

Minutes of the Synod of the

Canadian Synod, dated 30th July, and to explain that the third section of the letter 23rd May, was not intended to imply that the Synod, in proposing a pastoral charge for the Theological Professor, either at Hamilton or Toronto, was to impose him upon an existing congregation, or to do anything inconsistent with presbyterial or constitutional rule, and that the terms of the letter, when properly examined, will not be found to bear any such construction." In order that, on the subject of location, the Board might be in a condition to propose something definite to the person to whom they were to apply, they adopted the following resolution:—"Agreed that the Professor whom the Board may procure, be directed to go to Toronto, and reside there till he obtains a pastoral charge in a place of which he shall approve, and which he will regard so central as to be fitted for answering the ends of his appointment."

As soon as the Board have obtained the consent of a duly qualified person, to allow his name to be sent for the approbation of your Synod, I shall again communicate with you.

I am, my dear Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed)

ANDREW SOMERVILLE Secretary.

The second communication is of the date and purport following, as far as relates expressly to the nomination, by the Board of Missions, of a person to be Professor of Theology to the Church in this country, viz:

OFFICE OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
5 Queen Street, Edinburgh, 11th Dec., 1851.

REV. WILLIAM FRASER:

Rev. A. Somerville's letter.

MY DEAR SIR,—I beg to send to you the following extracts from the minutes of meetings of the Board of Missions:—

"Took up the subject of a Professor of Theology for the Church in Canada; when upon hearing the report of the sub-committee, and after a full and frank conversation, it was agreed, unanimously, to name to the Synod in Canada, the Rev. Dr. John Taylor, Auchtermuchty, as, in the judgment of this Committee, a person peculiarly fitted, from his many and varied attainments, to discharge the onerous and very responsible duties of this important office. Remitted it to the sub-committee, appointed at the former meeting, to correspond with Dr. Taylor, and to endeavour to gain his consent to allow his name to be sent to the Synod in Canada."

"7th October, 1851.

"The Rev. Dr. Taylor, whom the Committee, at their meeting in October, unanimously nominated as a Professor of Theology for Canada, expressed his views at some length with regard to this important matter, stating that he felt inclined to entertain the proposal favorably, but that there were certain difficulties which still stood in the way. The Committee, in order to remove these difficulties as far as they could, agreed to add a clause to the minute of 7th October, and that the decision stand thus:—"That the Professor whom the Board may procure, be directed to go to Toronto, and reside there till he obtain a pastoral charge in a place of which he shall approve, and which he will regard as so central, as to be fitted for answering the ends of his appointment; and that, as the chief design for which a minister is sought from this country, is the training of young men for the sacred ministry, it is the opinion of this Committee that he should, for some time, devote his labours to the duties of this office, and that the acceptance or the non-acceptance of a pastoral charge should, at a future period, be determined according as circumstances

"3rd December, 1851.