

before the Superior Court of Lower Canada. 4th. That the Memorialists see no hope of securing a good title to their property, and defend the suit only on the ground that as they were legally put into possession of said property, they are entitled to compensation for the building they have erected thereon. But rather than protract a painful and irritating contest, they have offered to give up possession on receiving the sum of \$100. 5th. That in these circumstances the Memorialists are under the necessity of erecting with all speed a new place of worship, and while they have contributed for this purpose a considerable amount, they are yet unable without large assistance to accomplish the end proposed. Considering that their case is one of peculiar injustice and hardship, they trust that the Presbytery will grant such assistance as may lie in their power.

After consideration it was unanimously resolved.—That the Presbytery deeply sympathize with the Church at Inverness in the circumstances in which they have been placed, and cannot but regard the seizure of their property as an act of wrong and injustice. They would cordially recommend this case to the liberality and christian brethren in Canada and elsewhere. The clerk was instructed to prepare a minute in suitable terms.

Mr. Gordon of Indian Lands, intimated that his congregation had been deprived of property to the amount of £700 by the act of the Indian Lands Department of the Government issuing a patent for the land on which their Church and Manse were built, to parties for the use of the body in connection with the Church of Scotland. They were consequently under the necessity of erecting a new place of worship. He therefore requested the sanction and recommendation of the Presbytery to appeal for aid to the friends of the Church. Said request was cordially granted, and the clerk was instructed to prepare a suitable minute.

The Presbytery unanimously agreed to the overture on the licensing of Students, and also to the College regulations.

Mr. Coulthart, student, being present, applied to be taken on trials for license. Having produced the usual certificates, he was examined in Latin, Greek, Philosophy, Theology and practical religion. Said trials were sustained with approbation, and the clerks was directed to issue circular letters, and to make application to the Synod for leave to take Mr. Coulthart for license.

Mr. Fenwick being present, made application to be taken on trials for license. Having produced a transfer in due form from the Presbytery of Toronto, he read the usual discourses and was examined on the usual subjects. The Presbytery took a conjunct view of said trials, and sustained the same with approbation. Mr. Fenwick having answered the usual questions, and agreed to sign the formula, was after exhortation and prayer by the Moderator licensed to preach the Gospel. The clerk was ordered to grant an extract of license when required. The Presbytery adjourned till June.

#### PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

This Presbytery met at Cobourg on the 1st of May.

There were present twelve ministers and three elders.

A financial report was received from Cart-

wright and Ballydaff. Messrs J. Smith, Laing and Bain, with Mr. McLaughlin, elders, were appointed to visit these congregations. The deputation to arrange with Mr. Windel as to the time of their visit.

A financial report was received from Peterboro', which was sustained.

Mr. McKenzie and Mr. J. W. Smith were appointed to prepare a report on the Home Mission field to be forwarded to the Convener of the Home Mission Committee.

Mr. J. Smith called the attention of the Presbytery to a circular regarding Knox College, when it was found that the matter to which it referred had been attended to.—It was agreed that the Presbytery approve of the recommendation that contributions of Knox College be taken up before the end of the year, and resolve to carry it into effect as far as practicable.

A letter was read from the Rev. John McTavish, soliciting aid towards the support of a missionary in the back townships on the boundary of this Presbytery and that of Toronto. The Clerk was instructed to answer Mr. McTavish's letter, and to express the great satisfaction of this Presbytery that the Presbytery of Toronto were taking steps to cultivate that field; that this Presbytery was willing to aid as far as was in its power, though, meantime, unable to render pecuniary assistance.

It was agreed that the following overture be transmitted to the Synod.—Whereas, the statistical reports given in from year to year, by this church are imperfect and unsatisfactory on account of the dilatoriness of many congregations in making their returns, and from other causes.—It is respectfully over- tured to the Reverend the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, for the purpose of securing more satisfactory results, that a plan should be initiated by which it may be provided,—

1. That the ecclesiastical year of congregations, Presbyteries and Synod, be counted from one common time; say May 1st each year.

2. That the contributions of congregations for the various Synodical funds, and the College fund, be entered on the book of the Church's agent, under the head of their respective Presbyteries;—and that the financial statement to be submitted in printed form at the second session of each Synod, be a transcript of the record thus made up.

3. That the statistics proper, the stipends of ministers, the collections for congregational purposes, and the collection for the Presbyteries' Home Mission fund, and the value of church property, be given in to the Presbytery of the bounds, as a separate return, and by the Presbytery to be transmitted to the Committee on statistics.

4. That defaulting congregations, being reported by the Synod, shall be regularly dealt with by the Presbyteries—or such other steps taken for securing the above end, which they may in their wisdom see fit.

Messrs. Laing and J. Smith were appointed to support the above overture in the Synod.

It was moved by the Rev. John Laing, seconded by the Rev. Peter McDiarmid, B. A., and agreed—that the following overture be transmitted to the Synod—“Where-

as certain Protestant churches have of late appealed to the Legislature, asking for a distribution of the funds now accruing to University College and the University of

Toronto, and proposing changes of great importance in the curriculum, the professorships, and the general management of these institutions,—And whereas it is believed by this Presbytery of Cobourg, that the granting of Legislative aid to Educational institutions established for the benefit of particular sects and managed by them, would in justice require the granting of such aid to all sectarian institutions, including those of the Romish Church; while an unsectarian instruction of the students by the ministers of their respective churches, is better adapted to the divided religious opinions of our land.

That University College is, both as regards its religious character, and the course of instruction given, in no small degree suited to the circumstances of the country, and wants of the various churches, and appears to be prospering more and more every year. That though some changes might be beneficial, nevertheless, many of the changes proposed would interfere with the efficiency of University College, and be injurious to the interests of education generally.

Therefore it is respectfully overtured by the Presbytery of Cobourg, to the Reverend the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, that the Synod transmit to the Government and Legislature of this Province a memorial on the subject, setting forth the views of this Church, deprecating any steps that might lessen the number of professors, impair their efficiency, or be otherwise detrimental to our national seat of learning:—and to take such other steps with that view, as it may in its wisdom see fit.

Messrs. McKenzie and Laing were appointed to support this overture in the Synod.

A deputation appeared from Keene, and presented a paper containing Resolutions passed at a meeting of the Congregation on 25th March. This paper the Presbytery agreed to receive and keep in *retentis*. Another paper was handed in of date 26th April, which it was agreed not to receive.

The Rev. F. Andrews presented a memorial, which it was agreed to receive, and transmit to the Synod.

The Presbytery thereafter adopted the report of the Committee appointed to prepare a deliverance in the case of Mr. Andrews. It concluded with a resolution to refer the whole matter again to the Synod, praying that Reverend Court to issue this matter by dissolving the pastoral tie, or as their wisdom may see fit.

Mr. McKenzie read a letter that he had received from the Convener of the Committee on the State of Religion; and requested that members furnish him with a report as to its state in their respective spheres.

The overture anent the mode of ordaining Elders and Deacons was read. It was agreed,—The Presbytery having considered the overture as remitted by the Synod, and finding that the mode now in use in Presbyterian churches generally, is not unscriptural, and having regard to uniformity of practice, see no reason for departing from the decision of the Synod in the year 1817.

The overture anent the licensing of Students was read. It was agreed to approve of the overture anent the calling and ordaining of Ministers was read. It was agreed to disapprove of this overture.