

not been formed, nor places of worship established for the ministry of these gentlemen, I caused them to be informed immediately after their arrival, that they were as speedy as possible to place themselves in a condition for receiving stipends from Government, under the provisions of the Act, and that to prevent their being subjected to any personal inconvenience whilst these matters were arranging, there should be issued to them from the Colonial Treasury, for one year, an allowance of £150, but which, at the expiration of that period, would cease altogether, unless they became entitled to stipends pursuant to the Act. The allowance was fixed at £150, as being the highest stipend issued to those Presbyterian Ministers (with the exception of Dr. Lang) who do not claim under the Church Act, their appointments having taken place prior to its enactment.

To this arrangement the Presbytery and the Reverend gentlemen, who are mainly affected by it, have demurred; but I cannot, according to my view of the case, permit any departure from it. If Clergymen are to come out and receive stipends from Government, without reference to the provisions of the Act, it had better not have been passed. To permit its violation in any one case, would lead to its soon becoming a dead letter, and the precedent of the Presbyterians would be claimed as a rule by the Church of England and the Roman Catholics. I trust, therefore, that your Lordship will think fit to confirm the decision I have pronounced.

This matter has appeared to me of the greater importance, from the fact of Dr. Lang having declared his intention of procuring the introduction into the Colony of a larger number of Presbyterian Ministers, to whom he holds out the inducement of adequate provision. I do not, however, perceive how they are at present to be provided for, unless as burdens on the Treasury. The three Ministers to whom I have referred, as appointed before the passing of the Church Act, and who reside in populous districts, have not been able to form congregations to entitle them to the maximum Salary allowed by the Act, nor am I sanguine in expecting that the two gentlemen last arrived will succeed in entitling themselves to stipends from Government, otherwise than as Itinerant Ministers.

The expediency of declining to hold out any prospects of stipends to Clergymen coming out to this Colony, without any notification of a provision being made for them, under the terms of the Church Act, applies equally with the Presbyterians to Ministers of the Church of England, and of the Church of Rome. But the two latter communions