

of England. Their object is to provide with public worship and religious instruction, not only resident natives of Scotland, but the crews of the numerous Scottish vessels which resort to the harbour. It appears from their statement that a large congregation may be expected; that the progress of sin and irreligion requires to be counteracted by the most vigorous exertions, and that a want of the means to provide an adequate remuneration for the labours of a clergyman well qualified for the duties of the situation, is the chief obstacle with which they have to contend.

The memorialists beg leave, lastly, to entreat your lordship's attention to some additional representations which have been made to them by the Scottish inhabitants of Van Diemen's land. It appears from these, that of date the 8th August, 1836, a petition was presented to the governor and council of that colony, praying, "The honourable council, that for the due support of public religion in Van Diemen's Land, the four Presbyterian churches now in existence in the colony, may be placed in a situation equal in all respects to that held by the existing Episcopal churches, and that their ministers may receive support from the public revenue, equal in amount to that received by the present Episcopal ministers."

On this petition the council, after a lengthened discussion, came to a resolution in the following words:—"That it is the opinion of this council, that the ministers of the Church of Scotland be placed on the same footing, as to salary and allowances, as the chaplains of the Church of England establishment."

Notwithstanding of this resolution, the act for appropriation of the revenue, promulgated a few days after, was

found to keep up the same disproportion as had formerly existed between the grants to the clergy of the two establishments, and on a remonstrance to the governor, the petitioners were informed, that "the resolution in question was passed subsequently to the estimates being laid upon the council table, and that previously to its being carried into effect by the local government, it must be submitted for the approval of the right honourable secretary of state."

Of the probable effect of this reference to the colonial office in Britain, no explanation was, or perhaps could, be given in the colony. Your Lordship's memorialists have great pleasure in acknowledging the indulgent attention which has been paid to their former applications on this subject, and in bearing testimony to the grateful sense which is entertained of the parental care of government by their countrymen in Van Diemen's Land. Still they trust they will be forgiven for repenting that the principles often maintained, and stated once more in the commencement of this memorial, fully justify both the resolution of the colonial council, and the hope which they would respectfully express, of its being carried into fair and complete operation, under the directions of the important department of His Majesty's administration, over which your lordship so ably presides.

The memorialists have finally to apologize for trespassing so frequently and largely on your lordship's attention and patience, and at the same time to express their hope of being excused, in consideration of the importance of the subjects embraced in their application, the deep interest they take in the spiritual welfare of their countrymen now settled in the colonies, and their knowledge of the pious and benevolent sympathy with which your lordship is ac-