ACHARGE

Delivered to the Clergy of the Diocese of Toronto, at the Primary STRACHAN, Lord Bishop of Toronto.

MY REVEREND BRETHREN,

I feel myself in the midst of the friends and associates of very many years. Diocese, it is natural for me to consider myself like a father among his the usual period of three years intervened. At every station I jached children, and in this paternal relation I rejoice to address you.

But first let me intreat your prayers, that I may be sustained and from the altar. directed, in the discharge of the important duties committed, by Divine Permission, to my feeble hands. Deeply sensible of my own deficiencies, next to the grace of God and the presence of our blessed Redeemer, who with their flocks, seeking out our people in the wilderness, rming has graciously promised to be ever with his servants, I look to your cordial support and active co-operation for promoting the advancement of true religion in this extensive Diocese. When the Bishop is seconded and blessing, will be the enlargement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

Glorious is our privilege, my brethren, thus to be set apart, as Such ministrations are beyond all price! instruments in the hand of God to prepare his people for their heavenly

our Saviour has purchased with his blood.

For many years after its first settlement, as the favourite asylum of the great obstacles which surround then. From temporal he leads the suffering loyalty, there was but one Clergyman of the Church of England by degrees to loftier objects than this world can offer, and directs the within its extensive limits. This highly revered individual came into the views from time to eternity. Are they in distress? he approaches Diocese in 1786, and settled at Kingston, in the midst of those to whom gentleness and love the bed of sickness and of death; he deals in merc he had became endeared in the days of tribulation,—men who had fought with the afflicted and the dying, and becomes to the whole of the family and bled and sacrificed all they possessed in defence of the British messenger from heaven. At such times they feel the consolation Sovereign, and attachment to the parent state he had warmed by his their hopes and fears. Far removed, perhaps, from their native land, fondly do I hold him in affectionate remembrance. He was my support desolation at times comes over their hearts, which the Clergyman alor and adviser on my entrance into the ministry, and his steady friendship, can soften or remove. Such bitter trials open their souls to the truths which I enjoyed from the first day of our acquaintance to that of his the Gospel,—they give to their Clergynan their whole confidence, at lamented death, was to me more than a blessing.

known of the country, and the little that was published was so incorrect learn resignation to the Divine will under passing evils, and become and so unfavourable, from exaggerated accounts of the climate and the convinced, from sad experience, that his is not their home, but that terrible privations to which its inhabitants were said to be exposed, that have an inheritance which passeth not away, eternal in the heavens. no Missionaries could be induced to come out. Even at the commencement of 1803, the Diocese contained only four Clergymen, for it was in

the spring of that year that I made the fifth.

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It might have been expected that, on the arrival of the Right Reverend Dr. Mountain, the first Lord Bishop of Quebec, the Clergy would have rapidly increased; but, notwithstanding the incessant and untiring exertions of that eminent Prelate, their number had not risen above five in Upper Canada so late as 1812, when it contained upwards of 70,000 decision was come to, every consideration, which it was just and necessary inhabitants. In truth the Colony, during the wars occasioned by the to keep in view, was zealously and anxiously brought under the notice. was still considered another Siberia, to which no man of education, and and Christian spirit, whatever may seem best for turning to the greate Possessing the slightest hopes of obtaining a competency at home, could advantage, in support of what we believe to be the true religion, su be persuaded to emigrate. Nor was it till after the termination of the privileges and provisions as are still left. war with the United States, in 1814, that the natural advantages of climate and productions to be slowly corrected by the testimony and experience of that portion of the army and navy which assisted the inhabitants in its defence. But when, in addition to such evidence, it became known that our Venerable Bishop did not hesitate, in the very emigration was encouraged, and the privations, and difficulties, and ready to bow to their decision, however severe it might be deemed. We world perplexities of a Missionary life, in a great measure, ceased to be matters never permitted ourselves to forget that our Lord's kingdom is not eat

It was now that the Bishop's unwearied zeal, in bringing before the British public the spiritual destitution of his vast Diocese, began to call forth sympathy and attention. At his instigation, noble contributions ere raised,—Churches built,—and Clergymen placed in the more Prominent settlements. The great impulse thus given was continued and faithful, be over-ruled for our good, and may perhaps be more than nde Increased by his amiable, pious, and indefatigable successor, Bishop Stewart, and under far more more happy circumstances; for a great and t throughout the world, had come over the minds of the religious in the mother country—a change which, blessed be God, is still rapidly increasing in strength and energy, and in that skill in the application of of the Church in Canada have steadily brightened. In 1819, the Clergy in this Diocese had increased to ten. In 1825, they had arisen to twentytwo, in 1827, to thirty, in 1833, to forty-six, and our numbers have how reached ninety. Still our spiritual wants are many. More than forty Missionaries could at this moment be most usefully employed, and carnest applications are daily being made to me, from various villages and townships, for resident Clergymen. But, if much remains yet to be done, de or two which it was impossible for me to reach, on account of their time than I could then spare.

I began my first journey on the 24th of May, and travelled through the Over a surface of more than one thousand square miles. This may be considered the southern division, and, though by no means so destitute religion. of spiritual ministrations as some other parts of the Diocese, it numbered

hundred and thirty-nine.

proceeded on my journey through the northern division. My visits embraced nine places under the pastoral care of eight Clergymen, to whom I have since been able to add three more; yet what are eleven Clergymen in a country in a country of many thousand square miles, and containing upwards of naturally desire to have the concurrence of those more immediaty sixty thousand souls? The young persons confirmed were one hundred and fifty-two; and two Churches, with one burial-ground, were consecrated. We had to coast round Lake Simcoe, the highest in elevation from the sea of our larger internal waters. The islands interspersed on its bosom, and the patches of cleared land that dot the woods on its shores, presented cenes very pleasing and interesting. This lake will, in a few years, be surrounded by a dense population, as the land on its banks is very fertile and rapidly settling.

After resting five days, I commenced my journey eastward on the 8th of July, and visited about forty parishes and stations. The most distant toad, in order to reach the different congregations, the journey was very buch lengthened. In this division of the Diocese we have only, as yet, urty-two Clergymen scattered over its vast surface, few in number and Yet their labours appear to be blessed, for they presented about eight hundred of their youth for confirmation. This journey tranquillity of the Province. occupied two months. Part of the time was extremely warm, but it

ppointments without inconvenience.

biocese, six Indian Missions,—three of which I was able to visit, and and agitate the United Legislature.

throughout the diocese to be about two thousand. As two yes have and produce the good results anticipated by its promoters. Though this be my first Visitation, we meet not as strangers. scarcely elapsed since my friend and brother, the Lord Bishop' Mon-

In passing through the Diocese, I beheld the Clergy every wheractive foundations of our beloved Zion. Is it not a blessing of inestimab value that already more than three hundred places of worship are openeevery Gospel, administering the Sacraments, and Catechising the chiven?

amidst all the difficulties and hardships of a new settlement, and his friend I. The History of the Church in this Diocese, though doubtless sympathy in their concerns rouse them to fresh exertions, by which the this he improves by bringing before them the fleeting nature of prese

> II. During the last year the perplexing question of the Clergy Reserv has been finally settled. Whether the best course was or was not tak in that settlement, it would be of little importance now to inquire. was, beyond doubt, most desirable that an end should be put to t unhappy controversy which had arisen on the subject. Those who had regions, and again commences the same labour of love. desired to see the interests of the Church protected and her efficien increased, have, at least, the satisfaction of reflecting that, before t

It is matter of grateful remembrance to us, that during the controvey and drink, but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

If, in a great measure, deprived of the means destined by hisate and extend the blessings of our Church in this Diocese, we must nobe up in the affectionate liberality of our people.

with this restriction, however, that not more than one hundred thound acres shall be disposed of in any one year, without the express sancth of the Secretary of State. To push the sale of the Reserves, and covert them into money, in the present state of this Colony, must diminis to let us thankfully acknowledge that much has been accomplished. My an alarming extent, the value of the endowment; and it is obvious nat Primary visitation through the Diocese occupied from the latter end of this enactment, hastily and imprudently carried out, may render utrly May to the middle of October of last year. In my progress, I was able insufficient the provision for the support of religion, which was sely go to every Parish at which a Clergyman resided, with the exception of intended to bear some reasonable proportion to the object in view. 'he Act, indeed, wisely places it in the power of the Government s to peculiar situation and difficulty of access, without a greater sacrifice of modify and direct the measure in its execution, as to mitigate thevil which must otherwise ensue; and I am disposed to believe that, ton proper representations being made to the Secretary of State, such rega-Niagara District, visiting eleven Churches and congregations, scattered tions on this point will be adopted as may avert a ruinous sacrifice of he property, which is still applicable to the support of the ministration of

The statute provides for the investment of the proceeds of the salein at the time only eight Clergymen. Now, I am happy to say, they are the Funds of Great Britain, or in the Consolidated Funds of Canadat increased to ten. The number of persons confirmed amounted to one the discretion of the Governor in Council. I need hardly tell you,ny brethren, that the manner in which this provision shall be acted upois I returned to Toronto early in June and, after a few days' interval, of the greatest possible consequence. It is much to be desired that the investments should be made as shall afford the highest rate of intest compatible with perfect security. And I cannot but venture to hope tit, in exercising the power given by this clause, the Government & concerned in the maintenance of the Church, and, if this be kept in vit, the risk will be avoided of compromising the endowment by an imprudit confidence in such colonial securities as might happen to turn it

I feel it unnecessary to remark upon the other details of the Act, becae they are final in their nature, and leave nothing in the discretion of P Government so far as the Church of England is concerned. Whater it might seem material to urge in respect to these details, if the mease were still pending, it would be to little or no purpose to urge now. Je statute has passed and become the Law, and it is our duty to submio boint from Toronto to which my travels extended in this direction is about its provisions with patient resignation, and this the more especially, ase three hundred miles; but having frequently to diverge from the main have, during the whole contest, professed our readiness to acquiescent have, during the whole contest, professed our readiness to acquiescent have, during the whole contest, professed our readiness to acquiescent have, during the whole contest, professed our readiness to acquiescent have, during the whole contest, professed our readiness to acquiescent have, during the whole contest, professed our readiness to acquiescent have, during the whole contest, professed our readiness to acquiescent have a supplied to the supplied of the supplied to the su any measure which Her Majesty in Parliament might see fit to adopter its settlement, provided it were final. This has now been done, and sh arrangements have been made as appeared to the proper authorities not consistent with a due regard to religion, and the permanent welfare id

Your assent will be the more readily given on learning that the school leased God to preserve my health and enable me to keep all my of settlement was in a great degree suggested by that most excellent id highly gifted prelate, the Archbishop of Canterbury, whose elevation On the 7th of September, I began my travels westward, and visited the Primacy in these trying times has been so great a blessing to leave the primacy in these trying times has been so great a blessing to leave the primacy in these trying times has been so great a blessing to leave the primacy in these trying times has been so great a blessing to leave the primacy in these trying times has been so great a blessing to leave the primacy in these trying times has been so great a blessing to leave the primacy in the Clergymen are settled in this division of the Diocese, and are substance a measure declaratory of the Statute of 1791, embodying sh charging their important and arduous duties with great success. Here concessions for the sake of peace as those entitled to claim under at hay be proper to remark, that the Clergy throughout all the Diocese statute were willing to make. From every circumstance, thereforeit e each two or three, or even more stations, at which they minister; but becomes our duty to receive the settlement with complacency, and ot was seldom able to visit more than the one at which the candidates for without thankfulness, since it is a manifest advantage that the Impeal

found them in a very prosperous condition. To these we have wadded In regard to the Union of the Provinces, whatever difference of opinion a seventh, at the mouth of the River St. Clair, where a large amblage there may have existed as to its wisdom or policy while under consideration, of Indians are congregated, who desired that a Clergyman the it has now been solemnly enacted and proclaimed by the Constitutional spectacle that the world ever beheld since the first Visitation, on the 9th September, 1841, by the Right Reverend John Established Church might be settled among them. Since my ren from authorities; and, so long as it remains the law of the land, we are bound, preaching of the Gospel. Not only does she stand my visitation of the Diocese, I have confirmed the youth of thind the by all the principles of reason and duty, not merely to yield it willing opposed to heathens and infidels, as has been the neighbouring parishes, and find the whole number of persons (firmed obedience, but to use every honest exertion to make it work beneficially, portion of the Ark of God in all ages, but her most

III. As the Reserves, had they been wholly left to the Church of and, the more she strives to promote the cause of treal, passed through the Diocese on the same errand of love have England, would not have at any time yielded more than a very moderate Christ, the more vehemently do they seek, by Being, with one honoured exception, the oldest Clergyman in the reason to believe that the number would have been much great, had provision for the number of Clergy which the Diocese will in time require, calumny, deception, and misrepresentation, to it is quite evident now, when more than one half is taken away, that accomplish her destruction. Such a marvellous once, and sometimes twice, and after confirmation addressed the caidates the remainder must be altogether inadequate to their maintenance. The combination exhibits human nature in its most period has therefore arrived, when the Parishes and Congregations must | degraded state, for it shews thousands labouring be appealed to on the necessity of contributing towards the support of with their utmost might to bring the Church of and laborious, living in good feeling and harmony among themsels and their respective Ministers. And I trust there will be no backwardness in England to the ground, who are ready to confess, answering such appeal. How can the Clergy furnish, so freely as they when the evil spirit is not immediately upon them, them into congregations and parishes, and extending on every se the ought, the sweet waters of Salvation for the present comfort and eternal that she is and has ever been the principal asylum welfare of their people, while they themselves are labouring under cruel of the Catholic Faith,—the hallowed Sanctuary of embarrassments, and drinking the bitter draught of hopeless poverty and true religion, and of all the virtues upon which encouraged in his labours by the judicions and untiring exertions of his week in western Canada, in which the Clergy discharge their his and family distress? We ask not wealth—this would not be the case were individual and social happiness depends of the case were individual and Clergy, he is warranted in expecting that the result, through the Divine holy functions in offering up prayers, reading the Scriptures, preache the your stipends more than doubled, for the greater portion of our people would still be living in greater comparative ease and comfort. All we acknowledged bulwark of the Protestant Faith 25k is a bare competency. To attain this, the members of the Church against Papal encroachment and superstition, she The visit of a Clergyman among our scattered population is a joyal most contribute freely, that you may be able to discharge your sacred was cheered, if not assisted, by the Reformed inheritance, and messengers of that redemption and reconciliation which and welcome event to young and old. His counsel and encouragement, cuties with minds not beaten down with worldly cares, unavoidable and Churches abroad and the Dissenters at home.

Besides steady contributions, our people should think of their Clergy they still recognised in her their best protection resembling that of many other Colonies, is not without peculiar interest. are frequently enabled to surmount, with growing patience and contentmen and share with them, when appropriating to their own use any of the against the return of Roman darkness. bounties given them by a kind Providence; for such unexpected and voluntary acts of kindness create new links of mutual love and confidence, the same Dissenters despising the practice of their and establish a local affection that makes your Parish more than an fathers and joining themselves to the Popish Schism

endeared and welcome home.

Were it not for the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel extinguish the purest light of the Christian world. in Foreign Parts, which has cherished the Church within this Colony from Constitution,—and whose obedience to the laws, loyalty to their communicating to this their only friend, their sorrows and disappointment its first settlement, your number, small as it is, in comparison of the directing and controlling Providence in this strange spiritual wants of the Diocese, would be reduced to nearly one half .- and unholy alliance? The ways of the Divine exhortations and encouraged by his example. The Reverend Dr. Stuart living often in the thickest of the forest, vithout a single relative or ever But that blessed Institution hath, under the Divine mercy, fostered the Government are, for the wisest purposes, generally may be truly pronounced the father of the Church in Upper Canada, and an acquaintance, much less a friend,—a withering sense of solitude at Church not only in Canada, but through the whole of the Northern portion dark and mysterious, but they are also at times of this Continent. It is not, however, the object of this noble Association like the light that goeth forth by which causes and to supersede the exertions of our people, or to supply a competent support intentions are dimly shadowed out, and sometimes to the Clergy in the Colonies, or to promise continued assistance, but to more distinctly perceived. Something like this is encourage and cherish the poorer and more destitute settlements till they now taking place. The fierce war carried on In 1792, two Clergymen arrived from England, but so little was then things when compared with the realities of a future world. Hence the can do something for themselves. For a time, the Society is satisfied, against the Church by the united force of all sects where an earnest desire for the Ministry is manifested, and when settle- and divisions of nominal Christians and Infidels, ments, which have been long assisted, become strong and prosperous, it | unnatural and criminal as it is, already gives more expects to be relieved, in order that it may transfer its exertions to new than doubtful indications that its result will be the and rising neighbourhoods, yet struggling under all the difficulties and more general diffusion and reception of Christianity. privations of the wilderness. In this manner the Society, like a ministering angel, walks along the confines of civilization, till the Church, which it in direct opposition to Romish tyranny and corruphas planted, becomes able to support itself, when it proceeds to other tion-to the melancholy superstitions of the East-

When it is considered how much has been done for our people, with modern Dissenters and all that is opposed to Goslittle or no charge to themselves, and how plainly it is enjoined, in the pel purity and truth? She seems like a city on a Word of God, that men should honour the Lord with their substance, hill, conspicuous to the whole world, assailed by and suffer them to reap of their worldly things who sow unto them spiritual millions of enemies unable to prevail, exhibiting a French Revolution, seemed in a manner lost sight of by the public. It Government and of Parliament. It only remains for us to urge, in a july things, I indulge the hope, that no difficulty will be found in carrying these spotless model of the primitive Church, and holdprinciples into effect among all our congregations. Every member of the ing the Faith which was once delivered to the Church in this Colony ought to feel a double obligation laid upon him, Saints. She will never grow old, but will stand to co-operate most cordially in the work which seeks the promotion of his alone in the world-immutable amidst every vicisown eternal welfare. Even the poorest settler, if animated by the spirit situde-immoveable amidst every fluctuation-Canada began to be understood, and the errors entertained respecting its growing out of the Church property, which continued nearly twenty yes, of the Gospel, will feel constrained to give of his poverty, and offer up his one constant star in this universe of growth and we never permitted the bitter and unchristian treatment of our enemiese fervent prayer for a blessing upon his gift, small as it may be, when he decay—unfading and the same—one august, inbetray us into the like unworthy conduct. Our people, as well as ie learns, that the poorest members of the Church in England are called corruptible, and glorious verity shining with celes-Clergy, continued patient and tranquil. No exciting meetings were hd. upon, and readily give their weekly pence, that they may have a part in tial light over the ocean of uncertainty and change. No appeals to the passions were made; but, quietly placing our class sending forth the Gospel of the Son of God to distant lands, and extend This model of the primitive Church, so beautiful midst of the war, to traverse the whole of the two Provinces, a desire of emigration of the war, to traverse the whole of the two Provinces, a desire of the constitutional authorities, we declared ourselves, at all uses, the blessings of the Church, which He founded, to every quarter of the emigration of the war, to traverse the whole of the two Provinces, a desire of the constitutional authorities, we declared ourselves, at all uses, the blessings of the Church, which He founded, to every quarter of the constitutional authorities, we declared ourselves, at all uses, the blessings of the Church, which He founded, to every quarter of the constitutional authorities, we declared ourselves, at all uses, the blessings of the Church, which He founded, to every quarter of the constitutional authorities, we declared ourselves, at all uses, the blessings of the Church, which He founded, to every quarter of the constitutional authorities, we declared ourselves and principles is the province.

But, in addition to temporary contributions, a permanent provision cause of all the heresies and divisions which deform for a Church Establishment must now be thought of. It is believed, and disgrace the Christian world. This truth hath that there are in this Diocese thirty thousand families belonging to our long slumbered, but is now coming into light, and, Majesty, King George III, of pious memory, and his Parliament, to sujort | Apostolic Church, most of which possess landed property. But supposing | as it prevails, so will error and schism disappear. only ten thousand thus gifted, and each to devote one hundred acres | Some progress it hath already made in the hearts discouraged. What has been thus lost will, if we continue zealousnd of land, some more and others less, according to their possessions, but of those who are sincere inquirers after primitive averaging that quantity, such an endowment would be formed, including | truth, but its progress must be slow, for it is opwhat is left of the Reserves, as would gradually enable the Church to posed to the pride of the human heart and the de-The law, thus passed by the Imperial Parliament, in August of ast extend her ministrations without cost to all parts of the Diocese. Were lights of the world. Even, after it carries convicsalutary change, in favour of spreading the Gospel not only in the Colonies but the Change, in favour of spreading the Gospel not only in the Colonies but the Changes which it demands are too Canada, and for the distribution of the proceeds thereof, assigns son- of the Church would be in a great measure secured, nor would such teaches, and the changes which it demands, are too twelfths to the Kirk of Scotland and other Christian denominations and donations be slow in being made, were all, both Clergy and Laity, distasteful to our corrupt nature to be speedily five-twelfths to the United Church of England and Ireland. Everhis thoroughly imbued with the principles of the Gospel. In that case the adopted, or to admit of its infinite value being felt the means which is the fruit of experience. From this period the prospects portion, manifestly inadequate as it is, may, under good manageant, same generous spirit and enlarged views which animated the first Christians, and acknowledged by the generality of mankind.

But the children of God can wait in patience for the children of the children of God can wait in patience for the children of God can wait in patience for the children of the children of God can wait in patience for the children of God can wait in patience for the children of the children of God can wait in patience for the children of the children of the children of God can wait in patience for the children of greatly assist in spreading the blessings of true religion through the Diese. in every country of their conversion, would produce the same fruits, and a The first enactment is one of extreme importance, as regards the fure portion for the Lord would be first set apart. Land so bestowed has the its gradual development—their faith tells them support of the Church. It directs that the Clergy Reserves shall beold, great advantage of becoming a source of durable income, and fluctuates not according to the varying tempers and dispositions of the people. We the great question which shall engage the attention freely admit that such an endowment, though well managed, might not vield much till after a long series of years, but it is our duty to provide for posterity, and if at any time it yield a decent support to the Clergy, however frugal, it will be free from those corroding anxieties which are found to palsy the energies of the stoutest hearts.

In the present state of property in this Diocese, it cannot fail to strike you most forcibly that this is the most ready, feasible and effectual way of laying a permanent foundation for the religious instruction of the people through future ages, and is certainly easy of accomplishment, for there is scarcely a male communicant who cannot spare a few acres of land, or the means to purchase them, for the enlargement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

And how feeble would all this be, when compared to the generosity of all its ancient freshness, in the forms and doctrines the members of the Primitive Church, of whom, it is said, that "the of our beloved Church. And what shall we do as multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul, neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed, was his own; for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought are to cultivate, to the utmost of our power, and in the prices of the things which were sold;" and threw them into the all humility and godliness, the field of labour which treasury for the relief of the brethren, and the furtherance of the Gospel! Generous, therefore, as the benevolence which I am urging upon the it be our duty, as far as in us lies, to extend Chrismbers of the Church may appear to be in this selfish age, how contracted is it, when contrasted with that of the first Christians, when walking in the Church universal, yet we discharge this duty the Spirit of that holy love which was poured upon them without measure! best by carefully imbuing our flock, both young

of love and devotion, yet we are not to despise the day of small things. pure form of worship which she has adopted and The rapidity with which our Church has, of late years, extended her sanctified. borders, sufficiently proves that something of this spirit of holy love still remains, to which God's blessing may add double vigour and effect. As Churches are built, Clergymen settled, and Parishes formed, new fields of labour open, requiring fresh supplies of the means of grace. The destitute are excited to more urgent applications for the Ministry and the solemn ordinances of the Church. The attachment of those who were educated in the bosom of the sanctuary, but who had penetrated into the wilderness, where neither sanctuary nor Clergyman are to be found, breaks forth with more than its first warmth, and embodies itself in affectionate and earnest appeals for the supply of their spiritual wants.

IV. What the Church is doing here, she is doing in all parts of the world; for to Great Britain, from her extensive dominions and colonies in every clime, seems, by Divine Providence, to be in a great measure allotted the conversion of all nations to the Christian faith. At home, a great and salutary change has been effected in favour of the Church by the vast increase of fervour and activity in her members, by their rapid stands them as they were understood by the primultiplication, and the revival of that holy and affectionate feeling towards her which characterised her early children. The practical result has been a remarkable increase of Churches, Church Schools, and Church Societies, as at once condemned, because unknown to the first the 7th of September, I began my travers westward, and visited the 17th act may be viewed an and in the number and exertions of the Clergy. The people have been recipients of God's holy will—and she admits of recalled from the dangerous theories of the age, falsely called liberal, no sure way of getting at this interpretation but by which produce division in religion and anarchy in Government, to the tracing it backwards to the first witnesses. Hence sound principles of the Church as committed to her by the Apostles. the writings of the Fathers, or early Christian au-Nor is this all. The desire to carry the Gospel to every creature, which thors, are valuable not so much for the opinions has been always cherished in the Church, and not to confine her labours they contain, as for the facts which they attest. Softrmation were collected. We have, in the western portion of the Parliament has brought the question to a close, and not left it to perfx within the limits of British rule, is daily becoming more intense and more Matters of fact are capable of historical proof, and eager to evince her glorious destination to plant the cross in every land. | therefore each particular doctrine is susceptible of

At this moment the Church of England presents, both at home and abroad, the most astonishing bitter enemies are those who profess the same faith,

When in former times she stood forward the The latter had indeed left her communion, but

But what do we see now? The descendants of to crush the noblest trophy of the Reformation, and

And can we trace nothing of the hand of a

Has it not placed our holy and Apostolic Church ern Church—the reckless and deadly innovations of from Apostolic usages and principles is the prolific

But the children of God can wait in patience for that it must, but not perhaps in our day, become of the Christian world, instead of the ten thousand disputes by which it is at present torn. It may as yet appear little bigger than a man's hand, and few may distinctly perceive the overwhelming influence which it is destined to attain, for it will cover the whole earth, and bring back the disciples of Christ to primitive truth and order, unity, and peace. But, before this happy consummation can take place, many ages must pass away, for the powers of darkness will oppose in all their might the progress of this healing principle which is embodied, in Ministers of a Church so favoured to promote this blessed consummation? The answer is plain. We a kind Providence has assigned us. For, though tianity over the world, and to make our Church But, though we dare not compare our liberality with such manifestations | and old, with her principles and practice, and that

> V. The Church of England is essentially Missionary, and enjoys powers and facilities for the exercise of this attribute never possessed before by any other national Establishment, and, if in this Diocese we put forth her distinctive principles in gentleness and candour but with uncompromising firmness, her rapid progress is certain, while the errors and superstitions of the Church of Rome on the one hand, and the crude and inconsistent heresies of the Dissenters on the other, will be strikingly exposed to every thinking mind.

> Our Church, my Reverend Brethren, recognises in the truths of Revelation a most invaluable gift from God to man, -not the discoveries of science, but communications from heaven,-and she undermitive disciples to whom they were at first revealed. She pronounces every novelty in their interpretation