

C A P. L X I.

An Act to amend "An Act to incorporate the managers of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland," and amendments thereto.

[Assented to 23rd February, 1875.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS by Petition it hath been represented that the Synods of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, of the Church of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland, and of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces and the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church, have agreed to unite together, and to form one body or denomination of Christians, under the name of "The Presbyterian Church in Canada," and that the act of the Province of Canada, 10 and 11 Victoria, chapter 23, intituled: "An Act to incorporate the managers of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland," and amendments thereto, require to be amended with a view to such union, and in order to the carrying into effect of certain resolutions passed by the synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, with reference to said fund, and for the protection of those interested in the same; Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows:

Fund of Ministers' wid. and orph., &c.

1. Notwithstanding anything in the said act, and the amendment or amendments thereto contained, and notwithstanding that from and after the time when a notice shall have been published in the *Quebec Official Gazette*, to the effect that the moderators of the aforesaid churches negotiating for union have signed the terms of union agreed upon, the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the church of Scotland shall have ceased to exist as a separate church; the fund presently existing for the benefit of the ministers' widows and orphans of the said church shall continue for the benefit of the widows and orphans, of those ministers who shall have been members of the synod of the said church at the date of union.

Managers of said fund.

2. Those persons who shall be managers of the said fund at the date of union shall not require to be elected periodically as hitherto, but shall continue to be the managers thereof, unless they resign, so long as they shall re-

main members or adherents of the united church, until they are relieved of their office in the manner hereinafter provided for; and in the event of the resignation, decease or withdrawal from the communion of the united church of any member or members of the board, the remaining members shall have power to fill up such vacancy or vacancies, provided the person or persons so chosen shall be ministers whose rights in the fund are guaranteed by this act, or members or adherents of their congregations; and the Board so constituted shall have power to hold all moneys, properties and mortgages, and to exercise all the rights appertaining to the present board of managers; and they are hereby authorized to receive such legacies and bequests as may be made for the benefit of the said fund.

Vacancies.

Powers of the board.

3. After the union, until such time as an equitable arrangement for the establishment of a ministers' widows' and orphans' fund for the united church shall have been made, the widows and orphans entitled to receive annuities from the said fund at the date of union, or the widows and orphans of those ministers who at the date of union are members of the synod aforesaid, and had contributed personally and through their congregations to said fund, in terms of the by-laws thereof, shall receive annuities at a rate not lower than the scale fixed by this board previous to the date of union, if the funds permit; provided that the ministers whose widows or orphans shall be placed on the list of annuitants on the said board, after the union, shall have continued to contribute to the said fund six dollars semi-annually as heretofore, and shall have secured annual contributions from their congregations to said fund.

Annuities.

Conditions.

4. As soon as an arrangement for the establishment of a fund for the benefit of the ministers' widows and orphans of the united church, satisfactory to this board, as representing the interests of the widows and orphans of those ministers who had formerly belonged to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, shall have been made by the supreme court of the united church, this board shall be empowered to hand over to such board or committee as may be created for the management of such new fund for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the ministers of the united church, all moneys, properties and mortgages they shall at the time hold; provided always, that no widow or orphan of a minister, who had formerly belonged to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, shall receive less annuities from the fund of the united church than would have pertained to them, in terms of the

New Fund.

Remittance.

Provide:

scale in force by this board at the date of union, if the said churches had not united.

Rights of ministers declining to enter into united church.

Proviso:

5. In the event of any minister or ministers of the synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, who shall possess rights in this fund at the date of said union, declining to enter into the united church, he or they shall be entitled to the same pecuniary rights and claims in and upon said fund, after such union, as shall be possessed by them previous to said union; provided those ministers thus declining to enter the united church, continue to contribute to the fund, personally, six dollars semi-annually, and, except in the case of ministers who have retired from the active duties of the ministry, with the consent of the said synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, to secure contributions for it from their congregations or otherwise, and comply with such other regulations as may be made, after the union, for the management of the fund.

Previous provisions inconsistent, repealed.

6. All provisions contained in any previous act, or amendment thereto, inconsistent with the provisions of this act, relating to the said managers of the ministers' widows' and orphans' fund, are hereby repealed.

C A P. L X I I .

An Act respecting the Union of certain Presbyterian Churches therein named.

[Assented to 23rd February, 1875.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS the Canada Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, the Church of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, have severally agreed to unite together and form one body or denomination of Christians under the name of "The Presbyterian Church in Canada;" and the moderators of the general assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and of the synods of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and the Church of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, respectively, by and with the consent of the said general assembly and synods, have by their petitions, stating such agreement to unite as