

characters, both in the literary, political, and religious world at that day, with whom he had the good fortune to be much acquainted, especially with the present Lord Bishop of Winchester, whose unabated friendship he preserved to the day of his death.

In 1781, he married Miss Eliza Kentish, co-heiress with her two sisters of Little Bardfield Hall, in the county of Essex, who now survives him, together with four sons, three of whom have followed the profession of their father—and two daughters. He was settled, at first, after his marriage, upon the living of St. Andrews, in Norwich. At the time of his being selected for the see of Quebec, he was Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Lincoln, (now of Winchester) and held the livings of Buckden, in Huntingdonshire, and Holbeach in Lincolnshire, having previously* had a Stall in Lincoln Cathedral; all of which preferments were conferred upon him by his Lordship. He had also no very remote prospect of being advanced to farther dignity in the Church.

It was in 1793 that his late Majesty, induced by the increase of Protestant population in Canada, and especially in that part of it which had been recently constituted a separate Province, under the name of *Upper Canada*, (which has continued almost entirely a Protestant colony,) was pleased to erect the Canadas into a diocese according to the establishment of the Church of England; provision having been made, by an act of the 31st of his late Majesty, for the maintenance of the Clergy, as part of the same plan,† by means of a reservation of one seventh of all the lands at the disposal of the Crown.

Dr. Mountain having been appointed to this new diocese, arrived at Quebec on the first November, 1793. The charge upon which he entered did not present a very encouraging aspect. There were but six Clergymen in the whole of *Lower-Canada*; two of whom were placed at Quebec, and two at Montreal; and but three in the whole *Upper Province*. Five out of the nine were missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; the remaining four were paid by Government. The Bishop was allowed to appoint a Commissary (whose title was afterwards changed to that of Official,) in each Province. The station most remote from Quebec was Niagara, the distance being something more than 600 miles. At Quebec there was no Church, no episcopal residence, no parsonage. The congregation of the Church of England was accommodated with the use of the Chapel belonging to the *Recollét* Monastery.

The retired Roman Catholic Bishop Briant, who was designated as the *ancien Evêque de Québec*, then an infirm, but venerable old man,

* There is a slight error upon this point in the notice which has appeared in some of the papers upon the subject, where it is made to appear that the prebend of S. Kelsey was held conjointly with both livings, which, it is believed, was not the case.

† This appears distinctly, as well from other evidences, as in the Letters Patent erecting the see.