

Seven hundred and fifty dollars being promised in the meantime, and the hope expressed that an increase would take place so soon as the manse and glebe debt was paid, which could be speedily done by a united effort; the Presbytery resolved to forward the call to the Rev. Mr. Brodie. In due time he signified his willingness to accept. On the day appointed for induction, the Presbytery met at Gareloch to install Mr. Brodie as pastor.

When objections were called for according to the usual form, one of the members of the congregation opposed Mr. Brodie's settlement giving reasons for the same.

The objection being found relevant the court proceeded to hear proof.

Witnesses were called and after protracted investigation it was found necessary to adjourn to meet again for further consideration. The adjourned meeting was held in St. Andrews, New Glasgow. At the specified time the court constituted and resumed inquiry. The complainant desired to be heard through an agent. His request, being in accordance with the laws of the Church of Scotland, was readily granted. D. C. Fraser Esq., Attorney, appeared as agent and at once proceeded to elicit evidence to sustain the objections. He did his part kindly, courteously, and skilfully.

Members of the Gareloch congregation expressed a desire that A. McKay M. P. P., who was present, be heard in their behalf, which was allowed.

Mr. Brodie protested against a legal agent being admitted. The inquiry however proceeded, and the court after patiently and carefully hearing all the evidence, and after the fullest investigation, unanimously decided not to sustain the objection.

Mr. Brodie having intimated his intention of immediately visiting Ontario, his induction was delayed until after his return.

The Moderator being informed that Mr. Brodie was prepared to assume pastoral oversight of the congregation, called a pro re nata meeting for induction on the 22nd ult. The time of notice was short, there being a desire to have Mr. Brodie placed before the 25th, when the Communion would be observed.

But three members of Presbytery were present, two clerical and one lay. It was considered expedient again to delay induction until the following Monday. The ceremony then took place under favourable conditions, and seemingly the good will of one of our largest congregations. Our hope is that under their present pastor they will prove energetic and prosperous and that the Divine blessing will be sent and rest upon minister and flock.

Two incidents have invaded Mr. Brodie's induction with minor secondary interest. He was minister of Gareloch before his removal to another Province. Receiving a call to a better field of labour, shows the esteem in which he is held. In this and the neighbouring country where the despotism of voluntarism asserts itself, instances of forcible clerical ejection are by no means rare. It is pleasing to notice that there are congregations whose thirst for novelty is subordinated to a higher consideration, which instead of being eager to sever the tie of a long and faithful ministry, are ready to renew former associations when opportunity offers.

Another novel feature of this induction is, that it was the first disputed settlement in any of the Kirk congregations in this county. It was a trying ordeal to Presbytery, minister elect and congregation. The members of Presbytery resolved to do their duty heedless of consequences. Complete unanimity prevailed throughout the whole investigation. And in the end it was a source of great gratification and thankfulness to Presbytery and all interested to see Mr. Brodie placed amid harmony and cordial greeting, over a congregation to which he ministered in former years. May the new tie formed be fraught with blessing to him and his people and to our whole church.

It may not be out of place to commend the delicacy of our local press, (a civility incomprehensible to a low type of mind) in refraining from making any comment upon, or giving publicity to the inquiry which preceded the recent settlement in Gareloch. No good could result from such information however impartially reported. While our own journals courteously remained silent, one in the neighbour-