

charge without the advice or consent of the Presbytery, or his people, and after censure and admonition he was reposed into his former standing.

Subsequently, on account of pecuniary difficulties, he was relieved from the pastorate of the churches under his care and appointed stated supply to Currie's Bush. At this time he seems again to have visited Montreal, and preached with much acceptance to the people there, the result of which was a valuable and very interesting series of letters, together with the action of the Presbytery of Albany upon them.

The first letter is a petition from the congregation which is signed by Adam Scott, who, from this documents and from the Minute Books of the Congregation, appears to have been the first Chairman of their temporal committee; he was also one of the original Trustees to whom the property, on which the Church now stands, was conveyed. The names attached to the other petitions from the congregation are those of the Elders who appear to have been ordained by Mr. Young. Their names too, occur frequently in the early minutes of the Church. Near relatives of the first and second are yet alive and resident in Montreal, and a nephew of the latter is still an adherent of St. Gabriel Street Church.

What the "Presbytery of Montreal" referred to in the last letter, was or, who composed it, is, as yet quite unknown. So far as is known, it has left no records behind it, and no one living has any distinct knowledge of its ever having existed. By whomsoever formed, they had not thought of affixing to their designation "in connection with the Church of Scotland."

The documents are as follows:—

MONTREAL, 5th Aug. 1791.

VERY REVEREND SIR,

"We beg leave to inform the very Reverend Presbytery, that there are in this place a number of inhabitants from different parts who have been brought up in the Presbyterian Church, and wish still to adhere thereto; but have been for a considerable time without public ordinances dispensed according to the order of that Church; notwithstanding its doctrines, but also its discipline and Government, except some occasional supplies by the Reverend Mr. Young, one of your members, and being well informed of your steady attention to the interests of religion and care of vacant congregations, we hope, if agreeable to the Reverend Presbytery, they will consider our situation, take us under their care, and appoint the Reverend John Young our stated supply, and to perform among us all the ministerial functions until next stated meeting of Presbytery, and that the Good Shepherd who gave his life for the sheep may ever direct their deliberations and feed the people under their inspection, shall be the constant prayer of,

Very Reverend Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

in name of the congregation,

ADAM SCOTT,
President of the Committee.

The very Reverend Moderator of
the Presbytery of Albany."

Along with this petition there is a letter from Mr. Young himself, to the following effect.

MONTREAL, August 1st, 1791.

REV. SIR,

"I must request you to inform the Presbytery that such has been the state of my health during the whole summer, that it was impossible for me to visit Niagara as the Presbytery appointed—and such is the present state of my health that I cannot attend the Presbytery—I have during the summer resided in this place, and at the earnest request of the people have occasionally preached to them. The congregation have ordered their committee to apply to the Presbytery that I may be appointed their stated supply for the ensuing six months. If the Presbytery think proper to appoint me, I shall endeavour by the Divine blessing to serve them as faithfully as possible. They are a respectable people. The subscribers, in number, about a hundred, seem very desirous of establishing the Gospel among them. They are ignorant of forms, but hope the Presbytery will excuse any defect in this respect. Should my health permit, I will endeavour to attend your next stated meeting, and it is probable some of the people here will accompany me who will explain more fully their situation, but in the present state of my health, all things are to me extremely uncertain. That the God of unerring wisdom may direct the Presbytery in every matter that may come before them and bless abundantly their own souls and the souls of those under their care, shall ever be the earnest prayer of, Rev. Sir.

Your very humble servant,

JO. YOUNG.

Rev. Moderator of the
Presbytery of Albany."

On the back this letter is directed to the care of "the Rev. John McDonald, Minister of the Gospel, Albany."

In the minutes of the Presbytery of Albany, which met at "Salem, Sept. 6th, 2 o'clock afternoon, 1791," we find the following reference to these letters, and the decision of the Presbytery regarding their prayer, viz:

"Mr. Young informed the Presbytery by letter that on account of the bad state of his health he had been prevented from visiting the congregation at Niagara, according to their appointment, and that for the same reason he could not attend the present meeting. He also informed the Presbytery that he had supplied with preaching the congregation in Montreal, and had no objections, on the request of that society, to receive a stated appointment among them till next spring Presbytery."

Thursday, 3 o'clock afternoon.

"A petition from a Presbyterian Congregation at Montreal, in Canada, was also laid before Presbytery requesting to be taken under their care, and to have Mr. Young appointed a stated supply till the next meeting of Presbytery in March. The Presbytery agreeable to their request did enrol them among the congregations under their inspection.

"The Presbytery appointed for Montreal, Mr. Young a stated supply."

The next letter is a petition from the elders of the Church to the Presbytery of Albany, to the following effect.

MONTREAL, Feb. 1st, 1792.

VERY REV. SIR,

"We beg leave, in this manner, in the

name of the congregation, to thank the very Reverend Presbytery for their attention to our former request in taking us under their care, and appointing the Rev. John Young to minister among us in holy things.

"We hope that his labours among us are blessed of the Great Lord of the Vineyard, this appears from that ready cheerfulness with which our people contribute to every thing that is necessary for the decent establishment of religion.

"We are uncertain whether Mr. Young's state of health will permit him to attend the Presbytery this season; if he attends, some of our number will accompany him, and explain more fully our situation; should he not be able to attend, it is our earnest request that he may be continued our stated supply for the ensuing six months.

"That the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life for the sheep, may direct the Presbytery in this and every matter that may come before them, and enrich with His heavenly blessing the various congregations under their inspection, shall ever be the fervent prayer of,

Very Reverend Sir,

Your most obt. servts.

JAMES LOGAN,

WM. ENGLAND,

DUNCAN FISHER,

Elders.

Very Reverend Moderator
of the Presbytery of Albany."

This letter is directed on the back to the care of the Rev. John McDonald, Minister of the Gospel, Albany."

The next communication is from the same parties:

"MONTREAL, 20th Aug. 1793.

"Very Reverend Sir,

"While we humbly thank the very Revd. Presbytery for their former care and attention to us in taking us under their care and appointing the Rev. John Young, our stated supply, we must inform you, that from our distant situation, we feel it inconvenient, either for us or our Minister, to attend upon the Presbytery as often as might be necessary; and we understand that the Presbyterian Ministers who were in the Province before Mr. Young, are about to form themselves into a Presbytery, with whom it will be more convenient for us to be connected, we must for these reasons, request our dismission from the Presbytery of Albany, that we may put ourselves under the care of the Presbytery in Canada as soon as said Presbytery shall meet.

"We have thought it prudent to advise Mr. Young to apply for a dismission from you, that he may have it in his power to sit in said Presbytery.

"That the Spirit of wisdom and discernment may ever be with the very Revd. Presbytery, and direct them in this and every matter that may come before them shall ever be, very Revd. Sir, the prayer of your humble servants.

In name of congregation,

JAMES LOGAN,

WM. ENGLAND,

DUNCAN FISHER.

Elders,

Very Rev. Moderator,
of the Presbytery of Albany."