

A petition of Mr. Thomas Burgess, of Muskoka, was read; and it was decided that no action be taken thereon.

An Overture on the Infirm and Aged Ministers' Fund, sent up from the Presbytery of Simcoe, and supported before the Synod by Messrs. J. Gray and D. B. Cameron, was considered, and ordered to be transmitted to the General Assembly. Messrs. Laing, Gray, and D. B. Cameron were appointed to support it before the Assembly.

The Synod took up a protest and appeal of Mr. W. C. Windell against the Presbytery of Ontario, for permitting preaching at Williamsburg by Mr. Thom.

The parties in the case were called, and appeared,—Dr. Thornton and Mr. J. B. Edmondson representing the Presbytery.

When the papers were read, certain expressions in the Protest and Appeal of Mr. Windell were deemed objectionable, and, after deliberation, the following motion was agreed to:—

The Synod having heard the papers read, and being impressed with the impropriety of the language employed in the Protest and Complaint of Mr. Windell, resolve to express, as they hereby do, their unqualified condemnation of the same; yet considering that Mr. Windell has expressed his regret for using the offensive language objected to, agree to allow the case to proceed.

Parties were sisted at the bar, and Mr. Windell proceeded to address the Court. He was succeeded by Dr. Thornton, as Commissioner on behalf of the Presbytery. Before he had concluded, the hour of adjournment having arrived, the Synod adjourned accordingly.

FOURTH SIDERUNT.

After the opening exercises, and the reading and sustaining of the Minutes of third sederunt, and of the third Report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, Dr. Thornton proceeded with his argument to a close. Mr. Edmondson, the other Commissioner of the Presbytery, also addressed the Court, and Mr. Windell was heard in reply.

Questions were put to the parties, and answered.

Parties being removed from the bar, the Court proceeded to deliberate upon the case.

During the preparation of a motion and amendment, the Reports on the Records of the several Presbyteries of Cobourg, Ontario, Toronto, Simcoe and Owen Sound, stating that said Records were carefully and correctly kept, were given in and read. The Synod directed that the Records be attested accordingly.

It was then moved by Mr. Laing, and seconded by Mr. Meikle, as follows: Sustain the Appeal of Mr. Windell, express disapproval of the hasty and indefinite manner in which the Presbytery authorized Mr. Thom to preach at Williamsburg; a course which seems to have been intended to result in the organization of a distinct congregation, but which the data before the Presbytery did not warrant, and that Messrs. _____ and _____ be appointed as Assessors with the Presbytery in this case, and remit the case to the Presbytery with instructions to travail further in the matter, so as to ascertain the necessity of setting up a separate organization, and, if deemed expedient, to endeavour to secure the concurrence of the Session of Cartwright.

It was moved in amendment by Dr. Jennings, and seconded by Mr. J. Ewing: That the Synod, having heard parties in the case, sustain the Protest and Appeal, and, seeing that preaching has been discontinued at Williamsburg, deem it unnecessary to give any further deliverance in the matter.

The vote being taken, the amendment was carried.

Parties having been recalled, and the decision intimated to them from the Chair, they expressed their acquiescence, and craved extracts. These were ordered to be issued.

The Synod took up an Overture from the Presbytery of Simcoe, anent the Religious Training of the Young. Mr. R. Rodgers was heard in support thereof.

It was agreed to transmit it to the General Assembly. Messrs. John Smith and R. Rodgers were appointed to support it before the Assembly.