

2d If however the Elders of a congregation on being regularly summoned to attend a meeting of Session shall refuse to appear or appearing shall refuse to be constituted into a Session—or acting as a Session shall negative any relevant motion or proposal of the minister except by a majority of votes in a constituted Session, then, they have in my opinion, either virtually resigned their own offices—or suspended the minister from his functions which latter proceeding they have no power to do ; consequently, in either case he is left to act as if there was a total vacancy and to proceed as the laws of the Church direct in such cases, provided there be no superior court which has full power to take cognizance of their proceedings.

I am yours truly,

To the Revd. Mr. ESSON.

ALEX. MATHIESON.