

insensibly to aid in the effect of detaching the affections of our people from the Mother Country. With reference, for example, to the project which is now agitated for the division of the Diocese, and to the administration, more or less connected with this subject, of the Church-revenue arising from the portion left to us of the Clergy Reserves—particular views have been put forth in several different forms and in different directions, which are calculated to infuse into the minds of our clergy and their followers, a distrust of authority, a jealousy of prerogative, a suspicion of meditated encroachment upon their reasonable privileges, if not of actual invasion of their rightful claims—and, I am aware of more than one instance in which there has been a disposition to set the supposed mismanagement of our affairs and prejudice done to our interests in these respects, unfavorably in contrast with the order of things (if that term, can otherwise than in a qualified sense, describe what is, in a great measure, loose, unfixed and dependent upon capricious influences,) which subsists in the United States of America. But, it must be remembered, that if on the *one* side, there is a natural bias upon the judgment, in favour of the old standing establishments of a country, and in opposition to all innovating movements, so, on the *other*, there is a positive and strong *temptation*, and especially in times like these, to make out a case against prescriptive authority and—not to suppose the case of restless, or possibly ambitious spirits apt to be found in every country and in every organization of human society, who are out of their element if they cannot find out grievances and abuses, to aid in their desire of pulling down what happens to be above them, and who, if materials be wanting in the realities by which they are surrounded, will readily create something to themselves, or lay hold of something, however in fact *hors de propos*, (for, *something* they *must* have) to work upon, in this kind of way,—not to notice how many chords there are in the human breast, closely intertwined with the old Adam of our nature, upon which hands like these can play with effect,—there are even well-affected minds, which being eagerly and sensitively solicitous for the good of the Church, and generous minds, which being warmly predisposed to espouse the cause of any who appear to have been aggrieved, may lend an over-ready credence to every suspicion cast upon authority and every suggestion of mismanaged trust.