

Unto the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY:—

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, desire, at this time, to renew the expression of our steadfast and unabated loyalty and attachment to Your Majesty's Royal Person, and of our unaltered love of the principles of that happy Constitution under which we and our fellow-subjects throughout the extended territories of Britain, have enjoyed so many blessings.

We have not been indifferent spectators of those eventful times in which we are fallen; and we rejoice, that while almost every country in Europe is convulsed by sanguinary revolutions, and suffering all the miseries of intestine strife, the British Throne remains unshaken, and the Sovereign who occupies it not less distinguished for the exemplary discharge of all the duties of private life than for her princely virtues, holds the highest place in the veneration and affection of her people. In these things we recognize the Providence of Him who has the hearts of all men in His hands, and we love to trace in them an evidence of how long He is disposed to bear with a nation in which, while there is much to provoke His righteous displeasure, we believe there are many righteous persons, whose cry is ascending to Him day and night, that He would not deal with us as we have sinned, but in wrath remember mercy.

Distinguished as this Colony has ever been for its loyalty and its reverence for constituted authority, it has been matter of the deepest concern to us to witness the progress of that spirit of dissatisfaction which has recently manifested itself among a very large portion of the most enlightened of its people, and has in some instances burst forth in a manner which has occasioned sorrow and humiliation in the bosoms of all good men. Our prayers continually ascend to that God who sitteth on the floods, and who can say to those agitations which afflict us,—“Be still!” that He would be graciously pleased to continue to grant us peace; and we assure Your Majesty that nothing shall be wanting on our part that can tend to allay the exasperation which has been excited in the midst of us, and to promote the continuance of the connection which has been so long and so happily maintained with the Parent State, while we shall persevere in pressing upon our people those sacred truths, the reception of which constitute the only real foundation of a nation's stability and improvement. When we look at our sins as a nation,—the drunkenness, the publicly countenanced Sabbath-breaking, and the daring impiety which abounds, we acknowledge how justly an offended God might afflict us with wounds that could not be healed; but we shall not cease to cling to the hope that He will yet in mercy spare us, and that by His blessing upon the Imperial counsels, some healing measure may be devised which shall again restore harmony and peace throughout all our borders.

We can solemnly say that as a Church Court, we have ever carefully refrained from intermeddling with party politics, and we are sure that in adverting, at this eventful crisis in our history, to the views we entertain on the subject of Public Education, we shall not be regarded as departing from the course which we have prescribed for ourselves.

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The Address
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To His M

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We, the Min
in connection