

honour to have with your Lordship yesterday, I beg leave to draw your Lordship's attention to the fact,

11. That to a memorial presented by a Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1827, respecting pecuniary aid to the ministers in Canada, in communion with the said church, an answer was received by the convener from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, bearing "that whenever a congregation in any of those provinces shall have erected a suitable place of worship, and be prepared to acknowledge the jurisdiction of the Church of Scotland, and to contribute, according to their means, towards the maintenance of a minister, upon their subscribing a memorial to the Governor in Council, the Governor will have received His Majesty's commands, authorizing him upon being satisfied, that those conditions have been duly complied with, to contribute to the support of the clergyman in such proportion, as, together with the contribution of the parties presenting the memorial, may be sufficient to afford him a competent maintenance."

I have now, my Lord, brought the claims of the Scottish Church in Canada, and the grievances of which the members of the church in Lower Canada have loudly, and for a series of years, complained, under your Lordship's consideration. Since I had the honour to meet with your Lordship, I have received a communication from Montreal, of such a nature as to make it imperative on me to return there with all convenient haste. That circumstance, coupled with the fact, that one minister in the Presbytery of Quebec has already relinquished his charge, from the utter inadequacy of the provision made for him, and that others are about to do the same from the same cause, will, I trust, induce your Lordship to give me an immediate reply to my memorial, and to this communication; and I do most earnestly entreat your Lordship, as you regard the spiritual welfare of thousands of your countrymen, to let that reply be such as will shortly insure to each of the ministers of the Scottish Church now in Lower Canada, or who may hereafter be there, a permanent annual stipend of not less than 100*l.* sterling. Although an unendowed clergyman, and representing a body unable to refund me for my expenditure, yet I shall remain in London till the end of this week, in order that I may receive your Lordship's reply, and I trust that, from the very peculiar circumstances in which I am placed, your Lordship will not disappoint me.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Lord Glenelg,  
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Edw. Black.*

— No. 3. —

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 March 1837.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to inform you that he has had under his serious consideration your memorial of 8th ultimo, and your subsequent letter, urging the claim of the Church of Scotland in Upper and Lower Canada to receive assistance from His Majesty's Government towards the support of their ministers. This claim is founded not only on a consideration of the assistance granted to the ministers of the Church of England in those provinces, but also on the right of the clergy of the Church of Scotland to participate in the benefit of the Clergy Reserves, and on the alleged promise of assistance formerly given to that Church, and as yet unfulfilled.

On the first point, Lord Glenelg desires me to observe, that the pecuniary assistance which is at present annually voted by Parliament for ministers of the Church of England in the Canadas, is only temporary, being limited in its duration to the existence of the lives of the individuals among whom it is now distributed. You are possibly aware that in the year 1832 a pledge was given to Parliament that this country should be relieved from the expense, which up to that date it had borne, on account of the ecclesiastical establishment in the Canadian provinces. But at the same time it was found, that to carry this pledge into immediate and unqualified effect, would cause the greatest distress to those clergymen who had left this country for the Canadas with a fixed salary, and with a reasonable assurance that the salary secured to them in the first instance, would be permanently continued. His Majesty's Government therefore proposed, and the House of Commons have sanctioned, a grant to such an amount as should secure to those ministers who were actually in the