

At the same time the Presbytery agreed to hold their next meeting in the town of Antigonish, on the 27th of the same month, for the purpose of manifesting their sympathy with the congregation, and of deciding upon what further steps should be taken in the matter.

The Committee appointed in terms of the foregoing minute were fully alive to the difficulty, and delicacy of the task which had been imposed upon them. Accordingly they determined to exercise the utmost caution. In consequence of the conflicting statements which had been made as to the character of the Riot, and respecting the parties implicated in it, they felt it to be their first, and most imperative duty to ascertain as accurately as possible the facts of the case, and to furnish the public with a statement the truth of which could not be successfully assailed. Accordingly they appointed a Sub-Committee to visit Antigonish for that purpose. After receiving their report the Committee prepared and issued the following paper:

The Rev. Charles Chiniquy in accordance with the resolution of Synod authorizing him to visit as many of the congregations of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces as he could overtake, visited the congregation of Antigonish on the 10th of July, and lectured in the Church in the evening. His audience consisted of Roman Catholics, and members of the congregation. For a little while the Meeting was orderly, but after Mr. Chiniquy had spoken for some time, a number of the Roman Catholics went out of the Church, but soon returned accompanied by others, and continued going out and coming in, always in larger numbers, until the close of the services. During the evening an excited crowd filled the space in front of the church, the lobby, and doorway, and ultimately took forcible possession of the building. They interrupted the speaker by continual noise, frequently shouting "you lie, you lie," and by raising the alarm of fire, and ringing the Church and school-house bells, in which way they attempted wholly to break up the meeting. The violence of the crowd was such that the door of the Church was wrenched from its hinges, and the iron bar from the gate. The meeting however continued until after 10 o'clock, P. M. The audience was then dismissed, but Messrs. Chiniquy and Goodfellow, with a few others, remained in the Church nearly half an hour longer, waiting for the crowd to disperse. But instead of doing so they still continued to press into the porch and about the entrance. Mr. Goodfellow being informed that they intended violence, went out and urged them to separate. They refused to do so. On Messrs. Chiniquy, Goodfellow, and those with them leaving the church soon after, they were met by a crowd of some two or three hundred persons, consisting chiefly, not of "boys," but of men, young and old, among whom were seen even some magistrates and lawyers. They had not proceeded many steps when the mob assailed them, at first with eggs and gravel, and afterwards with stones. It being moonlight, and Messrs. Chiniquy and Goodfellow easily distinguished, the stones were aimed at them. Both of them were struck five or six times. Mr. Goodfellow received a severe blow on the head which nearly knocked him down, injuring him seriously, and incapacitating him for his pastoral duties for about a week. Mr. Chiniquy was also struck between the shoulders with a heavy stone which stunned him