

recovery of their property and the maintenance of their rights thereto, and praying the Synod to assist them in carrying the suit to a successful issue.

Several members of the Presbytery of Ontario gave explanations with reference to the position of things at Utica; and the Synod after discussion agreed by a majority to the following finding: Approve of the proceedings of the memorialists; agree to sustain them in vindicating their claim to the Bredalbane Church; appoint a Committee to act with them in the suit; and authorize them, if necessary, to draw on the Synod fund to the amount of \$200, and to obtain, by subscription, what further funds may be necessary for this purpose.

OVERTURE ON BAPTISM.—The Synod at the evening Sederunt had under consideration an Overture transmitted by the Presbytery of Paris, from Rev. W. Richardson and the Kirk Session of Tilsonburgh anent the administration of Baptism, praying the Synod to take such action therein as to secure uniformity in the dispensation of that ordinance throughout the Church. Mr. Richardson was heard in support of the Overture. After long and earnest reasoning the Synod without a vote came to the following deliverance: "Sustain the Overture, adopt the Act of 1850, of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, direct attention to that Act for information, and order that Act to be republished in the Synod Minutes." As this Act is of interest not only to the Ministers and Elders, but to all the members of the Church, we shall republish it in the *Record*.

REPORT OF COMMISSION IN HAMILTON CASE.—There was read and given in the Report of the Commission appointed by last Synod in the matters connected with Knox's Church, Hamilton. The Report was received, and the Synod agreed to approve the diligence of the Committee.

THURSDAY, 8TH JUNE.

REFERENCE FROM ONTARIO PRESBYTERY.—On the morning of Thursday 8th, the Synod took up a Reference from the Presbytery of Ontario, regarding the course pursued by the Presbytery of Brockville in the matter of Mr. Archibald Lees. Members of the Presbytery of Ontario, as also of the Presbytery of Brockville, were heard in explanation; and various questions were put and answered. The Synod agreed to appoint a Committee to bring in a deliverance on this subject.

The Committee, before the Synod rose, reported a deliverance which was adopted by the Synod. It is as follows:

The Synod sustains the Reference from the Presbytery of Ontario anent the case of the Rev. Mr. Lees, and declares as follows:

1st. That the Presbytery of Ontario had jurisdiction over Mr. Lees on his becoming resident in their bounds, and were justified in dealing with him for irregularities alleged against him.

2nd. That the said Presbytery so far acted irregularly in permitting Mr. Lees to officiate ordinarily within their bounds without requiring from him a certificate of transference from the Presbytery of Brockville, within which he formerly held a charge.

3. That the Presbytery of Brockville having no jurisdiction over Mr. Lees from the time that he became a resident within the bounds of the Presbytery of Ontario, erred further in making such a claim, and thereby impeded the proceedings of said last mentioned Presbytery; that the final action of the Presbytery of Brockville declaring such jurisdiction, was regular, only that in stating their willingness to grant a certificate to Mr. Lees they should, under the circumstances, have specified that said certificate was only up to the period of the disseverance of his charge and was not intended to cover his subsequent conduct.

4. That both Presbyteries have acted with a sincere desire to do what was right. That the faithfulness of the Presbytery of Ontario be commended, and