

time, it will be remembered, that the great fire at St. Roch took place, and a similar fire in St. John's Suburbs about a month afterwards. The effect of these disasters was to draw the time and attention of every one to provide relief for their suffering fellow citizens, and our case remained in that state until the City affairs revived in 1846.

In the month of December, 1846, about 12 or 15 of the members of St. John's Church formed themselves into a committee to take up the matter again. Consultations were had together from time to time, to ascertain what arrangements could be entered into with the late Minister of St. John's, so as to meet the views of all parties, in order to prevent any division of the Congregation. Various arrangements were spoken of and considered, and communicated *privately*, not officially, to the Minister, but all so far as we could learn, met with opposition, if not a decided rejection.

The propositions under consideration were the following: 1st. A collegiate charge, with the understanding that the public services of the Church should be conducted chiefly by the new Colleague, with such other detail as might be agreed on. 2nd. That the late Minister of St. John's be guaranteed his usual stipend, and to act as an overseer of the Missionary interests of the City and District of Quebec, and to remain in connection with his Congregation. 3rd. That should neither of the above propositions be acceded to, and should he decide to leave St. John's, (all which were to be altogether voluntary acts with him,) that in such case One Hundred Pounds per annum for five years would be guaranteed exclusive of the stipend he might receive from any new Congregation to which he might be called. 4th and Lastly. That the Committee would be open to any other arrangement that he might propose, and that the same would be entered into, if reasonable and practi-