

The Committee at their meeting on the 6th of March last, conceiving that the state of affairs in the Canadas and the mission of the Earl of Durham, as the representative of Her Majesty to those provinces, appeared to open a favourable opportunity for again pressing on the attention of Government the claims of the Clergy and people of the Church of Scotland to a share in the funds set apart by the Constitutional Act for the support of a Protestant Clergy, unanimously requested their Convener to proceed to London with as little delay as possible, in order that he might have an interview with the Colonial Secretary, and with Lord Durham, and impress on them the great importance of those objects which the Committee had in view, not only as a matter of Justice to the Presbyterian Settlers in North America, who had always, and particularly on the late trying occasion, evinced their loyalty and attachment to the British Government, but as eminently conducive to the preservation of good order in these settlements, and to the advancement of the best and highest interests of the Settlers.

The Convener proceeded to London accordingly, and on his return reported that he had prepared a statement in behalf of the Scottish Presbyterian Clergy in Canada, which he had caused to be printed, and now laid copies of it on the table; that this statement had been extensively circulated amongst members of both Houses of Parliament and other influential persons, and pressed particularly on the attention of His Excellency the Earl of Durham; also that he had communicated with the colonial office on the subject of the Scottish Church in Canada, and had reason given him to expect that the grant of £500 made to the Clergy of the Lower Province last year, through Dr. Black, will be continued. He was further informed that particular instructions had been given to Sir George Arthur, to endeavour to bring about an amicable and equitable settlement with regard to the appropriation of the Clergy reserves. It appeared from this Report that while the danger to the peace of the colonies and the welfare of both established Churches from the unsettled state of this question, is very great, the prospect of its being brought speedily to