

having but one congregation at Southampton.—The motion of Mr. Scott of London which ultimately carried is as follows.—

“Dismiss the protest and appeal, and sustain the action of the Presbytery, but at the same time declare the desirableness of the members and adherents of this Church in Southampton forming but one congregation, and with a view of effecting this, instruct the Presbytery to defer the matter of granting the moderation of a call, and appoint a committee to meet at Southampton, advise the parties concerned, and act as assessors with the Presbytery in determining its future action.”

The Commission was appointed as follows, viz.—Messrs. Skinner, Scott, of London, D. McKenzie, W. S. Ball, ministers; and the Hon. J. McMurrich elder.

*The Owen Sound Case.*—There were several different papers connected with this case which were read. From these it appeared that the former Presbytery of Hamilton of the Presbyterian Church of Canada had declared the congregation of Chalmers' Church, Owen Sound, extinct, and that the congregation of Mr. Grant was the only congregation in communion with the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Several individuals, trustees, &c., of Chalmers' Church, prepared a memorial praying the Synod to recognize them as still a congregation and thus set aside the decision of the Presbytery of Hamilton. This memorial they laid before the Presbytery of Grey for transmission to Synod. The Presbytery refused to transmit it. Against this decision memorialists protested and appealed, giving in due time their reasons. The Presbytery at first received the protest and reasons and named a Committee to answer them. Subsequently they resolved that the parties should not be allowed to appeal. Against this decision of Presbytery Messrs. Stevenson and Waters dissented and complained. The parties connected with Chalmers' Church sent up a memorial stating the circumstances and praying that the Synod might take up the whole case.

The Synod, on motion of Mr. Kemp, came to the following deliverance on the subject of the dissents and complaints and the petition from Mr. Crichton, representative of the congregation of Chalmers' Church:

“That parties having been heard on the petition of Mr. Crichton, and on the dissent and complaint of Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Waters regarding the action of the Presbytery of Grey ament parties desiring to petition the Synod in reference to Chalmers' Church, Owen Sound, the Synod sustain said petition and said complaint, and reverse the decision of the Presbytery of Grey, refusing to grant said parties the right of appeal, and refusing to transmit their petition and memorial to the Synod.”

The original petition of the members of Chalmers' Church, which brought up the real merits of the case, was on a division remitted to a Committee for full examination. Subsequently this Committee brought in a report which was unanimously adopted by the Synod. It is as follows:

“That, without interfering with the decision of the late Presbytery of Hamilton in the case of Chalmers' Church, Owen Sound, they would yet state it as their decided conviction that the property of Chalmers' Church, Sydenham or Owen Sound, belongs to and is in rightful possession of Mr. Crichton and other trustees and members of said church, and that only by them can the said property be sold or otherwise disposed of.

“The Synod would therefore indicate to the parties that the difficulty in the case would in all probability be removed, were the consent of the trustees and members of Chalmers' Church given in writing to value the property, and to offer it to the second congregation (Mr. Grant's) on the condition of their paying half its appraised value to the other congregation, or *vice versa*; and in the event of neither party agreeing to accept of said property, would recommend that it be sold and the money divided between the two congregations in Owen Sound. Appoint further Mr. Scott, minister, and Mr. Clark, elder, London, to counsel the parties in this case, and instruct the Presbytery of Grey