

mittee of the Assembly on private bills, being hostile, reported against it, on the ground, that it did not make provision for the rights of those members of the Free Church who did not fall in with the union. As these gentlemen were known to have anything but love to the Free Church, their sympathy for her of course would be valued at its proper worth. Upon this objection we may simply remark, that as the Bill only provided for the security of those congregations which *did* join the united body, it was unnecessary to say anything about those which *did not*. It left them exactly where they were. Our friends in the House resisted the report of the Committee, but to meet their objections, agreed to the addition of the sixth clause, by which the Rev. John Gunn's congregation, and any other that within three months should declare its desire to be exempted from the act, were excepted from its operations. As to Mr. Gunn's congregation, we do not see any necessity for such a clause. If they did not fall in with the union, the act would not have affected them, and if they did choose to do so, we do not see why they should not enjoy their property with the same powers as others; and as to the remaining clause, as the three months have expired, we need not remark further upon it.

The last section was added in the Legislative Council to meet the same objection, and as it was not intended to deprive any party of his rights, no objection was raised to it by our friends in charge of the Bill.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONGREGATIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

(Passed the 12th day of April, A. D. 1862.)

Whereas the two bodies of Christians known as the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia and the Free Church of Nova Scotia, were, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty, united into one, by the name of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces of British North America; and in consequence of such union certain enactments are necessary with regard to the property of the congregations formerly in connexion with such Churches.

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows :

1. All property, real or personal, now belonging to, or held in trust for or to the use of any congregation heretofore in connexion or communion with either of the Churches formerly known as the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, or as the Free Church of Nova Scotia, shall continue to be possessed and held by, and shall be used for the benefit of the same congregation, being in connexion or communion with the united body known as the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces of British North America.

2. Where, in any Act of Incorporation or Deed of Trust, or any conveyance operating as such, any congregation or church in connexion with the said previously existing bodies is mentioned or intended to be benefited, such Act, Deed of Trust and Conveyance, shall be understood and construed as referring to the same congregation or church now, or so soon as the same shall be in connexion or communion with the said united body.

3. Where in the Act of Incorporation or Deed of Trust of any congregation or church heretofore in connexion with the said previously existing bodies, no provision has been made for the filling up from time to time of trusteeships vacant by death, removal from the Province, incapacity to act, or resignation of the trustees, such congregation or church now or so soon as the same shall be in connexion or communion with the said united body, may, at any regular meeting held in accordance with the Act of Incorporation or Deed of Trust, by a majority of those present and intitled to vote, elect and appoint new trustees in the room of such trustees as shall have removed from the Province, become incapable to act, resigned or died or as shall have ceased to be members in full communion with the said united body and such newly appointed trustees and their successors, so to be appointed, shall have full power and authority to hold and administer the trust or corporate property of such congregation.