

MONTREAL, 16th April, 1875.

JAMES CROIL, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

We have carefully examined the case submitted by you in relation to the Union of certain Presbyterian Churches and the provisions of the Acts of the last Session of the Local Parliament, relating to said Union, and to the disposal of incomes heretofore derived from the "Temporalities' Fund," and are of opinion :—

That none of the clauses in the "Union Act" can be held to have been repealed by anything contained in the Act amending the "Act to Incorporate the Board for the management of the Temporalities' Fund of the Presbyterian Church, &c.," both these Acts having been assented to on the same day by the Lieutenant Governor, and therefore that the two Acts, in so far as they refer to the same subjects, must be taken together so far as possible.

It appears to have been contemplated that some congregations of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland would join the proposed union of Congregational Churches, while other congregations would not join ; and taking both the Acts referred to together, we think that the result is that of those which do not so join, the ministers and their successors shall be entitled to retain their present incomes derived from the original Temporalities' Fund, while of those congregations which do join the Union, only the present ministers (but not their successors) shall be so entitled.

We see no reason why the Temporalities' Act should not be carried out according to its terms when the Union takes place.

We are, yours truly,

RITCHIE & BORLASE.

APPENDIX O.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY :

We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland now in Synod assembled, desire to renew the expression of our profound attachment to your Majesty's Person and Government.

We rejoice at the large measure of peace and prosperity now prevailing throughout your Majesty's wide dominions ; and we especially recognize the good hand of God in the return of plenty to your Majesty's Indian Empire after the afflictive famine with which it has been visited. We further trust that the proposed visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to India may tend to the perpetuation of British rule in that large and populous portion of your Majesty's possessions.

We have much satisfaction in announcing to your Majesty that the Union of this Church with the other branches of the Presbyterian Church in the Dominion is likely to be consummated during the present week, and we rejoice to be able to assure your Majesty that the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland recently held in Edinburgh has been pleased to declare that there is nothing in the terms of Union to prevent them from cordially wishing us God speed in our future labours. We fervently trust that the United Church may be,

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