the large city of Chin-ju. The Committee has been rejoiced by the benefit of the "Catherine Kay Bequest for Medical Mission Work." The income from this will suffice for the doctor's salary.

The Women's Missionary Union is engaged in raising funds to perpetuate the memory of the late Mrs. J. G. Paton by the erection of a hospital in Korea, as well as a church in the New Hebrides. Two new lady Missionaries have been appointed, and will proceed to their field in September. Our staff consists now of three married missionaries and five unmarried. The Committee hopes soon to be in a position to send out another worker.

#### THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION.

The Union now has upwards of 150 branches. It supports one married missionary and five unmarried lady workers in Korea, and, in addition, maintains an orphanage there. The salary of an Indian native evangelist is raised. Contributions to the extent of £75 are forwarded to North Queensland, principally for the maintenance of orphans. The school for Chinese children in Melbourne, conducted by Miss Pye, has removed into more comfortable and commodious quarters, and reports an increase in attendance.

Mission bands amongst the children have been started. Over 120 boxes were forwarded to Missionaries in Queensland, Korea, and the New Hebrides, the estimated value of which was £500. The income for the last year was £1100. If to this be added the £500, the value of the boxes, the contributions of the Union for the year really amounted to £1600.

W. FRASER, Convener.

## VICTORIAN CHURCH.

For the two Financial Years, 1902-3 and 1903-4, since the last meeting of the General Assembly.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
New Hebrides Fund ... ..	3388	16	8	New Hebrides Fund ... ..	5991	16	8
Amy Gertrude Russell Fund ... ..	463	19	0	Amy Gertrude Russell Fund ... ..	743	4	6
Chinese and Aborigines Fund ... ..	1313	2	8	Chinese and Aborigines Fund ... ..	2175	1	5
Korean Mission Fund ... ..	651	18	8	Korean Mission Fund ... ..	743	19	10
Korean Medical Mission Fund ... ..	343	6	1	Korean Medical Mission Fund ... ..	513	1	2
Native Teachers' Fund ... ..	542	12	3	Native Teachers' Fund ... ..	664	9	1
Dayspring Maintenance Fund ... ..	1173	2	1	Dayspring Maintenance Fund ... ..	2045	3	6
Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union Fund ... ..	3023	11	6	Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union Fund ... ..	2344	19	2
Deficiency ... ..	4321	6	5				
	£15,221	15	4		£15,221	15	4

## QUEENSLAND.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HEATHEN MISSIONS.

The Report of your Committee this year is similar in character to those presented for several years past, in that it deals more fully with that branch of the work in which we are only partners than with that which is our own. This is, of course, unavoidable, seeing that our own Mission is gradually being extinguished through the action of the Federal Government. However much we may regret the passing of our own Mission, we have reason to thank God for all the good that has been accomplished by its agency during the years of its existence.

1. KANAKA MISSION.—There is nothing of special importance to record in connection with this branch of our work. Mr. MacIntyre has pursued his various duties with zeal, and has been untiring in his efforts to care for the highest needs of those committed to his charge.

The Mission is within measurable distance of its closing through the return of the natives to their Islands, and this, coupled with the fact that many of our people have never looked with much favour upon this work, embarrasses us considerably financially, as many of those who used to give are not now doing so with the old liberality, and the result is that, as the balance-sheet shows, there is a very considerable amount on the debit side. Your Committee hopes, however, that during the ensuing year, which will probably be the last of the Mission's existence, our people will give liberally, so that when we have to close our doors we may do so free from debt.

2. MISSION TO ABORIGINES.—The great event of the year has been the opening of the new station at the Archer River, under the Rev. Mr. Richter. That this work, which has been so long in view, should at last have become an actuality is matter of great joy to your Committee, and we trust that the new Station may be a centre of blessing.

The cost of the new buildings at the Archer amounts so far to £321 4s., and of this amount £200 has been paid by the Queensland Government, while the remainder has been met by a payment of £ from a fund under the control of Mr. Hey and £ paid by the Board of Missions.

The opening of the new Station means that each of the State Churches will have to increase the amount of their annual grant; and the amount of increase due by your Church is £37 10s. This we have agreed to pay, and the P.W.M.U., with characteristic generosity, have sent your Committee a cheque for this amount for the first year.

The work at all stations has gone on in a satisfactory manner, and we have good reason for the hope that our Mission among the Aborigines will be much blessed of God.

During the year your Committee have had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Ward, who was returning to Mapoon after a well-earned furlough.

The Rev. F. L. Paton has been forced to resign his position as Mission Agent, owing to ill-health. This is a great blow to our work, but we hope that Mr. Paton may speedily be restored to health again.

Your Committee learn with deep regret that Dr. Roth, the Protector of Aborigines, has resigned his position. Dr. Roth has ever been a warm friend of our Mission, and has on many occasions rendered valuable aid. We shall miss him much.

In conclusion, your Committee desire to impress upon members of Assembly the necessity for an increase of liberality on the part of our congregations, so that our Mission work may be carried on in no grudging fashion, but with a generosity worthy of so splendid a cause.

In name of the Committee,

W. SWEYN MACQUEEN, Convener.

# CHURCH OF QUEENSLAND.

## ABORIGINAL MISSION FUND—GENERAL ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
By Wickham Terrace ... ..			5 3 5	To Balance brought forward from last year ...			10 16 5
Bellevue Y.P.S.C.E. ... ..	2	10	0	Refund to Mr. A. L. Pryde: amount paid by him in error to Brown, Campbell & Co., for rations ... ..			42 0 0
Bowen S.S. ... ..	1	0	0	Salary of Rev. E. Brown's assistant ... ..	60	0	0
Mowbraytown S.S. ... ..	1	0	0	General Assembly's Board of Missions ... ..	18	15	0
Do. Y.P.S.C.E. ... ..	0	5	0	Do. Do. for Mission ... ..	11	0	0
New Farm S.S. ... ..	0	16	11	Agent's salary ... ..			89 15 0
Tiaro Y.P.S.C.E. ... ..	0	12	3	Rev. N. Hey's lectures—expenses ... ..			4 3 6
Do. Junior S.C.E. ... ..	0	5	0	Stationery, Postages, etc. ... ..			5 0 7
Townsville Central Y.P.S.C.E. ... ..	1	16	6	"Record," etc. ... ..			1 15 10
			8 5 0	Proportion, printing Minutes ... ..	3	4	3
Rev. N. Hey's Lectures ... ..			2 10 5	Do. Balimba Church Debt ... ..	10	19	6
P.W.M.U., salary, Rev. E. Brown's assistant	60	0	0	Do. Austral Star Debt ... ..	6	16	5
Do. Archer River Station ... ..	37	10	0				21 0 2
			97 10 0	Balance ... ..			41 2 3
Government Grant ... ..			55 5 0				
Assembly Revenue Funds ... ..			39 9 3				
Fortitude Valley Junior S.C.E., for support of child at Weipa ... ..	2	10	0				
Mackay S.S., for support of child at Mapoon	2	10	0				
Park S.S., for support of child at Weipa ... ..	2	10	0				
			7 10 0				
			<u>£215 13 9</u>				<u>£215 13 9</u>

## ABORIGINAL MISSION FUND (BOAT MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT).

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
By Balance brought forward from last year ... ..			150 8 1	To Amount transferred to .. ..			50 0 0
Remittance, per Rev. E. Brown ... ..			46 16 0	Balance ... ..			147 4 1
			<u>£197 4 1</u>				<u>£197 4 1</u>

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Chalmers Manse, 119 North Terrace,

Adelaide, August 16th, 1905.

The Rev. Thomas Macmillan, Missionary for the South Australian Church, left Australia on an extended holiday in December, 1903, and did not return till May, 1905. Of work done by him on the field no report can be submitted. During the interval, in May, 1904, however, the Rev. T. Watt Leggatt, of Malekula, visited this State (at the request of the P.W.M.U.) in the interest of Missionary enterprise, and although his stay was short it was very inspiring. Owing to the absence of Mr. Macmillan on furlough, the usual periodical letters, giving an account of the prominent features and successive phases of the work, were not forthcoming, and they were greatly missed. On his arrival in Australia, Mr. Macmillan himself was minded to go direct to Tanna, for the sake of the work there. But your Committee were unanimously of opinion that it would be in every way better if he visited the several congregations of the Church, even though, at that season of the year, the weather is not always the most agreeable. Arrangements were accordingly made to carry out this design, and nearly all the time of his seven weeks' sojourn here was spent in making these visitations, during which the Missionary knowledge of the people has been increased and their zeal revived. Nor is there any doubt that by this method Mr. Macmillan has knit the hearts of the people more closely to himself, and thus furthered the object which both he and we hold so dear. It should be added that Mrs. Macmillan did splendid service also to the common cause in her own unassuming way. For the year 1905 there is a decrease in the contributions:—New Hebrides Fund, £208 against £248; Queensland Aboriginal Fund, £25 as against £30. The Committee trust that during the current year there will be a return to more satisfactory financial conditions.

By authority of the Committee,

DAVID PATON, Convener.

## TASMANIA.

## REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS COMMITTEE.

I have to report that our Foreign Missions Committee deals specially with the maintenance of a Missionary on Epi, New Hebrides. Our Missionary, the Rev. R. W. Fraser, has now retired, after 23 years' work. His work stands as a lasting memorial to faithful service in the power of the Gospel. A new Missionary is not yet appointed, the station being temporarily in the charge of the Rev. F. Riddle, a neighbouring Missionary. We are much concerned with putting right our finances, which for a long time have been drifting badly in arrears. A large staff of native teachers is, however, maintained. Our total income for the last 12 months has been only £158 12s. 6d., all of which has been absorbed, leaving a total deficit at the present time of over £150. A special effort is now being made to put this right.

J. HEYER, Convener.

## CHURCH OF TASMANIA.

Abstract of Receipts and Disbursements for last Financial Year.

### NEW HEBRIDES ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.	EXPENDITURE.	£ s. d.
Collections and Donations ... ..	158 12 6	Salaries and Expenses ... ..	155 1 9
		Balance in hand .. .. .	3 10 9
	<u>£158 12 6</u>		<u>£158 12 6</u>

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### NATIVE TEACHERS' FUND.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Contributions ... ..	13 0 0	Salary and Expenses... ..	7 0 0
		Balance in hand ... .. .	6 0 0
	<u>£13 0 0</u>		<u>£13 0 0</u>





In the Entrance Examination, which was held in February, 1905, seventeen students entered. Of these ten passed in the first examination, and four, who failed in Hebrew, passed in the Supplementary Examination. Mr. G. Cranston, a student from the United Free Church College, Glasgow, was also examined in Scripture and Hebrew, and passed.

The Rev. Professor Skene having sent in his resignation as an examiner in Theology, it was agreed to recommend the appointment of the Rev. P. J. Murdoch, M.A. It was agreed, further, to recommend that in room of the Rev. J. B. Russell, now residing in Auckland, the Rev. J. F. Macrae be appointed an examiner in Scripture, and that the Rev. D. Macrae Stewart be appointed an examiner in English and History.

The attention of the Executive was drawn to the difference in length of the course of study in particular subjects in the two Halls, arising from a resolution passed by last General Assembly on an overture from St. Andrew's College Theological Faculty. It was agreed that full consideration of the matter be deferred until the meeting of the General Committee in September.

The subject of the B.D. degree, which has already been before the General Assembly, has not been lost sight of. By the action of the Council of Churches in Melbourne, the matter will shortly be brought before the Council of the University of Melbourne, and will receive there very influential support. The prospect of some action being taken by the University favourable to the conferring of Divinity Degrees is made the brighter that an Act entitled "The Divinity Degrees Act, 1905," and the object of which is "to enable the University of New Zealand to confer Degrees in Divinity," has been before the New Zealand Parliament. Further information on this matter will be put before the Assembly.

This is but a progress report. The Committee will meet before the General Assembly is convened, and will issue a final report.

J. MEIKLEJOHN, D.D., Convener.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

The Committee agreed that it shall be compulsory on the part of graduates who have not taken Greek as part of their course to pass the examination in that subject included in the Entrance Examination, and it was further agreed that the rule become operative in 1907.

#### SYLLABUS FOR ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 1907-1908.

- SCRIPTURE—Deuteronomy; the Gospel of Mark.  
 SHORTER CATECHISM—(Salmond's Hand-book).  
 HEBREW—Davidson's Grammar, Sections 1-21 (matter in small print excepted); Exercises 12-20.  
 LATIN—Virgil's *Æneid*, Book II. *Cæsar*, *De Bello Gallico*, Book II. (Bell's Classics).  
 GREEK—Rutherford's Greek Grammar (MacMillan's Greek course) with Underhill's Exercises. Xenophon's *Anabasis*, Book II. (Bell's Classics) Book of Acts, Chapters 1-8 (inclusive).  
 MENTAL PHILOSOPHY—Scottish Philosophy, Andrew Seth.  
 MORAL PHILOSOPHY—Ethical Principles, James Seth, Parts I. and II.  
 HISTORY—Green's Short History, Chapters I.-VIII. (inclusive). Student's Gibbon, Chapters I. to XVI. (inclusive).  
 ENGLISH—Meiklejohn's English Language and Literature, Parts I. and III. Shakespeare, 'Henry V.,' Clarendon Press, Essay.

#### SYLLABUS FOR EXIT EXAMINATION, 1906.

##### HEBREW AND OLD TESTAMENT EXEGESIS.

- (1) Davidson's Hebrew Grammar, including simple composition from English into Hebrew.  
 Davidson's Hebrew Syntax; Syntax of the sentence and all references to other parts of the book in the texts set.

- (2) 2 Samuel, Chapters 1-7 (inclusive); Isaiah 40-53 (inclusive)  
Text books for Introduction and Exegesis: Kirkpatrick's Samuel, Vol. II. (Cambridge Bible for Schools); Skinner's Isaiah, Vol. II. (Cambridge Bible for Schools).
- (3) History and Old Testament Theology; Robertson's Early Religion of Israel, Chapters 1-10 (inclusive)  
Burney's Outlines of Old Testament Theology (Oxford Church Text-books)

## NEW TESTAMENT GREEK AND EXEGESIS.

- (1) Greek Text (a) Galatians (Lightfoot); (b) 1 Cor. 5: 1-4, 12-15 (w.h.).
- (2) Introduction (a) Lightfoot's Galatians, and Dissertation on St. Paul and the Three.  
(b) Ramsay's Articles on Galatia in Hastings' Bible Dictionary (from p. 83 par. as to the relation between the immigrant Gauls to end of Art region of Galatia, p. 91).  
(c) Introduction in Edwards' First Corinthians.
- (3) Exegesis of Galatians (Lightfoot), and of 1 Cor. 1-4 and 15 in Edwards' First Corinthians.  
Christian Philosophy and Apologetic.  
Text books:—(1) Flint's Theism (omitting the non-Platonic Arguments, p. 276 at foot, to break at 288). (2) Bruce's The Miraculous Element in the Gospels, Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10 (246-388).

## THEOLOGY.

The Person and Work of the Redeemer.

- I.—Orr's Christian View of God and the World.  
Lectures II., VI., VIII., Appendix to Lecture VI., and Appendix to "The Idea of the Kingdom of God."
- II.—Denney's, The Death of Christ: Its Place and Interpretation in the New Testament.  
Students recommended to read Chapter X. (Doctrine of Redemption, Priesthood, and Atonement) of Davidson's Old Testament Theology;

## CHURCH HISTORY.

Pp. 306-352.

Cheetham's Sketch of Mediæval Church History ('Society for Propogating Christian Knowledge'); Lindsay's Luther and the German Reformation (T. T. Clark).

## RESULTS OF EXIT AND FINAL EXAMINATIONS.

## ORMOND COLLEGE.

A. E. Macdonald, M.A., 86, p.c.; A. J. Stewart, 75; D. Bruce, 71; D. M. Lyall, B.A., 64; C. S. O. Keays, 63; G. Rowe, B.A., 60; W. Byers, 59.

The following have passed as exit students in Apologetics:—K. Forster, B.A., 87, p.c.; E. Petherick, 81; J. C. McPhce, 80; R. Foyster, B.A., 77; S. D. Hood, 73; J. McDougall, B.A., 69; C. R. Houston, 68; A. O. Hardie, B.A., 45.

## ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE.

Percy Hope, B.A., 81, p.c.; G. Logan, B.A., 75; J. N. McGee, 51. The following have passed in Hebrew and Church History:—J. Dudley, 71; J. H. Robertson, M.A., 77; W. S. Laurie, 71; G. Cranston, 62.

## THEOLOGICAL HALL, ORMOND COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

## REPORT OF SENATUS, 1905.

The fortieth session of the Hall was opened on March 8th, a public Inaugural Lecture being delivered by the Rev. Professor Skene, M.A., on his entering upon the duties of the Chair of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis and Homiletics. The subject of lecture was "The Old Testament Prophet and the New Testament Preacher." Twenty-seven students, all of them studying for the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church, attended the classes during the Session. This is the largest number since the Hall's foundation. Another gratifying feature is that all have come through the gateway of the Entrance Examination, and a large proportion are University men and Graduates. Some of them have won the highest honours in their respective departments of study in the University of Melbourne. One student comes from the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand.

The following students, having completed their three years' Theological Course, have proceeded to the recent Exit Examination in Church History, Theology, Hebrew, and Old Testament Exegesis and New Testament Greek and Exegesis:—Messrs. Douglas Bruce, W. R. Byers, C. A. O. Keays, D. M. Lyall, B.A., A. E. Macdonald, M.A., George Rowe, B.A., and A. J. Stewart. The following, having completed their second year course, have proceeded to the Exit Examination in Christian Philosophy and Apologetic:—Messrs. Carl Foerster, B.A.; R. C. Foyster, B.A.; A. O. Hardie, B.A.; J. Craig (N.Z.), S. H. Hood, C. R. Houston, J. P. MacDougall, B.A.; J. C. McPhee, and E. G. Petherick.

The health of the students has been good, and their attendance also good.

The Class of the Rev Edward Rorke, B.A., the "Wilson Lecturer on Elocution," in the Hall has been regularly attended, and has given much satisfaction. All the lectures, exercises, and tests have been conducted with the aim of producing natural and effective reading and devotional utterance in the pulpit, and also natural, clearly-enunciated, and persuasive delivery of sermons.

The Library has been still further strengthened, Dr. Macdonald having devoted to it much care for several years. The students avail themselves abundantly of its advantages.

During the session the "Ormond Students' Theologic Society" has carried on its work vigorously. A movement has also been inaugurated to form a United Theological Society, embracing the Theological students of Ormond, Trinity, and Queen's Colleges, for the promotion of study and the deepening of spiritual life. The Students' Missionary Society has carried on its earnest voluntary efforts in support of the Aboriginal Mission in North Queensland, and of a teacher in the New Hebrides.

A number of clergymen from outside the Hall have, by request, delivered occasional lectures to the students on various aspects of ministerial work.

The Senatus have heard with much regret that, owing to increasing deafness, the Rev. Professor Macdonald, D.D., their President for this session, has tendered to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria his two-fold Chair of Church History and of Systematic Theology, his resignation to take effect at the close of next session. During Dr. Macdonald's years of teaching in the Hall, more than 150 students have passed through his classes, the majority of whom are now ministers of the Presbyterian Church, some of them already occupying positions of great prominence in this or other lands. The Senatus desire to express their deep sense of the great services Dr. Macdonald has rendered to the Church, to the Hall, and to the Church's Ministry, and their sincere regret at the prospect of the flight of time and the wear of years causing him to separate himself from high and sacred work which has been to him an object of intense love, and into which he has thrown ungrudgingly his life's energy and powers.

The Session was closed by a public meeting, at which the farewell address to the students (on Ministerial Work and Efficiency) was delivered by the Right Rev. W. S. Rolland, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

J. LAWRENCE RENTOUL,

Secretary of Senatus.

REPORT OF THE THEOLOGICAL FACULTY OF ST. ANDREW'S  
COLLEGE, SYDNEY.

During the Session 1905, the classes have been regularly conducted by the Professors and Lecturers in charge of the several departments—namely, Dr. Andrew Harper, in Energetical Theology of the Old Testament and Hebrew; Dr. George MacInnes in Energetical Theology of the New Testament; Dr. T. E. Clouston in Historical Theology; Dr. W. M. Dill Macky in Biblical and Systematic Theology; Dr. John Kinross in Apologetics and Christian Ethics; and Mr. John Garland, LL.B., in Ecclesiastical Law and Procedure. In addition, the Rev. Robert Steel, M.A., the Steel lecturer for the year, conducted a class during the second term in Pastoral Theology, and at the invitation of the Faculty, the Rev. J. Anderson Gardiner, B.A., gave the students instruction in Sacred Rhetoric.

The number of students in attendance has been the same as in 1904—namely, 10. Of these three were in the third year, Messrs. Percy Hope, B.A., George Logan, B.A., and J. N. McGee. Four were in the second year, namely, Messrs George Cranston, J. T. Dudley, B.A., W. S. Lawrie, and J. N. Robertson, M.A. Three were in the first year, Messrs. Victor Clark Duff, B.A., J. C. Gibson, and John Paterson, B.A. At the close of the Session, class examinations were conducted by the Faculty, with the result that all the students were adjudged to have fulfilled their duties satisfactorily.

The Faculty are satisfied with the result of the change made, by which the attention of students was confined each year to a limited number of subjects, in place of diffusing their energies over the whole course, and recommend its continuance.

The Library has been enriched by a number of the most recent theological books in every department, but the funds at present at the disposal of the Faculty are almost exhausted, and the Faculty appeal to the friends of the Hall to supply them with the means to supply this necessary part of the equipment of the Hall.

T. E. CLOUSTON, D.D., President.

GEORGE MACINNES, D.D., Secretary.

III.

REPORT OF HOME MISSION COMMITTEE, 1905.

Your Committee have to report that the following questions were addressed to the Conveners of the State Home Mission Committees:—

A. Would you kindly furnish the Home Mission Committee of Australia with a brief report of the work done by your Committee since the last meeting of the General Assembly of Australia, September, 1903?

1. Also kindly state how many Charges have been erected during the period named in your State.
2. How many Charges, if any, reduced to Stations.
3. Also how many new Mission Stations have been organised.
4. And how many, if any, abandoned, or otherwise dealt with.

Further note:—

- a. Any particular encouraging circumstances associated with the work of your Committee.
- b. Difficulties and hindrances to the progress of the work.
- c. Any suggestions which may occur to you as likely to be of advantage to the Committee in furthering Home Mission work within your State, and Australia generally.

B. How many Home Mission Agents have you in active service who are (1) Ordained Ministers, (2) Licentiates, (3) Students under Theological training, (4) Students in Arts, (5) Students preparing for the University, (6) Others?

1. The following reports have been received:—

NEW SOUTH WALES.

This report refers to the work done by the Committee during the two years ending with the meetings of the State Assembly in May, 1904, and May, 1905.

(1) New Charges have been initiated at the following places—9 in number:—Dulwich Hill, Campsie, Lindfield (now with a settled minister), Auburn, Belmont and Boolaroo, Manilla, Cessnock Weston and Kurri-Kurri, Barrington and Gloucester, Kyogle.

(2) One former parish—Gundagai—has been reduced to a Mission Station, and one Home Mission Station—Wilcannia—has been temporarily left without services. The parish of Wentworth has been without a minister for some time. But we hope to re-occupy both these important spheres at an early date.

Some of the encouraging features of our work have been the demand for assistants in eight of our large country parishes, with a view to their division as soon as practicable. Requests for the supply of ordinances have come from a number of places, in some cases stimulated by the visits of the Commissioner of Assembly, and in other cases of their own motion.

The difficulties of the Committee have been very great, owing to the insufficient supply of fully qualified Agents. In the vacations of the Theological Halls, the students are available, but when they have to return to Sydney to attend the classes, we have been obliged to send into the field men who have received little or no training, rather than allow parishes and stations to remain vacant. Some of these have done good service, but their work in the field has been detrimental to the progress of their studies.

The number of Agents at present at work is:—Ordained Ministers, 18; Divinity Students, 10; Students attending the University, 4; Students preparing for matriculation, 4; Catechists and others, 23.

The return of good seasons to the State has made possible what has been under consideration for several years, namely, the sending forth of a Gospel car under the charge of an ordained Minister into the remote western interior. The Rev. P. A. Smith has accepted the invitation of the Committee to undertake this work, and is at present on his way from Bourke to Milparinka and Wilcannia. This scheme has evoked the interest of the members of the Church, and some generous gifts have been the result, notably the donation of £100 from the Honourable W. Ross.

The scheme for the establishment of a Home Mission Settlement in a suitable part of the city of Sydney has been sanctioned by the Assembly, but it has been decided to amalgamate with the larger scheme of the Institutional Church which is now being devised by an influential Committee.

THOMAS E. CLOUSTON, D.D., Convener.

VICTORIA.

A. A brief report of the work of the Committee since the Assembly of 1903 will be found in the answers to the questions asked.

1. Charges erected, 10. Eight of them had once been Charges, but had lapsed to the position of Mission Stations.
2. Charges reduced to Mission Stations: None.
3. New Mission Stations organised: 12.
4. Mission Stations abandoned: One temporary Mission closed. The camp was broken up, the special work in which the men were engaged being finished.

(a) *Encouraging Circumstances.*

(1) A Sub-Committee to deal with the finances has been appointed, with good results.

Increased interest in Home Missions in congregations and Sunday Schools, through diffusion of more information.

(2) A "Home Mission Jottings" column in the "Messenger."

(3) New districts have been opened up, and Mission Stations (some, at least) are facing better their responsibilities.

(4) A large and representative special committee has been appointed by the Assembly to consider fully the better organisation of Home Missions, and the better training of agents.

*(b) Difficulties and Hindrances.*

Lack of suitable men.  
Lack of oversight.  
Want of funds to raise Home Mission Stations to the status of sanctioned Charges, with ordained ministry.

*(c) Suggestions.*

The appointment of a Home Mission Director, or the provision of some other means for complete oversight and organisation.

The establishment of an itinerant ministry for visiting stations in the back-blocks.

The publication of fuller information as to the needs and possibilities of the outlying districts of the larger States.

The establishment of a Training Institute for Home Missionaries.

B. Home Mission Agents in active service:—

- (1) Ordained Ministers: 10.
  - (2) Licentiates: 1.
  - (3) Theological Students: 11.
  - (4) Students in Arts: 2.
  - (5) Students studying for the University: 3.
  - (6) Students studying for the Hall, having gone through a four years' Home Mission course (one month's lectures with examinations each year): 12.
  - (7) Missionaries now taking "Mission" course: 19.
  - (8) Missionaries that have finished Home Mission course: 5.
  - (9) Other Missionaries: 27.
- Total: 90.

GRAHAM H. BALFOUR,

Convener Church Extension Branch.

W. H. COOPER,

Convener Preachers' Branch.

TASMANIA REPORT, 1904-5.

The Home Mission Stations of Tasmania are administered by a Committee appointed by the Assembly, and consisting of one member from each Presbytery, together with the Clerk of Assembly, and the Treasurer of the Church.

The present Committee is: Rev. F. E. Oxer, Convener (Midlands); Rev. A. R. Osborn (North); Rev. J. Heyer (South); Rev. J. Russell (Clerk); and the Hon. Jas. Murdoch (Treasurer).

There are at present 11 Home Mission Charges, including some forty preaching stations.

The funds at the disposal of the Committee consist solely of amounts contributed annually by the Churches, together with donations. There are no capitalised funds.

Charges erected since September, 1903: Zechan, West Tamar, West Devonport. We expect that two other Mission Stations, viz., Queenstown and Stanley, will become Charges in the near future.

Charges reduced: None.

New Missions organised: Work has been recommenced at Ulverstone, and preaching stations established at Sandhill and Invermay, suburbs of Launceston.

Stations abandoned: None.

*Encouragements.*

Interest in Home Mission work is being stimulated throughout the island and progress is noted in more than one direction. Extension work is being pushed on privately by many congregations, with some success. Our prospects on the west and north-west coasts—the most progressive portions of Tasmania—are distinctly more hopeful than they were a few years back,

though we have still great problems facing us, and a vast amount of ground to cover. Opportunities have been lost, chances muddled, and we are now late in the field and deficient in resources.

*Difficulties, Hindrances, &c.*

There are thirteen regular Charges in Tasmania; six of these fail to raise the minimum stipend of £200, and can therefore do little for Home and Foreign Missions. This leaves seven congregations to raise some £250 per annum for Foreign Missions, and, in addition, to sustain 11 Mission Stations, many of which are struggling. As there are no public offices, all the details of administration fall on the Convener and his Committee. With such a small roll this is a very heavy burden.

Several of the Mission Stations are decayed Charges in old settled districts, where the *vis inertia* makes the task of sustaining ordinances depressingly heavy.

Mission work has suffered most in Tasmania from the type of agents employed. We have depended too much on the rejected tools of Victoria and New South Wales, the result being that station after station has been successively ruined. The Committee will help us by taking measures for eliminating unsuitable men from the service, by making it impossible for weak Churches to employ just anybody, and more particularly by providing a supply of more or less adequately equipped men. The scheme for training missionaries will, unless carefully guarded, become a dead letter in the weaker Churches.

Mission Agents employed:—

- (1) Ordained Ministers: 2.
- (2) Licentiates: 0.
- (3) Students under Theological Training: 4 going through our own Missionary Course; 2 who have passed the Victorian Course.
- (4) Others: 3.

F. E. OXER, Convener.

P.S.—Another difficulty we meet is the disposal of elderly agents whose usefulness is past. Tasmania would benefit very much were beneficiary funds organised for the whole of Australia, and also if some home of refuge could be established for decayed missionaries. We are blocked in at least two places by our unwillingness to cast adrift worthy men for whose services we have no other outlet.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

A.—

1. Two Charges erected.
2. None.
3. Three.

Encouragements.

Gratitude of the people ministered.

An increased willingness of the people to contribute for Home Mission work.

Difficulties.

These lie in the fact that a portion of our population is settled over an extensive area, making it difficult to reach the people, or to gather them into congregations. Another difficulty, created by the fact just stated, is the number of Home Mission Charges in proportion to the settled Charges. The financial strain on the settled Charges to assist Home Mission Charges is more than they can stand. In addition to the Home Mission Charges and preaching places now cared for and being fostered with a view to being erected into regular Charges, we have at least four districts that we could take up had we the means.

Suggestions.

I propose to recommend to the next meeting of our State Assembly to appoint a Financial Secretary and Organising Agent with an office in the city.

B.—We have at the present date as Home Mission Agents—

1. No ordained Ministers.
2. No Licentiate.
3. No Students.
4. No Art Students.
5. One Student preparing for University.
6. We have six Lay Missionaries employed.

W. GRAY, Organising Agent.

Melbourne, September 23rd, 1905.

#### QUEENSLAND.

Since a report of Home Mission work in Queensland was last submitted to your Committee operations have been steadily continued on about the same scale as during the period then under review. The feature of the work during the present period has been the development and organisation of the work in existing fields, rather than the opening up of new stations. This does not lend itself to report as the opening of new fields would, but it is quite as necessary, and with our means (men and money) imperative. We have not a sufficient revenue to enable us to subsidise many new fields. It is only as the older fields become developed and need less help that it is possible to take on new work which, as is usually the case, needs liberal financial backing from the Fund.

During the period which you wish reported upon, there has been a considerable amount of progress in nearly all of the fields under the care of this Committee. In some instances, the progress has been striking, while others have been the occasion of considerable disappointment. The encouraging features of the work have been, however, far more numerous and significant than the disappointments. The number of centres at which services are regularly conducted have increased, the attendances at services are better than they were, and generally a greater interest is manifest among the people. Much energy has been displayed in the erection of church-buildings, and in the procuring of sites for such buildings, which shows the determination of the people.

There is also a very successful Home Mission work being carried on by several congregations of the Church in their own vicinity. Charters Towers, Killarney, Warwick, and Allora Charges have been conspicuous in this work. In this way a great deal has been done to extend the agencies of the Church, and there is yet room for a great deal more of the same kind of enterprise.

The whole of the work of the Church in Queensland has been to some extent retarded by the large exodus of ministers to other States during the two years under review. On the other side, one minister from another State has been settled in Queensland, and four have come from the Home Churches—two from the United Free Church of Scotland, and two from the Irish Presbyterian Church.

We have been greatly encouraged and helped in our work by the liberal monetary assistance of all the Home Churches, having received during the period £300 from the United Free and £100 from the Church of Scotland, while the Irish Presbyterian Church sent £200. Without this assistance, our work, modest as it is, would have been attended by serious difficulties. These gifts have enabled us to make ends meet.

From the Old Country we have drawn the greater portion of our Home Missionaries, these being men trained in the Glasgow Institute and selected by Mr. Andrew Stewart, to whom we are deeply indebted for his deep interest in our work, and his willing help whenever it is needed.

In reply to your queries, I have to state that—

1. Five Charges have been erected.
2. One was reduced, but is included in the number erected, as it is now once more settled.
3. Three new Mission Stations have been organised.
4. None has been abandoned, but one has been provided for, for the present, by the neighbouring Charge.

Note on No. 3: Three new Stations are on the point of being taken up.



Amongst the encouraging circumstances connected with our work may be noted:—

1. A growing sense amongst our people generally of the urgent need of Home Mission work, and a feeling of shame at past indifference. Out of this may come a "forward movement" commensurate with the needs.

2. The desire for the services of the Church in districts where we are not yet represented.

3. The number of young men who are desirous of giving themselves to the preaching of the Gospel. This is perhaps the most hopeful sign of our Church life at present.

Our difficulties and hindrances are, perhaps, such as are common to all such work. We want ministers and we want money. We have indifference to spiritual things to contend with. The giant forms of evil are in Queensland as they are elsewhere. But our main difficulties are those arising from the very scanty population which is spread over a great area. In many districts where we should have agents, the people could not themselves meet their salaries, and our limited income is not sufficient to render the assistance which would be required.

One or two suggestions which, if adopted, might help the work in this State and other States whose circumstances resemble our own, may be permitted.

1. If the Ministers of the Church exist for the Church, and not the Church for them, some attempt might be made to distribute them where they are most needed.

2. The time has nearly come in the history of the United Church when the stronger sections of it may be expected to begin to help the weaker. An Australian Home Mission Fund for the assistance of the Church in the weaker States would be an evidence that our Union is more than a name. At present all that the stronger States do for Queensland is to call our best ministers to their vacant Charges. We want some practical results of our Union, and the sooner the better.

In reply to your query regarding the composition of our Home Mission staff, the following shows the condition in which ours is:—

1. Two ordained ministers are at work.
2. We have no Licentiates.
3. Our one student in theology is not available for work.
4. Our one student in arts is not available for work.
5. One student preparing for matriculation is available for occasional work.
6. Ten Home Missionaries are employed.

It should be added that the Queensland Church has great interest in the scheme for the training of Home Missionaries with a view to the Ministry, and it is to be hoped that the Assembly will devise such methods as shall open the door to these Missionaries as widely as possible. They are good men, and it would be a pity if any scheme should be adopted which does not take into account the situation of such places as Queensland. The draft scheme may meet the needs of the two large States; it does not seem to promise much to a State like ours.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

GEO. EWAN, Convener.

#### WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

A. Our Church can report simply a steady holding-on to work already begun. We have abandoned work at York through lack of support. At the present time, however, the Rev. D. B. Smith, who has done such excellent work as Superintendent of the Geraldton and Murchison Districts, is investigating Cue and Day Dawn with a view to establishing permanent work where necessary; and the Rev. G. Brewster is beginning work at Wagin on the Great Southern District. The Rev. A. Crow also reports having begun services at Kurrawang, eight miles from Kalgoorlie.

The Rev. J. H. Fordyce, who came out from Scotland in response to our appeal for men, is now ordained, and doing excellent work in Boulder. Four Mission Agents received from the Glasgow Bible Training Institute on a three years' engagement, have been at work here for almost a year, and their

work is mostly highly satisfactory. Two of them, however, are required to work in Charges which ought to have settled ministers.

To the Bursary Fund £30 has been contributed, and we hope to allocate it after the matriculation examination in December.

The Committee has adopted a scheme "for the purpose of making periodical visits to every Church in the State," and while it is impossible for us to appoint a Home Mission Superintendent, yet much is being done to keep in touch with and encourage our Home Mission Agents by visitation.

1. One Charge (though it is still being worked by a Home Mission Agent)—Bulong-Kanowna.

2. None.

3. Under Geraldton six centres are regularly visited by Mr. Smith. Wagin and Kurrawang are simply new preaching stations under the Albany and Kalgoorlie charges respectively.

4. One—York.

(a)

(b) The vastness of our territory; lack of money; lack of suitable men.

(c) Having the Home Mission work brought directly under the charge of the Federal Assembly. This would secure for us a regular supply of suitable men. Our experiment with men from the Glasgow Bible Training Institute has been only partially successful, and, because of our lack of ordained ministers for our settled Charges, we are not able to test them with real pioneer work. All of them have entered upon work which has been established for some time.

B. (1) None.

(2) None.

(3) None.

(4) None.

(5) None.

(6) Six.

HENRY C. MATTHEW, Convener.

## SECTION B.

### COMMUNICATION ANENT THURSDAY ISLAND.

An important letter has been received from the Convener of the Home Mission Committee of the Church of Queensland, anent Thursday Island, which your Committee would lay before the Assembly:—

At the last meeting of my Committee, the matter of providing religious services for the Presbyterians and other non-Anglican Protestants at Thursday Island received consideration. The Rev. Joseph King, of the L.M.S., was present, and stated that at his recent visit to Thursday Island the people had met him in conference, and had expressed their desire to have a Presbyterian Minister appointed to labour there, or, failing a Presbyterian, a Congregationalist. Mr. King was averse to a Congregational Church being formed at Thursday Island, as the bulk of the people had Presbyterian connections. He desired to have a Minister stationed there who would exercise oversight of the converts of the Society who visited or resided at Thursday Island, and he was prepared to recommend that in the event of such an arrangement being entered into between the Presbyterian Church and the Society, the Society should make a grant to the Presbyterian Church for the Minister's support.

My Committee view very favourably this suggestion, and would like to see effect given to it. Their power to do so is limited, however. Their funds are not equal, at present, to the additional strain which this new work would cause; neither have they a man whom they could spare for the position.

Considering, however, the peculiar situation and character of the place; that it is, in a manner, only accidentally Queensland territory; that it is of Commonwealth rather than State value; that its population is one of the most cosmopolitan in the world; the Committee decided to bring the matter of providing services by a minister of the Presbyterian Church under the notice of your Committee, and to suggest that the Presbyterian Church of Australia

might at Thursday Island find a point where she could most fittingly and appropriately begin the Church Extension efforts of the United Church.

I beg to commend the matter to the earnest attention of yourself and the other members of the Home Mission Committee, and I trust that something may be done whereby the services of our Church may be extended soon to this important position.

Any information that I may be able to supply, I shall be happy to place at your disposal.—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

GEO. EWAN, Convener.  
(Per W.C.R.)

## SECTION C.

### TRAINING OF HOME MISSION AGENTS.

A scheme of training for Home Mission Lay Agents with a view to the Ministry was laid before the General Assembly of 1903, approved of generally, and sent down to State Assemblies and Presbyteries. The returns received were representative of the whole Church, and these were duly considered according to the direction of the General Assembly by your Committee, and the following amended scheme was remitted to State Assemblies and Presbyteries:—

#### IT IS REQUIRED:—

1. That the Agents who are to be admitted to this special course of training be men who are over twenty-three (23) years of age, approved of as to attainments, gifts, and Christian consistency by the State Assembly, having proper jurisdiction and accepted by the General Assembly of Australia.

#### (A.) NEW SOUTH WALES.

2. That such accepted Agents shall devote themselves to a preliminary course of training, and within four years from date of their acceptance by the General Assembly pass (a) the Matriculation Examination of a recognised University, or (b) the Senior University Examination (Sydney), or (c) a special Matriculation set by the General Assembly's College Committee, and also within the same period attend and pass at least four University Classes approved of by the General Assembly's College Committee, or pursue a course of study and examination under direction of the General Assembly's College Committee on such subjects and text-books as are approved by the General Assembly's College Committee.

3. That during the course special attention shall be given to the contents of the English Bible, English Language and Literature, Logic, Mental and Moral Philosophy, N.T. Greek, History and Political Economy.

4. That those who pass the course shall be eligible as candidates for entrance to one of the Theological Halls of the Church, and shall be examined on all the subjects of the Syllabus save Latin, Greek (other than N.T.), and Hebrew.

5. That during the recess of the Hall the Agents shall as far as possible be provided with work in their own State.

6. That after finishing their Hall course and passing the Exit Examination, they shall serve in the State in which their preliminary training was given for a period of at least four years.

All the State Assemblies have made returns to this Remit. These without exception approve of the principal features of the Scheme of Training. The amendments proposed deal with details. Twenty-two Presbyteries have made Returns to Remit; 12 approve or approve generally; 7 approve with amendments; one proposes a Scheme of its own; one disapproves, and one declines to give an opinion.

As a fair example of the amendments proposed, your Committee give here the Returns from the General Assemblies of New South Wales and Victoria:—

#### (B.) VICTORIA.

1. That the Agents who are to be admitted to this special course of training be men who are over twenty-three (23) years of age, approved of as to

attainments, gifts and Christian consistency by the State Assembly having proper jurisdiction, and accepted by the General Assembly of Australia.

2. That such accepted Agents shall devote themselves to a preliminary course of four years' training, from the date of their acceptance by the General Assembly, and shall within that period pass (a) the Matriculation Examination of a recognised University, or (b) the Senior Public Examination in connection with the University of Sydney, or (c) where the University has no accessible Matriculation Centre, a special Examination, held on the Matriculation paper set by the University and examined by the College Committee according to the same percentage applied by the University; and thereafter shall also within the same period attend and pass at least four University Classes approved of by the General Assembly's College Committee, or pursue the course of study and examination prescribed by the University under direction of the General Assembly's College Committee.

3. That during the course special attention shall be given to the contents of the English Bible, English Language and Literature, Logic, Mental and Moral Philosophy, History, and Political Economy.

4. That those who pass the course shall be eligible as candidates for entrance to one of the Theological Halls of the Church, and shall be examined on all the subjects of the Syllabus save Latin, Greek, and Hebrew.

5. That during the recess of the Hall the Agents shall, as far as possible, be provided with work in their own State.

6. That after finishing their Hall course and passing the Exit Examination they shall serve in the State in which their preliminary training was given for a period of at least four years.

7. That, where any dispute shall arise as to the States named in clauses 5 and 6, it shall be determined by the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly of Australia.

Sec. 1 be approved.

Sec. 2 be amended so as to read:—That such accepted Agents shall devote themselves to a course of training leading up to the Hall, and (1) within four years from date of their acceptance by the General Assembly pass (a) the Matriculation Examination of a recognised University, or (b) the Senior University Examination (Sydney), and also, thereafter, within the same period, attend and pass at least four University Classes approved of by the General Assembly's College Committee, or (2) pursue a course of study and annual Examination for four years under direction of the College Committee, on such subjects and text-books as are approved by the said Committee.

Sec. 3 amended so as to read:—That during the Course special attention shall be given to the contents of the English Bible, English Language, Logic, Mental and Moral Philosophy, History, Political Economy, N.T. Greek, and the Elements of Hebrew.

(1) Papers to be set and Answers Examined by the Examining Board of the College Committee.

(2) Examinations to be conducted locally and simultaneously under supervision of the Presbyteries to which the Agents belong.

(a) A Presbytery shall appoint one or more of its Members to direct and assist the Agent or Agents in Study, and to supervise the Annual Examination.

(b) Studies shall be directed according to the Syllabus prepared by the College Committee.

Sec. 4 amended so as to read:—That those who pass the course shall be eligible as candidates for entrance to one of the Theological Halls of the Church, and shall be examined in all subjects of the Syllabus for Entrance save Latin and Classical Greek.

Sections 5 and 6 approved.

The Returns from other State Assemblies and from the Presbyteries are laid on the table.

JOHN FERGUSON,  
P. J. MURDOCH,  
Joint Conveners.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

Your Committee beg to submit their Report to the General Assembly as follows—

Your Committee recommended to the last General Assembly that the Rev. S. H. Chapple, formerly a Wesleyan Methodist Minister, should be received as a Minister of this Church, on condition that he serve a year's probation, and in the course of that year pass an Examination in Hebrew; and this recommendation the Assembly adopted. Mr. Chapple satisfied these conditions, and he has been inducted into the charge of Tylden, in the Presbytery of Macedon, Victoria, where he has done and is doing excellent work.

The Assembly also remitted to this Committee the petition of the Minister and congregation of the Congregational Church, Devonport, Tasmania, to be received into the Presbyterian Church of Australia, giving them full powers to deal with the matter. Your Committee, having given their best consideration to the case, resolved to receive the petitioners into the Church, according to their application to last General Assembly.

The Home Mission and Church Extension Committee of the Church of Queensland have notified your Committee to the effect that the Rev. James Manwell Rodgers Dale and the Rev. Samuel Marten, Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and Mr. Allan Macdonald Mackillop, Probationer of the United Free Church of Scotland, having been commissioned to the Church in Queensland by the Churches to which they belonged, have been received in accordance with the Regulations for the Reception of Ministers.

The Presbytery of Melbourne South, Victoria, transmit the petition of the Rev. D. McFarlane to be received as an ordained Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Mr. McFarlane was licensed by the Presbytery of St. Andrew's Church of Scotland, after having passed through the curriculum prescribed by that Church. He received a commission from the Colonial Committee to the Presbyterian Church of South Africa, and was appointed Minister of Newcastle, Natal, where he laboured for thirteen years. He presents a Presbyterial certificate from the Presbytery of Natal, testifying to his ministerial standing and the high regard in which he was held for his character and work. The Presbytery transmitting his petition strongly recommend that its prayer be granted.

The Rev. Robert Alexander Redmond, B.A., petitions through the Presbytery of the Hawkesbury, New South Wales, to be received as a Minister of the Church in full standing. Mr. Redmond was licensed by the Presbytery of Belfast, and was afterwards ordained by the Presbytery of Ballymena to the pastoral oversight of one of their congregations. He came to Australia for reasons of health, and, finding his health restored, he wishes to remain. Since arriving in 1903, he has been doing work for the Home Mission Committee of the Church of New South Wales. He presents a certificate from the Presbytery of Ballymena, bearing witness to his ministerial standing and the esteem and confidence in which he was held by his brethren. The Presbytery of the Hawkesbury recommend that the prayer of Mr. Redmond's petition be granted.

The Rev. G. D. Lee, who was Minister of Cavendish in the Presbytery of Hamilton, Victoria, till 1903, and was Minister *emeritus* of the Church of Victoria till 1904, when he severed his connection with that Church, applies to be reinstated as Minister *emeritus*. The circumstances in which Mr. Lee makes his application are the following. When he was inducted, more than 30 years ago, it was to a very difficult and expensive charge, and not being able to join the Beneficiary Funds of the Victorian Church, for the sake of his family he joined the Widows and Orphans' Fund. Hence it happened that when, at the age of 77, he resigned his charge through inability to do the travelling the work made necessary, he had no claim on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. He had, however, bought a small piece of ground, and hoped, with the help of his family to make a living by dairying. But his daughter, on whom almost entirely he depended for help, became ill with chronic weakness, and he was threatened with the loss of his land. In the circumstances, he was advised to make application for the return of half his payments into the Widows and Orphans' Fund. According to the rules of this Fund, such an application cannot be granted unless the applicant "ceases to be a Minister of the Church." Though extremely unwilling, Mr. Lee felt

compelled to make the application, conforming to the rule, and he severed his connection with the Fund and ceased to be a Minister of the Church. Mr. Lee is now over 80 years of age, and if reinstated would not expect to be employed in the service of the Church or to receive any financial benefit. But he earnestly desires to end his days as a Minister of that Church to which he has given more than 30 years of his life's work, and he petitions accordingly.

The Rev. Charles Taylor, formerly a Congregational Minister, makes application to be received as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Taylor's petition is sent through the Presbytery of Perth, Western Australia, and sets forth the petitioner's previous history, his literary and theological training, and his reasons for desiring admission into the Presbyterian Church. The transmitting Presbytery strongly recommend that his petition be granted, as also does the "Moderator's Committee" of the General Assembly of Western Australia. There are also statements by the Session and Board of Management of Subiaco, in the Perth Presbytery, where Mr. Taylor has been working for more than a year, bearing testimony to the great success of Mr. Taylor's ministry in their congregation, and expressing their earnest desire that his petition should be granted.

The Rev. Walter A. Hobson, formerly a Congregational Minister, sends a petition through the Presbytery of Toowoomba, Queensland, praying to be received as a Minister of this Church. In his petition Mr. Hobson sets forth his previous history, his literary and theological training, his ministerial experience, and his reasons for wishing to join the Presbyterian Church. He also submits documents bearing testimony to the regard in which he is held by those who know him.

The Presbytery of Brisbane, Queensland, Church, transmit a petition from the Rev. Charles Edward James, formerly a Minister of the Methodist Church, asking to be received into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Mr. James's petition contains a statement as to his previous history, and gives his reasons for his desire to become a Minister of the Presbyterian Church. He also in his petition and in a letter sent to the Committee at the request of the Convener, gives an account of his literary and theological training, and he submits a large number of documents bearing testimony to his work in the Ministry of the Methodist Church. The Presbytery of Brisbane send the petition with a strong recommendation that its prayer be granted.

The attention of your Committee has been called to the following resolution of the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, and we bring it before the Assembly, as it may be necessary to modify some of the rules for the admission of Ministers:—

"That in future no commission other than a special one be granted by the Committee, unless the Minister has been appointed directly to a charge by the Committee, or has been selected and sent out by them at the request of one of the Colonial Churches."

In a letter accompanying their resolution, the Convener of the Committee says:—"The Committee feel that a Presbyterial certificate ought to be a sufficient guarantee of character and ministerial efficiency, and should certainly be preferable to one granted by them, as the Presbyteries are more likely to have fuller information. This resolution has been come to with a view to safeguard the interests of the Colonial Churches, as well as of the Colonial Committee."

ALEXANDER SKENE, M.A., Convener.

## V.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE FEDERATION OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES.

#### NEW SOUTH WALES.

It was resolved at the last Assembly that the members of the Committee in each State should act as local executives for carrying on negotiations with the Churches of the State. With this authority, the New South Wales members approached the representatives of the Congregational Churches and the Methodist Churches, and meetings were held of the joint committees, with large attendances. Up to this point, the Presbyterian Church had held con-

ferences with the Congregational and Methodist Churches, but these two had not previously met together. Consequently, much of the work had to be done over again. In the first instance, three sub-committees were appointed—(1) to draw up a scheme for the united training of students for the ministry; (2) to devise a system of polity; and (3) to elaborate a doctrinal basis. These sub-committees have met and made considerable progress in their respective departments, but none of them is yet in a position to present a report to lay before this Assembly. So far as the united training of students is concerned, it does not appear that there is any insuperable difficulty to prevent amalgamation of the Theological Halls at an early date. The same subjects are taught in each, and all that would be needed is a modification of the existing arrangements of the classes, and the times at which they meet. The Sub-committee on Polity has come to a general agreement on the courts of the Church and the conditions of membership, and is now considering the tenure of the ministerial office, and the method of appointing ministers to congregations. The Sub-committee on Doctrine has made the least progress, owing to the absence from the State of some of its members, and other causes. It appears that the elaboration of a basis of union is a process that will demand a considerable time, but so much unanimity and good feeling has already been displayed that the Committee is hopeful that if they are re-appointed they may be in a position to present a report for the consideration of the next Assembly.

The Sub-Committee in Victoria pursued a similar course to that of the Sub-Committee in New South Wales. It was laid upon the table of the Committee ten Articles of Belief as a portion of the proposed Basis of Doctrine. This has not been considered by the Committee, and no opinion has been expressed concerning it, until reports have been received from the sub-committees in the other States. It was agreed, however, to transmit the document to the other sub-committees for their information.

An interesting communication has been received from the Anglican Church. At a meeting of the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney, a Committee was appointed to confer with other Churches in regard to all matters in which co-operation and federation might be possible. This Committee has suggested that a joint meeting should be held, and we have agreed, but the conference has not yet been held.

T. E. CLOUSTON, D.D., Convener.

## VI.

### REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE, 1905.

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting the Audited Balance Sheets and the Report as follows:—

With regard to the General Assembly Expenses Fund Account, all the State Churches have made the payments in accordance with the assessment, and, after discharging the expenses of the last Assembly Meeting, a balance of £105 8s 5d remains on hand. It should be noted that care will require to be exercised in the working of this account, otherwise it may be necessary to increase the amount of the assessment, and this would be most undesirable.

In accordance with the instruction given at last meeting of the Assembly the Church Hymnary Royalty has been received by your Committee direct from the Trustees up to the 31st March, 1905. The total amount received since last meeting of Assembly being £195 10s; the present balance in hand including interest to 31st December, 1904, is £618 7s 5d. The amount of travelling expenses paid in connection with the Assembly held in Sydney in 1903 was £159 19s 9d.

The Travelling Expenses Account gives the details of the amounts paid to the representatives of the various States, Assembly officials and conveners showing a total of £201 15s 9d.

Your Committee recommends that the expenses for this Assembly be paid on the same lines and in the same proportion as for last Assembly, namely:—“That members attending the General Assembly in September, 1905, have the following percentages of their travelling expenses (calculated upon the basis of second-class railway return fares) paid by the Church, viz.:—(a)

those paying less than £1, nothing; (b) those paying from £1 to £4, to receive half; (c) those paying from £4 upwards, to receive three-quarters, provided that no one in class (b) shall pay less than £1 himself, and no one in class (c) less than £2."

It is further recommended that instruction be given to assess the State Assemblies for the General Assembly's expenses on the same lines as formerly, to wit, New South Wales £40, Victoria £40, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania, each £13 6s 8d, and Western Australia £10 per annum.

Your Committee would also ask directions regarding the sum of £55, which has been received from the Treasurer of the Presbyterian Church in England for bush work in Australia, the amount at present being held in suspense.

A sum of £8 4s 3d stands at credit of the Home Mission Committee's Account, and it is recommended that this be retained on hand as against Convener's expenses.

A sum of £6 13s 3d is at credit of the Foreign Missions Account, and your Committee recommend that this sum should be transferred to the credit of Travelling Expenses Account, as part payment of the sum of £15 11s 10d paid on account of the travelling expenses of the members of the Foreign Missions Committee.

On behalf of the Committee,

JOHN H. GOODLET, Chairman.

## VII.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RECORD.

Your Committee beg to report that the circulation of the *Record* has slightly increased since the last meeting of the General Assembly, the total number of copies sent out in 1903 having been 8934, while in 1905 the number is 9834, an increase of 900 copies.

It is, however, disappointing to find that the *Record*, which is intended for the young people of the Commonwealth, does not circulate outside Victoria as it ought to do, as may be seen from the table below. In New South Wales, for instance, the number taken is only 1248, as against 6564 circulating in Victoria. Of course, in those States which have a smaller Presbyterian population, we cannot expect to have anything like the total circulation in Victoria. But there is room for improvement everywhere, and it would be of advantage to the progress of our enterprise if Ministers of Churches and Superintendents of Sabbath Schools would heartily recommend the *Record* to their congregations and scholars, with a view to its reaching a wider circle of readers. There are many who do so already, and we are grateful for their kindly co-operation; but much more might be done in this direction.

We try to make the magazine as informing and as attractive as possible, and that many of our people, old and young, welcome its appearance month by month we are well assured.

We trust that by its help the young people of our Sabbath Schools have been stirred up to greater interest in Missions, and that it has had an educative influence on our scholars, giving them a wider horizon than otherwise they would have.

We append below for the benefit of the Assembly a table showing the circulation in the various States of the Commonwealth and in New Zealand, and the increases and decreases in each case:—

	1903.	1905.	Increase.	Decrease.
Queensland .. .. .	426	534	108	—
New South Wales .. .. .	1002	1248	246	—
Victoria .. .. .	6190	6564	374	—
South Australia .. .. .	442	465	23	—
Tasmania .. .. .	183	282	99	—
Western Australia .. .. .	274	400	126	—
New Zealand .. .. .	417	341	—	76
	8934	9834	976	76



The publishers have done their part of the work well and deserve to be supported in their efforts to provide a really good Missionary Magazine for our young people, with excellent up-to-date illustrations. Any suggestions as to further improvement which the members of the Assembly may make will be duly considered and, if practicable, carried out by the publishers and the editor.

W. S. ROLLAND, Convener.

### VIII.

#### REPORT OF THE YEAR BOOK COMMITTEE.

The Committee beg to report that there was no issue of the Year Book for 1905. The following letter from the publishers furnishes the explanation:—

“20 McKillop Street, Melbourne,  
“3rd August, 1905.

“Rev. James Jackson, Geelong.

“Reverend and Dear Sir,—In reference to your inquiry as to the Year Book of Presbyterian Church of Australia, we beg to inform you that of the issue of 1903 only 2700 copies were sold, and the total sales of the last issue, 1904, show that only 1660 copies were taken up. In the face of this, we could not ask, or get even if we did ask, any of the advertisers to continue at the rates we were obliged to charge. And as there was a loss on the sales of the book, and we could not get anything in the way of a guarantee that an increased number would be taken, we were reluctantly obliged to abandon the publication of an issue for 1905.

“We are,

“Yours faithfully,

“ARBUCKLE, WADDELL & FAWCKNER,

“Per C.R.T.”

That there is need for such a book no one who is really interested in the work of the Church questions. The publishers, however, cannot be expected to incur financial loss year after year in providing the publication, however useful it may be to the Church. The apathy shown in many quarters has now definitely decided them not to continue, and unless the Church is able, say, through the State Assemblies, to guarantee a paying circulation, nothing further can be done.

Messrs. Arbuckle, Waddell and Fawckner are entitled to the best thanks of the Assembly for the service they have rendered the Church in the past.

JAMES JACKSON, Convener.

### IX.

#### REPORT OF MODERATOR *RE* VISITATION OF STATES IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

As requested by last meeting of the General Assembly, I devoted seven months to the work thus indicated, in the States of Tasmania, South Australia, and Western Australia, in the order named. I had also arranged to devote three or four months from May last to a visitation of Queensland, but was prevented from carrying out this intention by an expressed opinion of the authorities of the Church there to the effect that, under existing circumstances, my visit, much as they desired it, would not be attended with such benefit as might be expected under more favourable conditions. The negotiations were concluded with a request that the visit should be postponed to the following year, and I promised that, in the event of my successor being

unable to undertake the work, I would be prepared to act as his substitute, should the Assembly approve of such an arrangement.

It gives me special pleasure to say that in the States visited, the courtesy and kindness of my brethren in the Ministry, as also of the office-bearers and members, left nothing to be desired. No efforts were spared in making such arrangements for my work as would be calculated to be agreeable to me and beneficial to the Church. I was strongly impressed with the conviction that the appearance of the Moderator at not only the centres of population, but also and specially at the remote settlements, is calculated in a high degree to enable our people to realise the unity and influence of our Church, to strengthen their devotion to her teaching and organisation, and increase their courage under the difficulties which in many instances they have to face. My hope and expectation, therefore, are that the General Assembly will see its way to making such arrangements as will enable the representative in chief of the Church's pastoral oneness and devotedness to her members, old and young, to visit by arrangement all the States comprised in the Commonwealth, specially those most urgently in need of her sympathy and assistance.

I cordially take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the generosity of the authorities in West Australia in granting me, at the instance of the Moderator of our Church there, a free pass over all the railways of the State, and their thoughtful attention to my comfort when travelling by night trains, and make this acknowledgement the more heartily that this was the only State that manifested such appreciation of the purpose of my visit, and thus furnished an example which the authorities in other States would do well to follow.

It will, I hope, not be regarded as intrusive to add a few observations on the religious needs of the States visited, and offer some suggestions as to ways and means by which these needs might be overtaken.

The difficulties to be met are much the same in all of them; namely: the creation of new settlements; migration from the older settlements; the tendency to abandon Christian efforts in the old ones; the apparent impossibility of supplying it effectively in the new ones; and the lack of a suitable, adaptable, and abiding agency.

The last of these is undoubtedly the one that ought most earnestly to engage the practical attention of the Church. In the States where these difficulties are most felt and appear most formidable, efforts are being made to overcome them. Tasmania is endeavouring to maintain and increase the supply of religious ordinances to the somewhat isolated but important mining communities in the south-west portion of that island, as also on the north-eastern side, where farming and shipping industries are making steady progress. The Assembly of South Australia has set apart one of its ministers as Organising Agent, whose salary for a period of three years has been subscribed by members of the Church in all parts of the State; while the Assembly of West Australia has appointed one of its ministers to make his headquarters at Geraldton, and visit all the numerous mining and other settlements situate beyond it.

These actions are encouraging, but they are yet inadequate to meet the necessity. Sooner or later the Church of all Australia will have to consider in what way, whether by appointing special agents or otherwise, she can best arrange to bring the message of God's mercy within the hearing of all who look to her to meet their spiritual needs.

And the sooner it is done the better.

D. BRUCE, Moderator.

## X.

### REPORT OF THE JUDICIAL COMMISSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA.

The Judicial Commission has to report with a feeling of becoming thankfulness that since last meeting of Assembly no case demanding action has occurred.

It has, however, been deemed expedient to officially inform the General Assembly that one of the Church's clergymen, the Rev. James Leask, M.A.,

resigned his status as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and has entered the service of the Church of England, in the capacity of a lay agent. On receipt of his letter of resignation, the Moderator gave notice of the fact to the Chief Clerk of the General Assembly, and also to the Church Office in Victoria, with the request that the Presbytery in that State by which Mr. Leask was last received, might be informed of his resignation.

Acting on the advice of the Commission, he further communicated the facts of the case to the Right Reverend Principal Rainy, Moderator of the United Free Church of Scotland, to which Church Mr. Leask was subject when commissioned for service in Australia.

D. BRUCE, D.D., Convener.

## XI.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC QUESTIONS, 1905.

Your Committee have to report that the earliest opportunity was taken to consider arrangements best adapted for celebrating the four-hundredth anniversary of the birth of John Knox. It was agreed (a) that the General Assembly of Australia, appointed to meet at Melbourne in September, 1905, should devote the Friday evening of its session to the observance of the important ceremony; (b) to request the Public Questions Committee in Victoria to make all necessary arrangements for the due observance of this function; and (c) that, as it regards the other States in the Commonwealth, it be left to the respective Assemblies to make such arrangements as might be most suitable. These recommendations were conveyed to the authorities interested, and have been cordially received and acted on. The reports from the States show that the name and the work of the great Reformer have been recognised with a becoming enthusiasm. It now remains for the Supreme Assembly to finish the ovation in a way worthy of itself and of the occasion.

Your Committee thankfully acknowledge the kindness of the Victorian Committee in making the best arrangements in their power for this event.

The threatened deportation from Queensland of Kanakas who, during their time of service, have been married to women of British birth and have families, and also others of them who have acquired property, without allowing compensation, and in disregard also of the fact that they are Christians, has engaged the attention of your Committee. Communications were had with the late Premier of the Commonwealth, who quite recognised the injustice of the position, and the Victorian Committee on Public Questions has been asked to interview the present Premier on this humane and important matter.

Your Committee have satisfaction in recording that the Divorce Bill which they were instructed to watch and to oppose has been withdrawn. But they wish to express a decided opinion that, although the effort made by Mr. Dobson's Bill to introduce uniformity was defective by making the easiest divorce the standard for all, yet the law should, as soon as possible, be made uniform, if possible, by the adoption of the least lax of the divorce laws prevailing in the States of the Commonwealth.

In the name of the Committee,

D. BRUCE, D.D., Convener.

## XII.

### STATISTICAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1904.

The schedule of questions approved and recommended for adoption by the last General Assembly has been used by Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, and, with slight alterations, by South Australia. The Tasmanian and West Australian schedules were not so full, and as the statistical report of South Australia does not give all the schedule questions, full information concerning these Churches is lacking. Unless the Conveners of the

Statistical Committees of the State Churches furnish complete and full returns, this Committee cannot hope to gauge the general progress of our Church in the Commonwealth. We recognise that some years must elapse before our ministers generally can be educated as to the importance of supplying all the information the schedule demands. In the meantime our reports must necessarily be somewhat defective. If the adopted schedule is regularly sent out year by year, we feel confident that ministers knowing what is expected will take care to systematically tabulate the information desired.

The Assembly will understand that this Committee is not responsible for the figures supplied by the Conveners of the Committees of the State Churches. All we can do is to take the tables as furnished. In the case of Tasmania, where five charges sent in no returns, we have endeavoured to supply the blanks with figures for the year 1903. In the case of Queensland, where it seems there were four defaulting congregations, we have been unable to do this, nor with West Australia, where a like number of congregations sent in no returns.

At the last census, 1901, the Presbyterian population of the Commonwealth was 426,105; at the end of 1902 it was estimated at 439,030. Allowing for a percentage increase of Presbyterians in the several States, our population should now be:—

Victoria .. .. .	192,931
New South Wales .. .. .	142,640
Queensland .. .. .	60,237
South Australia .. .. .	18,829
West Australia .. .. .	19,343
Tasmania .. .. .	12,039
Total .. .. .	446,019

Owing to incomplete and defective returns, it is impossible to form any idea as to how many of these Presbyterians are reached by our Church organisations. The question in the schedule which attempted to elicit this information has not received full attention. In New South Wales, for instance, we find that there are 70,399 individuals known to ministers as Presbyterians out of an estimated number of at least 142,640. In Victoria, where there are about 192,931 Presbyterians, the returns account for 112,546. The Queensland returns account for 7,416 out of a Presbyterian population of about 60,237. South Australia, West Australia, and Tasmania have made no attempt to enumerate the Presbyterian population.

Ministers—Victoria: Professors, 2; Scholastic Principal, 1. New South Wales: Professors, 2; Scholastic Principal, 1; Commissioner, 1.

Ministers in settled charges, 389—Victoria, 184; New South Wales, 134; Queensland, 29; South Australia, 13; West Australia, 11; Tasmania, 11. Ministers emeriti, 40—Victoria, 23; N. S. Wales, 15; Queensland, 1; Tasmania, 1. There are in addition 32 Ministers without charges, and 14 in Mission Stations in Victoria and in New South Wales, 16 who are doing supply work or are in Mission Charges. The Victorian Church employs 66 Home Missionaries and 11 Students, and the New South Wales Church 35 Students and Catechists, Tasmania 10 Home Missionaries, South Australia 5 Home Mission Agents, Queensland 9 Home Mission Agents and 2 Ministers in Mission Stations, West Australia 6 Home Missionaries.

#### CHURCH BUILDINGS.

	Charges*	No. of Churches.	Debt on Church, School and Manse.	Insurance on Church, School and Manse.	Sitting Accommodation.	Sittings Let or Allocated.
Victoria .. .. .	271	485	£102,422	£304,472	83,556	—
New South Wales .. .. .	179	349	48,894	180,156	54,375	5379
Queensland .. .. .	47	69	13,684	46,084	11,341	2196
South Australia .. .. .	21	25	7,752†	—	5,558	—
West Australia .. .. .	19	—	15,693	—	—	—
Tasmania .. .. .	24	69	5,317	—	—	—
	561	—	£193,762	—	—	—

\* Including Mission Stations.

† Last Report.

The number of Charges and Mission Stations was given as 539 in 1902. Increase, 22. Additions—Victoria, 17; New South Wales, 9; South Australia, 1. Loss—Queensland, 5.

DEBT.—The South Australian tables gave no return. Assuming their debt to be the same as in 1902, we find the total is £3,458 less. Victoria and New South Wales have reduced their debts by £3,916 and £4,941 respectively. West Australia has added £4,788 and Queensland £1,211.

## ORGANISATION.

	Elders.	Deacons and Managers.	District Visitors.	Sustentation Fund Collectors.	Women's Societies.	Temperance Societies.	Fellowship.		Christian Endeavour.	
							Number.	Members.	Number.	Members.
Victoria ... ..	812	4226	233	493	232	119	117	2655	64	2011
New South Wales ...	695	2281	103	980	153	50	59	1672	38	961
Queensland ... ..	236	484	—	—	—	—	—	107	—	1183
South Australia ...	81	192	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Australia ...	36*	120	—	—	—	—	—	109	—	198
Tasmania ... ..	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1923	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\* Last Return.

Elders: An increase of 67. Victoria adds 16; New South Wales, 36; Queensland, 26. Loss—South Australia, 11.

## RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES.

	Preaching Centres.	Sabbath Services.	Weekly Services.	Attendance.	Attendance at Prayer Meeting.	Baptisms.	Marriages.	Deaths.
Victoria ... ..	906	39,029	2284	71,042		2605*	1414	1501
New South Wales ...	1057	23,577	3874	34,509	1605	2859	1188	843
Queensland ... ..	190	4,741	945	8,294	357	728	198	155
South Australia ...	37	2,362	324	1,957	84	58	52	84
West Australia ...	50†	—	—	1,124	—	236	—	—
Tasmania ... ..	69	—	—	4,078	—	—	—	—
	2309	—	—	121,004	—	—	—	—

\* Incomplete.

† Last Return.

The preaching centres include those places where occasional services are held. The total shows 268 such places more than last report. Increase:—Victoria, 27; New South Wales, 150; Queensland, 86; South Australia, 1; Tasmania, 4.

ATTENDANCE.—These figures are the addition of the average attendances at the morning, evening, and afternoon services in Victoria; of these services and that at out-stations for New South Wales and South Australia; and of the morning and evening services in Queensland. The West Australian return is "average attendance for the year." For Tasmania it is the "estimated number attending services."

BAPTISMS.—Tasmania furnishes no return. The other returns are manifestly incomplete when they are compared with the birth rates of the several States. Assuming that the Presbyterian birth rate is very slightly lower than the average (this inference is based upon the fact that Presbyterians in New South Wales marry later than those belonging to other denominations, the Congregationalists excepted), and allowing for a certain number of children remaining unbaptised, our returns must be very far short of the actual number of children baptised.

The same incompleteness is shown in the returns of deaths. We have no reason for believing that Presbyterians enjoy a lower death rate than the rest of the population, and our returns place the Presbyterian death rate at an absurdly low figure in each State.

**MARRIAGES.**—If any return should be accurate this might be expected to be so. Even if we allow for a certain number of marriages celebrated by Ministers Emeriti, and a number performed by other ministers who are not in charges, the discrepancy between the returns of the Government Statists and our returns show the incompleteness and untrustworthiness of the latter. The following figures give in the first place the number of marriages performed in the various States according to our schedules, and then the number celebrated by Presbyterian Ministers according to the Government official returns:—

Victoria—1,344, 1,414; New South Wales—1,118, 1,398; Queensland—198, 444; South Australia—52, 128; West Australia—no return, 187; Tasmania—no return, 185.

In Victoria, where, according to the 1901 census, the Presbyterian population is 16.2 of the whole population, 17.2 per cent. of the total marriages were celebrated by Presbyterian Ministers.

In New South Wales, where the Presbyterian population was 9.9 per cent. of the marriages for last year 13.4 were celebrated by our ministers. In this State 700 marriages were celebrated at matrimonial agencies—i.e., 6.72 of the total number of marriages.

In South Australia (Presbyterian population, 5.2) 5.05 per cent. of the marriages were celebrated by Presbyterian Ministers.

Queensland (Presbyterian population, 11.7), Presbyterian marriages 14.4 per cent. of total.

Tasmania (Presbyterian population, 6.8), marriages 14.07 per cent.

West Australia (Presbyterian population, 8.2 per cent), marriages 8.9 per cent of total.

#### CHURCH MEMBERSHIP, &c.

	No. of Households.	Individuals.	Communicants.	Admissions.			Removals.		
				First Time.	Cert.	Renewals without Cert.	Cert.	Death.	Defection.
Victoria	29,788	112,536	26,673	1371	1064	249	970	381	361
N. S. Wales	17,024	70,399	15,337	962	497	268	465	177	406
Queensland	3,062	7,416	5,529	287	164	52	135	48	215
South Australia ...			1,441	134			61		
West Australia ...			992				33		
Tasmania ...			1,493						
			51,468						

**MEMBERS ON ROLLS.**—Our last report gave 49,310. An increase of 2,158 is thus recorded. Gain—Victoria, 1,435; New South Wales, 1,385. Loss—Queensland, 247; South Australia, 182; West Australia, 10; Tasmania, 223.

Percentage of members to general Presbyterian population for 1901, and to estimated Presbyterian population, 1904:—

	1901	1904
Victoria	13.23	13.8
New South Wales	10.52	10.7
Queensland	10.52	9.1
South Australia	8.84	7.6
West Australia	6.81	5.11
Tasmania	14.91	12.4

The inaccuracy of the communion rolls of Victoria and New South Wales is shown by the fact that when the gains are subtracted and losses added the resultant figures differ widely from the number of members as reported in the statistical reports of these State Churches for 1903. We have not been able to test the Queensland figures.

## WELFARE OF YOUTH.

	No. of Schools.	No. of Teachers.	Scholars on Rolls.	Average Attendance.	Vols. in Library.	No. attending Bible Class.
Victoria ...	607	4096	39,184		68,100	4040
New South Wales ...	316	2206	21,362	15,259	22,485	1461
Queensland ...	109	921	8,248	5,803	9,920	279
South Australia ...	28	211	1,889	1,303	4,914	171
West Australia ...	25	221	1,737	1,124		175
Tasmania ...	46	202	2,021			
	1131	7857	74,441			

SCHOOLS.—Increase, 85. Gain—Victoria, 52; New South Wales, 9; Queensland, 22; Tasmania, 4. Loss—South Australia, 3; West Australia, 1.

TEACHERS.—Increase, 532. Gain—Victoria, 316; New South Wales, 110; Queensland, 86; West Australia, 42. Loss—South Australia, 6; Tasmania, 16.

SCHOLARS.—Decrease, 900. Gain—New South Wales, 302; Tasmania, 18. Loss—Victoria, 824; Queensland, 386; South Australia, 193; West Australia, 44.

In considering the decrease of the scholars of Victoria it is worthy of note that the number of scholars enrolled at the Victorian State Schools in 1901-2 was 257,355, and in 1903-4 241,145.

## FINANCIAL.

	Revenue Congregational Purposes.		Stipend.	Other Salaries.	Home Mission.	Foreign Mission.	Sabbath School Revenue.	Charitable.	Total Revenue of Congregations.
	Ordinary.	Special.							
Victoria ...	£82,614*	£15,343	£59,639	£7994	£757	£1116	£6562	£5599	£116,440
New South Wales ...	46,566	12,961	40,019	—	712	1244	1320	474	63,863
Queensland ...	14,176	1,740	8,699	1617	—	—	1629	169	18,219
South Australia ...	4,827	—	3,524	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Australia ...	4,742†	—	3,076	—	—	—	362	—	5,063
Tasmania ...	—	—	3,495	—	—	—	327	—	5,250
	—	—	£118,452	—	—	—	—	—	—

\* Incomplete.

† Last Return.

Stipends show an increase of £2,067. Gain—Victoria, £86; New South Wales, £2,590; Queensland, £222. Decrease—West Australia, £489; Tasmania, £342.

Comparing the contributions of the different States, we find that in Victoria £4 7s. 3.7d. per member or 12s. 0.8d. per person was given through the Church to Church or charitable objects; in New South Wales, £4 3s. 3.3d. per member or 8s. 11.4d. per person; in Queensland, £3 5s. 10.84d. per member or 6s. 0.5d. per person; in West Australia, £5 2s. 0.9d. per member or 5s. 2.8d. per person; in Tasmania, £3 10s. 2.25d. per member, or 8s. 8.6d. per person.

The following is the average contribution per member to stipends:—Victoria, £2 4s. 8.6d.; New South Wales, £2 12s. 2.2d.; Queensland, £1 11s. 5.6d.; South Australia, £2 8s. 10.9d.; West Australia, £3 2s. 0.19d.; Tasmania, £2 6s. 8.6d.

The Capital funds and funds on hand of the several Assemblies are computed to be:—

Victoria .. .. .	£312,003
New South Wales .. .. .	104,090
Queensland .. .. .	9,226
South Australia .. .. .	13,934
Tasmania .. .. .	7,859

£447,112

Your Committee recommends that the West Australian and Tasmanian Churches adopt the prescribed schedule; that the State Statistical Committees use every diligence to procure returns from every charge and mission station; that the State Assemblies recommend all Ministers and Home Missionaries and Catechists to keep a list of Presbyterians (including children) within the bounds of their Charges or Stations, and that Presbyteries be instructed to see that when a Charge becomes vacant, or a Mission Station has a change of Missionary or Catechist, such a list, together with the baptismal and marriage registers, be entrusted to the charge of the Moderator of the Charge or Mission Station; that Presbyteries inspect the baptismal registers and list of Presbyterians at the annual examination of Congregational Records.

HUME ROBERTSON.

AMENDMENTS OF DRAFT SCHEDULE TO BE FOUND IN BLUE BOOK OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA, 1903.

UNDER CHURCH BUILDINGS, ETC.

Question 4.—After "rent," add "Sitting accommodation of buildings (other than churches) used in Divine service."

UNDER RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES.

Question 1.—Instead of "Number of centres," etc., put "Names of places where services are held (a) stately—1..... 2..... 3..... 4..... 5..... 6..... 7..... 8.....; (b) occasionally....."

Question 4.—Average attendance at Sunday services:—(a) Morning.....; (b) Afternoon.....; (c) Evening.....

Question 5.—Aggregate average at Week-day services.

Question 6.—Number of Baptisms.

Question 7.—Number of Marriages.

Question 8.—Number of Funerals.

UNDER CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

Question 5.—Instead of "non-Members" read "non-Communicants."

UNDER WELFARE OF YOUTH.

Question 1.—Omit (a) ordinary, (b) Mission. Question to be simply number of Sabbath Schools.

Question 2.—After "Teachers" insert "and Officers," insert new question:—"How many scholars joined the Church during the past year?"

UNDER FINANCIAL.

New question between 9 and 10:—Amount given by school or schools for (a) Foreign Missions.....; (b) Other objects.....

Question 10.—Insert "by Congregations."

NOTES ON SCHEDULE.

RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES.

Question 1.—Names of places are to be given. "Stately" means weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly.

Question 4.—This question is to ascertain the average number of people who attend each of these diets of worship on Sunday, e.g., fortnightly services are held at B.C.D., and weekly at A. If the average attendance at fortnightly morning service at A is 60, and at D is 40, the answer to (a) would be "100." If the average attendance at fortnightly afternoon services at B and C is 30 and 80 respectively, the answer to (b) is "110." Weekly evening service at A, if average attendance is 100, the answer to (c) is 100. Where there are morning and evening services at the same place the average number is to be given separately for each.

Baptisms.—Registers and certificate forms, which should be used, may be obtained from the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, Melbourne. The General Assembly of Australia has recommended Presbyteries to inspect Baptismal Registers of Charges at the annual examination of Congregational Records.

Funerals, i.e., funerals whether of Presbyterians or others at which the minister or assistant or lay deputy has officiated.



## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

According to resolution of the Australian Assembly, every Parish should have a list of all Presbyterians, with name and birth year of all the children. When the Minister or Missionary leaves, such a list will be of the greatest value to the successor.

The General Assembly of Australia has recommended Presbyteries to examine these lists at the annual Examination.

Question 1.—A household is a house where one or more Presbyterians reside. Question 5—(a) All ordinary adherents, and all in charge known as Presbyterians, whether attending Church or not; (b) include all children. In question 1, (b) should equal totals of questions 2 and 5.

## WELFARE OF YOUTH.

UNION SABBATH SCHOOLS.—Do not enumerate these under question 1; but in answer to question 2 include Presbyterian teachers, and under question 3 include Presbyterian scholars, in connection with such schools.

Question 6.—i.e., (a) Minister's or (b) other Bible Class for religious instruction, which is not an integral part of Sabbath School.

## FINANCE.

Figures to be taken from the last Annual Balance-Sheet.

Question 2, i.e.: Extra efforts for debt building, etc. Question 5 (b).—Other objects, i.e., amounts given by Sabbath Schools to Home Missions, Neglected Children's Society, Hospitals, or any other charitable object exclusive of Foreign Missions, this amount should be included in question 4.

Question 6.—Objects outside our Church, such as British and Foreign Bible Society, Hospitals, etc.

Question 7.—Include 1, 2, 4, 6 and Assembly Schemes, Fellowship Collections, P.W.M.U., contributions to C.E. or any other Society in connection with your Church or Churches. We desire to ascertain the total amount raised through the Church.

## VI.

## RETURNS.

(I.) RETURNS TO REMIT ON *EX OFFICIO* MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.*From Presbyteries.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Approve: Presbyteries of the Clarence, Goulburn, Hunter, Sydney, Wagga Wagga, and Young.

Approve with the following amendment:—That the words "being communicants" be added after Procurator, Law Agent, and Missions' Agent, Hawkesbury.

Disapprove: Hastings, Illawarra, Monaro.

VICTORIA.—Approve generally: Ballarat, Beechworth, Geelong, Gippsian, Mortlake, Goulburn Valley, Macedon, Penola, Maryborough.

Approve, except Missions Agent: Melbourne North.

Disapprove: Melbourne South.

QUEENSLAND.—Approve generally: Brisbane.

Disapprove: Toowoomba, Rockhampton.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Approve with the following addition:—"Provided always that these officers be Ministers, elders, or members of the Presbyterian Church"—Adelaide.

TASMANIA.—Approve: Hobart, Launceston.

Disapprove:

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—Approve: Fremantle.

*From State Assemblies.*

Approve: TASMANIA.

Disapprove: NEW SOUTH WALES.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA approves, with the following proviso:—"Provided always that these officers be ministers, elders, or members of the Presbyterian Church."

## (2.) RETURNS TO REMIT ON REGULATIONS FOR THE RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

*From Presbyteries.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Approve: Presbyteries of Clarence, Goulburn, Hastings, Hawkesbury, Hunter, Illawarra, Monaro, Sydney, and Wagga Wagga.

VICTORIA.—Approve: Ballarat, Bacchworth, Geelong, Gippsland, Goulburn Valley, Macedon, Melbourne North, Mortlake, Penola, Maryborough.

Melbourne South.—Approve with the following amendment:—"The addition of the words "or a Presbytery" after the word "Assemblies" in Section A.

QUEENSLAND.—Approve: Toowoomba.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Approve: Adelaide, Onkaparinga.

TASMANIA.—Approve: Launceston.

No opinion: Hobart.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—The Presbytery of Fremantle states that:—(1) The Presbytery had too little information to come to a decision on this matter; (2) The addition be approved of with the exception of the last clause, which be omitted, viz., "on the completion of a probation of twelve months."

*From State Assemblies.*

Approve: NEW SOUTH WALES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA.

(3.) RETURNS TO REMIT ON PROCEDURE IN DISCIPLINE. ~39*From Presbyteries.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Approve (with suggested amendments): Presbytery of the Hastings suggests:—

1. That the first four lines in paragraph 27 required remodelling, as at present they were ambiguous and confusing.

2. That in paragraph 34 the word "expulsion" apparently taken from the old rules, should be altered to "deposition," because in 33 "expulsion" is not mentioned; and

3. That in paragraph 36 "suspension from office for *sine die*, or any" should read "suspension from office *sine die*, or for."

Presbytery of Illawarra suggests:—

Rule 12, line 4, add "thereby" after "accused is."

Rule 25, line 1, for "members" read "communicants."

Rule 27, line 2, insert "and if" after "charge."

Rule 28, lines 9 and 10, omit "according to law."

Rule 33, change (e) into (f), and (f) into (g), and insert as (e) the last clause with sub-heading "Expulsion"; and in this clause after "State Assembly" insert "or Presbytery."

Rule 36, line 1, transpose to read, "*sine die* or for."

Rule 38, line 2, read "only by the Presbytery or State Assembly which pronounced the sentence or by the General."

Presbytery of Young approves, with the exception of "also if required, to commit their views on such points to writing"; also the words, "or to commit to writing their views on points involved in the accusation."

Approve generally: Goulburn, Hawkesbury, Hunter, Monaro, Sydney, Wagga Wagga.

VICTORIA.—Approve generally: Ballarat, Beechworth, Geelong, Gippsland, Macedon, Mortlake, Melbourne South, Penola, Maryborough.

QUEENSLAND.—Approve: Toowoomba.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Approve generally: Onkaparinga.

TASMANIA.—Approve: Launceston.

No opinion: Hobart.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—Approve: Fremantle.

*From State Assemblies.*

NEW SOUTH WALES, VICTORIA, QUEENSLAND, TASMANIA.—Approve.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Approve, provided the last two sentences in Rule 28—("if a witness is, by reason of distance, or other sufficient cause, unable personally to attend, his statutory declaration according to law may be received in evidence. The Court conducting the investigation decides what distance or other cause is sufficient to render evidence of this nature admissible")—be struck out.

JAMES S. LAING, D.D., Senior Clerk.

(4.) RETURN TO REMIT ON REVISED SCHEME FOR THE TRAINING OF HOME MISSION AGENTS.

At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip Street, on Tuesday, the sixteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and five years, which day the State Assembly of New South Wales being met and duly constituted.

*Inter alia*: The Assembly proceeded to consider the Revised Scheme for the Training of Home Mission Agents remitted by the General Assembly of Australia. The scheme was amended, adopted and ordered to be transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia, as follows:—

1. That the Agents who are to be admitted to this special course of training be men who are over twenty-three (23) years of age, approved of as to attainments, gifts and Christian consistency by the State Assembly having proper jurisdiction, and accepted by the General Assembly of Australia.

2. That such accepted Agents shall devote themselves to a preliminary course of four years' training, from the date of their acceptance by the General Assembly, and shall within that period pass (a) the Matriculation Examination of a recognised University, or (b) the Senior Public Examination in connection with the University of Sydney, or (c) where the University has no accessible Matriculation Centre, a special Examination, held on the Matriculation paper set by the University and examined by the College Committee according to the same percentage applied by the University; and thereafter shall also within the same period attend and pass at least four University Classes approved of by the General Assembly's College Committee, or pursue the course of study and examination prescribed by the University under direction of the General Assembly's College Committee.

3. That during the course special attention shall be given to the contents of the English Bible, English Language and Literature, Logic, Mental and Moral Philosophy, History and Political Economy.

4. That those who pass the course shall be eligible as Candidates for entrance to one of the Theological Halls of the Church, and shall be examined on all the subjects of the Syllabus save Latin, Greek, and Hebrew.

5. That during the recess of the Hall the Agents shall, as far as possible, be provided with work in their own State.

6. That after finishing their Hall course and passing the Exit Examination they shall serve in the State in which their preliminary training was given for a period of at least four years.

7. That, where any dispute shall arise as to the States named in clauses 5 and 6, it shall be determined by the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly of Australia.

Extracted from the Records of the State Assembly of New South Wales, by me.

JAMES S. LAING, D.D.,

Clerk of Assembly.

(5.) RETURN TO REMIT ON RECOMMENDATION *re* REV. F. H. L. PATON.

*From the State Assembly of Victoria.*

Assembly Hall, Collins Street, November 10th, 1903.

The State Assembly of Victoria met by appointment at 10.30 a.m., and was duly constituted.

*Inter alia:* The recommendation from the General Assembly of Australia relative to the Rev. F. H. L. Paton was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee, who moved: "That the Recommendation be received, and a seat in the Presbytery within which he resides be given to Mr. Paton." The motion was seconded by the Rev. A. Hardie, and approved.

Extracted from the Minutes of the General Assembly by

GEORGE TAIT, Clerk.



## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA EXPENSES FUND ACCOUNT.

Dr.

31ST JULY, 1905.

Cr.

DISBURSEMENTS.	£ s. d.	RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.
<i>Meeting in Sydney, September, 1903.</i>		By Balance, July 31st, 1903	23 11 1
To Church Officer	£2 2 0	„ Proportion of Expenses from—	
„ Hire of Tables	1 5 0	Victorian Church, 1903 and 1904	£80 0 0
„ Altering Pews in Church, Barriers, &c.	1 7 6	New South Wales Church, 1903 and 1904	80 0 0
„ Hire Carriage (Moderator)	1 5 0	South Australian Church, 1903 and 1904	26 13 4
„ Stationery, &c.	2 11 6	Queensland Church, 1903 and 1904	26 13 4
„ Advertising <i>Herald</i> , £2 17s. ; <i>Telegraph</i> , £2 19s.	5 16 0	West Australian Church, 1903 and 1904	20 0 0
„ „ <i>Presbyterian</i> , 12s. ; <i>Watchman</i> , 3s. 6d.	0 15 6	Tasmanian Church, 1903 and 1904	26 13 4
„ „ <i>Christians World</i> , 7s. 6d. ; <i>Star</i> , 6s. 9d.	0 14 3		
	15 16 9	„ Collection taken at Meeting in Sydney, September, 1903	260 0 0
„ <i>Expenses Editing Year Book, 1904—</i>		„ Donation, per Rev. F. Stubbs	9 19 3
Rev. James Jackson	2 10 0	„ Interest on Credit Balances to December 31st, 1904	1 1 0
„ Printing Examination Papers, per Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn	5 16 6		
„ „ „ in Sydney	1 15 0		
„ „ Standing Orders, &c. (Rae Bros.)	5 14 0		
„ Postages in Melbourne, per Mr. A. L. Pryde	6 14 8		
„ Printing Blue Book (S. E. Lees)	58 17 6		
„ Printing	10 11 0		
„ Postages and Freights—Blue Book (S. E. Lees)	1 11 1		
„ Printing and Stationery	3 11 9		
„ Telegrams	0 7 7		
„ Postages	14 8 11		
„ Postages, per Clerk	1 10 0		
„ Cablegram to Assembly—South Africa	1 4 9		
„ „ to Rev. Dr. Rainy, Edinburgh	1 16 0		
„ Engrossing Address to Lord Tennyson	2 2 0		
„ „ to Lord Northcote	2 2 0		
„ Cases for Addresses	4 4 0		
„ Honorary Clerk	£30 0 0		
„ „ Assistant Clerk	20 0 0		
	50 0 0		
„ Balance...	105 8 5		
	<u>£296 1 11</u>		
		By Balance	<u>£105 8 5</u>

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Examined and found correct.

CHAS. E. LITTLE, F.S.I.A.,

Sydney, 3rd August, 1905.

Official Auditor Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA, TRAVELLING EXPENSES ACCOUNT.

DR.	31ST JULY, 1905.	CR.
	<b>DISBURSEMENTS.</b>	<b>RECEIPTS.</b>
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Paid Travelling Expenses to Meeting in Sydney, September, 1903—		By Transfer from Assembly of Australia Expenses Account, as per Instructions of General Assembly... ..
Ex-Moderator (Rev. Dr. Hay) ... ..	£6 12 0	,, Amount received from Church Hymnary Royalty A/c....
Clerk (Rev. Dr. Laing) ... ..	0 18 0	
Junior Clerk (Rev. G. Tait) ... ..	3 0 0	
Victorian Representatives... ..	80 11 7	
New South Wales Representatives ... ..	14 2 5	
Queensland Representatives ... ..	20 17 9	
Tasmanian Representatives ... ..	23 8 2	
West Australian Representatives ... ..	35 4 0	
	184 13 11	
„ Paid Travelling Expenses to Meeting in Melbourne, September, 1902 (short paid in 1902)—		
Tasmanian Representative... ..	1 10 0	
„ Paid Convener Foreign Missions Committee, Rev. Alexander Stewart ... ..	5 5 10	
„ Paid Expenses to Committee in Melbourne, March, 1904... ..	2 10 0	
„ „ Expenses to Committees in Sydney, September, 1904	7 16 0	
	£201 15 9	£201 15 9

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## CHURCH HYMNARY ROYALTY ACCOUNT—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

DR.	£ s. d.	CR.
To Amount paid for Travelling Expenses, as per separate account ... ..	159 19 9	By Balance, July 31st, 1903 ... ..
„ Balance in hand ... ..	618 7 5	,, Royalties received from Trustees in Edinburgh, to March 31st, 1904 ... ..
		Ditto, to March 31st, 1905 ... ..
		195 10 0
		„ Interest to December 31st, 1904 ... ..
		£778 7 2
	£778 7 2	By Balance ... ..
		£618 7 5

Examined and found correct.

Sydney, 3 d August, 1905.

CHAS. E. LITTLE, F.S.I.A.,  
Official Auditor Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

## MISSION WORK IN BUSH OF AUSTRALIA ACCOUNT.

DR.	31ST JULY, 1905.				CR.
	DISBURSEMENTS.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
To Payments per Instructions of General Assembly of Australia—					
To Presbyterian Church in Queensland	10	0	0		
" " " West Australia	10	0	0		
" Balance in hand			20 0 0		
			55 17 5		
			£75 17 5		
	RECEIPTS.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
	By Amounts received from Presbyterian Church of England—				
In hand, July 31, 1903				20 0 0	
Received March 31, 1904	30	0	0		
" March 31, 1905	25	0	0		
" Interest to December 31, 1904				0 17 5	
				55 0 0	
				£75 17 5	
	" Balance in hand				£55 17 5

## DR. GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA HOME MISSION ACCOUNT. CR.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance in hand	8 4 3	By Proportion of Collection taken at Meeting of Assembly on Home and Foreign Missions Night, September, 1903	6 8 1
		" Donation per Mr. J. M. Campbell	1 10 0
		" Interest to December 31, 1904	0 6 2
	£8 4 3		£8 4 3
		" Balance	£8 4 3

## DR. GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA FOREIGN MISSIONS ACCOUNT. CR.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance	6 13 3	By Proportion of Collection taken at Meeting of Assembly on Home and Foreign Missions Night, September, 1903	6 8 2
		" Interest to December 31, 1904	0 5 1
	£6 13 3		£6 13 3
		" Balance	£6 13 3

Examined and found correct.

CHAS. E. LITTLE, F.S.I.A.,

Sydney, 3rd August, 1905.

Official Auditor Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

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