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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1878.

## PUBLIC NOTICE IN TERMS OF THE ENDOWED INSTITUTIONS ACT, 1878, SECTION 5.

IN terms of an Order by the Right Honourable Richard Assheton Cross, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, dated 18th December 1878, made under the provisions of the Endowed Institutions (Scotland) Act, 1878, 41 and 42 Victoria, c. 48, it is hereby intimated that a Petition has been presented to the aforesaid Secretary of State, by the Reverend Andrew Browne, Minister of the Parish of Beith, the Reverend John Orr, Minister of the Parish of Kilbirnie, Robert William Cochran Patrick of Woodside, and younger of Ladyland, William Fulton Love, Writer in Beith, Hugh Crawford of Barr, Robert Kirkwood, Doctor of Medicine, Largs, and William Ralston Patrick of Roughwood and Hesselhead, Trustees of the late Mrs. Margaret Gibson or Spier of Marshalland, under her Trust Disposition and Settlement, in the following terms:—

‘That your petitioners are the governing body, as defined in the Endowed Institutions (Scotland) Act, 1878, of a Mortification or Bequest for the erection and maintenance of a School or Institution for uses partly educational and partly charitable on the Lands of Marshalland, in the Parish of Beith and County of Ayr, to be called “Spier’s Institution,” under and by virtue of the Trust Disposition and Settlement of Mrs. Margaret Gibson or Spier of Marshalland, relict of Robert Spier, Esquire, Writer in Beith, dated nineteenth March Eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, and registered in the Books of Council and Session on the second day of April Eighteen hundred and seventy, of which Deed a certified copy is herewith sent.

‘That at a meeting of your petitioners, being the governing body of the said Endowed Institution,

and held at a month’s notice on the twenty-sixth day of November Eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, it was resolved, in terms of section four of the said Act, by the unanimous resolution of those present at that meeting, that it was expedient that provision should be made for the better government and administration of the said Institution, and for the better application of the endowments; and that an application should be made to the Secretary of State for a Provisional Order. A duplicate of the minute of this meeting, containing the said resolution, is herewith sent.

‘Your petitioners respectfully refer to the evidence given by some of them before the Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into Endowed Schools and Institutions, and to the Memorial presented by the petitioners to these Commissioners, and printed along with the evidence as containing some of their principal reasons for desiring changes on the application of the endowment, and the removal of restrictions on their powers of management.

‘That your petitioners desire and respectfully suggest that the following alterations ought to be sanctioned:—

‘1. It shall be in the power of the Trustees to erect the principal building of the Institution in a simpler and less ornate style than that shown in the plans thereof, and to make such alterations on the plans, fittings, and furnishings thereof as may appear to them necessary to adapt the accommodations to the purposes of a high class school, and generally to the effect of reducing the expense to the sum of Eighteen Thousand pounds or thereby, being the sum mentioned in the Deed by the founder for the erection of the building, and in so