

Copies

Pitau, 28 April 1852

To the Rev J. Bayne Mackⁿ of Lession,
Primer St Church, Pitau

Rev & Sir

It has been for some time past, the desire of myself and sister, to remain associated with the Church in this place, of which we were formerly members, but a charge of fraud having been made against us by a member of Lession (Mr J. Dawson) we could not, until such charge was retracted, reoccupy our place as members in the Church, of which Mr Dawson is an Elder. Papers containing Mr Dawson's charge, and disconnected with the transaction on which the charge was founded were mislaid, and for some time could not be found. As soon as I succeeded in getting them in connection with what I believed to be scriptural and other passages, Mr Dawson and stated our desire respecting reunion with the Church, and the obstacle in the way, also requesting a retraction of the charge. Mr Dawson, disclaiming having made any such charge, refused to make any retraction. The interview took place a week before the last communion, judging it improper at such a season to disturb the Lession with business of this nature, let the matter rest for a while, thinking that when Mr Dawson had reflected on the subject he would see the reasonableness of our request, but having nothing from him on the matter, I felt again, and, in the presence of his son, (Mr J. Dawson) had a second interview which terminated very unpleasantly. It is now the wish of myself and sister to lay the whole business before the Lession for investigation.

Respectfully yours

(Signed) Isabella McNeill

Copy - original written by Miss J. McCallack

In April 1848 having occasion to sell a lot of land lying on the west side, and bounded on the East by a lot in possession of Mr J Dawson we had the lot surveyed by the late Mr W Hattie Mr Dawson and others being on the ground.

The survey commenced from the old land marks on the ~~the~~ Western Boundary, and when fifty rods, the quantity in our lot were laid off - our Eastern Boundary included a part of the land claimed by Mr Dawson.

Mr Dawson having previously sold a portion of his lot, according to the old, but not established boundaries, agreed to a boundary on the old line, and also to pay a price for that part of our land sold with his.

Mr Dawson afterwards resumed his claim to the old boundary, and also threatened with prosecution being an encroaching act of ownership on that part of the property.

This we have had occasion to do (we believe justly and honestly) but if Mr Dawson can substantiate his claims to the property in dispute, we shall be most willing to adopt the course which Christian duty directs.