

and it fully relies that the decision come to by the General Assembly, and the measures pursued by it, will so establish the Church in Hobart Town, as will render it altogether unnecessary to resort to any private method of ensuring to that Church a suitable constitution, by which it would be deprived of the advantage belonging to the members of an Established Church, and placed in a situation in no respect different from that of Dissenting or Seceding communities.

That the Episcopal Church in this colony, by charter of incorporation, is empowered to hold Church property, and that its Archdeacon holds the character of an incorporation, and this Committee respectfully suggest the propriety of a similar provision being made by act of Parliament, or Royal Letters-Patent, by which the Kirk-session, or other competent body, may be empowered to receive, hold, and convey, church lands and other property; and this Committee also suggest that provision on this and other matters necessary to establish churches in Van Diemen's Land, and to place them on an equal footing with the Episcopal churches in the colony, in respect of the permanent provision contemplated by the Local Government as necessary to be made to support the interests of religion in the colony, and in every other respect might be effected in the act of Parliament, for the due government of the Australian Colonies, which it will be shortly necessary to pass upon the natural expiry of the present act.

This Committee earnestly and respectfully entreats of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to take these matters into consideration, and to adopt such measures as will obtain for the Presbyterian Church in Hobart Town a constitution, by charter or by other public act, for its establishment in connection with the Church of Scotland, and for securing to the Congregation, both members in communion and seat-holders, every advantage attending such connection, and to make such provision as will bring it under the jurisdiction of the General Assembly; and, generally, to use such means as may appear to the wisdom of the Assembly calculated to insure the welfare and prosperity of the Presbyterian Church and Presbyterian inhabitants of Van Diemen's Land.

HOBART TOWN, VAN DIEMEN'S LAND,  
15th October, 1835.

(Signed)

CHARLES M'LACHLAN.  
A. MOODIE.  
WM. MURRAY.  
JOHN ROBERTSON.  
HUGH MURRAY.  
THOS. YOUNG.  
JAMES THOMSON.

*Unto the Reverend the Moderator, the Ministers, and Elders,  
of the General Assembly of the Established Church of Scotland,  
now met at Edinburgh, THE PETITION of John Martin,  
Minister of St. Andrew's Church, Halifax, Nova Scotia,*

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

THAT after an absence of more than fourteen years from his native land, he has been appointed by his brethren, the Ministers and Elders of the Synod of