

—altering the divisions of every county in the kingdom—reducing the number one-half—incorporating every three of those counties into a municipality to be governed and managed in all its internal affairs of rail-roads, canals, &c., by an elective corporation—changing the constitution of the House of Lords, so as to subject the members to the appointment of government every eight years:—suppose this to be the state of England and the proposition of Lord John Russell, does the reader think the Wesleyan committee or conference would regard it a crime against God and Methodism for them to complain of such an incursion upon the established constitution, and express their adherence to it, equitably administered, in preference to any such sweeping changes? Aye, every man in England knows their voice would be raised long and loud upon such an occasion. But my doing so once is construed into a sin of awful magnitude, and a just ground for the declaration of ecclesiastical war on the part of the Wesleyan committee against the Canada conference.

But the real character of the Wesleyan committee's conduct, and the attacks of their writers, will appear still more obvious by what follows. As soon as Lord John Russell said that the press and people of all parties in Canada unanimously rejected his bill, and were much dissatisfied at being kept any longer in suspense, the right hon. C. Poulett Thomson (now Lord Sydenham) was sent out to Canada as governor-general. After a few months' residence and inquiry in Canada, his Excellency sends home a draft of a bill for the future government of Canada—that bill, with some modifications, is passed by parliament in 1840, but does not contain the clauses to which I and various other editors in Canada had objected, in his Lordship's first bill of 1839; and even after all this, the Wesleyan committee and their writers make war upon me for having objected to a bill which has long since been abandoned by government, and superseded by another bill on which I have never made a remark.

Again: when his Excellency, Mr. Thomson (now Lord Sydenham), arrived in Upper Canada in the autumn of 1839, after having explained his general views and intentions, he desired my co-operation and assistance towards restoring peace and harmony, and establishing good government in the province. I consented, and aided his Excellency, to the best of my humble ability, to put down party-spirit, and to promote confidence and unity, where there had been distrust and division, and to carry out those important measures with which his Excellency had been entrusted by her Majesty's government, and which have since been brought into operation in this country. The objects which the governor-general desired to secure, and towards the accomplishment of which I rendered what aid I could, were threefold. 1. The consent of the United States legislature to the union of the Canadas. 2. The settlement of the clergy reserve question. 3. The preparation of the public mind for an improved state of things, by abolishing past party distinctions and hostilities, and encouraging a spirit of forbearance, unity, and enterprise, for the common interests and happiness of the country. Having thus, from November 1839, to April, 1840, in the most eventful crisis of Canadian affairs, per-