

a part of them to be appropriated in perpetuity to the *sustentation of Clergymen of the Church of Scotland*. Thus upon the occasion when this provision was most openly and minutely discussed in England, any doubts which had arisen upon the construction of the Statute were so far from being satisfactorily disposed of, that the Crown Officers, and the learned Counsel for the Colonial department, while they agreed in some respects, differed in others; and the Committee having their opinions before them, declined the attempt to dispose of the question as a legal question, but express sentiments as to the intention of Parliament which are not in accordance with either.

The Report of this Committee, however, independently of the general and inconclusive terms in which their views are expressed,* could for no purpose be properly appealed to as decisive of the questions which had arisen, since the Members of that Committee formed but a portion, and a small portion, of one branch of the Legislature, and even in that House from which they were delegated, no vote of concurrence in the Report was ever taken or proposed, that your Committee is aware of; nor does the Report seem to have been deliberately and expressly brought into discussion in either House, in any Parliamentary proceeding. The Committee in their Report, indeed, “earnestly press the early consideration of the sub-

* See Report of Committee, Appendix E.