

Jersey, and New-York, visiting all the principal cities and towns on his way, attending conferences and preaching to the people, and passed into the New-England states. The following are some of his pointed remarks upon the state of things in this country :—

“Ah! here are walls of prejudice, but God can break them down. Out of fifteen United States, thirteen are free; but two are fettered with ecclesiastical chains—taxed to support ministers, who are chosen by a small committee, and settled for life.* My simple prophecy is, that this must come to an end with the present century.† The Rhode Islanders began in time and are free. Hail, sons of liberty! Who first began the war?” (of the revolution, doubtless is meant.) “Were it not Connecticut and Massachusetts? And priests are now saddled upon them. O what a happy people would these be, if they were not thus priest-ridden.‡ It is well for me that I am not stretching along, while my body is so weak, and the heat so intense.” “I heard—read a most severe letter from a citizen of Vermont to the clergy and Christians of Connecticut, striking at the foundation and principle of the hierarchy and the policy of Yale College, and the independent order. It was expressive of the determination of the Vermonters to continue free from ecclesiastical fetters, to follow the Bible, equal liberty to all denominations of Christians. If so, why may not the Methodists, who have been repeatedly solicited, visit these people also?”

* It is not, I believe, generally the case, that a minister is settled for life.

† It has come to an end, though not quite so soon as there predicted.

‡ The bishop undoubtedly alludes to their being supported by law—by a legal taxation, which he considered contrary to the gospel—and not to the fact simply of their having stated pastors.

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