

The Bells of the United Presbyterian Church, Ecclefechan.

The petitioner (the Rev. Dr. Menzies, the Established Church minister) having lodged a reclaiming petition against the judgment of the Sheriff-Substitute in this case, the Sheriff Depute, Mr. Napier, has just pronounced the following interlocutor and note:—"Edinburgh, 16th January, 1868. Having considered this appeal, with the reclaiming petition for the complainer, proof for both parties, and the whole process, adheres to the interlocutor appealed against, and dismisses the appeal. (Signed) MARK NAPIER." This is another defeat to Dr. Menzies.

News of the Church.

Presbytery of P. E. Island.

This Presbytery met in the basement room of Queen Square Church, Charlotte-town, on the 26th February. There were present, Revds. J. Allan, Moderator, *pro tem.*, A. Campbell, I. Murray, H. Crawford, D. McNeill, A. Cameron, R. Laird, W. Ross, W. R. Frame, A. Falconer, D. W. Cameron and J. G. Cameron, Ministers; and Messrs. K. Henderson, W. Mutch, D. McNiven, W. Brown, R. Cairns and M. McLean, Elders.

Papers were read from the congregation of Lot 14, seeking for a moderation in a call for a pastor, and requesting a supplement of £10 for two years. Mr. James McArthur appeared as commissioner in behalf of the congregation, and in reply to interrogatives, stated that general harmony had been restored, and that the congregation was prepared to guarantee a salary of £140 apart from the supplement requested. After a full consideration of the state of the congregation, it was agreed to grant the moderation, but not to recommend the congregation for a supplement, as the Presbytery deem it sufficiently able to raise the minimum stipend of £150, with a manse, and urged it to endeavor to attain to that position. The Rev. Allan Fraser was appointed to preach in Lot 14 Church, on Wednesday, the 18th March, and moderate in said call, and the Rev. R. Laird to conduct divine service in both sections of the congregation on Sabbath, the 8th March, and give notice of this moderation.

A communication was submitted from the Murray Harbor congregation, setting forth its condition;—stating that the congregation could raise only £106 for salary for a pastor, besides a manse and globe, and praying the Presbytery to recommend them to the Board for a supplement, in case of their obtaining a settled minister. Mr.

Johnstone Aitken appeared before the court as commissioner from the congregation.—After a full investigation of the affairs of the congregation, it was unanimously agreed to recommend a supplement of £25 P.E.I. cy. per annum. The Rev. A. Falconer was appointed to preach in this congregation, on Sabbath, the 6th March, his pulpit to be supplied by Mr. Nelson, Probationer.

A petition was read from certain parties in Dundas, Cardigan, and vicinities, seeking for the services of a catechist. As the Revds. Messrs. Munro and McLean were not present, the clerk was instructed to notify these brethren, and also the petitioners, to appear at next meeting of Presbytery, when the prayer of the petition will be considered.

Mr. Falconer reported from the committee appointed to visit the East St. Peter's section of the Rev. Mr. Crawford's congregation, in order to ascertain its ability to support a minister apart from Bay Fortune: that they had attended to the work intrusted to them, and had obtained subscriptions to the amount of £120. The report was received, and the diligence of the committee approved. The Presbytery after lengthened discussion, arrived at the following finding on the case: That whilst dissatisfied with the amount subscribed, yet, are of opinion, that the congregation are fully competent to support a minister, that their circumstances demand additional ministerial labor, and urge them to take steps, as soon as possible, to obtain a separation from Bay Fortune.

It having been brought under the notice of the Presbytery, that an effort was about to be put forth to secure a Government grant for the endowment of St. Dunstan's College—a Roman Catholic institution—it was agreed that this Presbytery express their strong condemnation of State grants in aid of any sectarian institution, that they use all lawful endeavors to prevent such endowments, and that a committee be appointed to watch the progress of the present agitation, and if necessary, report at a future meeting. The Revds. A. Falconer and W. Ross, and the Hon. K. Henderson, and W. Mutch, Elders, were appointed said committee.

The Presbytery then entered into a conference on the state of religion, when several members gave expression to their views. After protracted deliberation as to the best practical method of securing an increase of true piety and christian zeal, it was agreed that a series of religious meetings be held in the several congregations of the Presbytery, and that they Presbytery be formed into three committees, in accordance with the bounds of the counties, for the purpose of carrying out this decision more efficiently.

Reports of Missionary labor by Messrs.