

strength within herself, and that it would have been far better had she provided for the evil hour when it was yet at a distance. But the error was perceived when too late. For more than twenty years she was unable to rise from the blows her improvidence had unfitted her for sustaining, and to supply with ministers those churches that had, by it, been deprived of their ministers.

If our churches are similarly situated ; if there is any probability of our support from the government being cut off, by any of the sudden changes of the times ; if there is any probability of our endowments being wrested from the church, in case of a separation from the mother country, which all must acknowledge to be things by no means impossible, when we look to the state of affairs either here or at home ; if, in the case of any such event, our parishes are unprepared for supporting the ministrations of religion, is it wise in us to fold our arms in indifference, hoping that "to-morrow will be as this day and much more abundant ?"

The next subject that craves our attention is the *means of supporting our Diocesan*, when the Lord, in the inscrutable ways of his providence, shall be pleased to take from us him (which day may it be yet distant) who has so faithfully and so successfully labored amongst us for such a length of time. Some means of support must be devised other than that hitherto enjoyed, for that is to be discontinued when our beloved father shall be called to enter into that "rest which remaineth for the people of God."^(d) If no means of support are provided, either no Bishop can be obtained, or the office must be conferred upon one of the Rectors, who would be obliged to hold it in connection with his rectory, in which case its duties could be but inadequately performed, or it must go a-begging, till a clergyman of independent fortune can be found, willing to take upon himself its responsibilities and its labors. But it may be objected, that one of the arch-deacons might be consecrated to the office. This I deny not ; but I would remind the objector that the allowance hitherto made by the government to the arch-deacons, will also be withdrawn on the demise of the present incumbent. That under our present ecclesiastical arrangements, *no permanent fund for the support of our Bishop could be raised*, must be manifest to all who have attempted to raise any sum by the usual means adopted throughout our congregations.

Hitherto there have been societies organized in the principal towns of the diocese for circulating the scriptures, prayer-books, and other religious works and tracts ; but there has been great cause to regret, that so few embarked with any zeal in the cause ; that the means at the disposal of the societies were so small ; and

(d.) This occurred in the year 1837.