

PREFACE.

THE Author of this appeal feels it to be due to himself and to his Brethren, who may differ from him in their view of the question discussed, to state that he has been impelled by an imperative sense of duty to engage late and loath, in the perilous task of expounding and vindicating a cause to which, notwithstanding many late defections, he believes that the Synod of our Church are irrevocably pledged by their own declarations as well as by the most sacred obligations of truth and moral duty. He sincerely regrets that none of his Brethren better qualified for the task, have come forward in a cause which is worthy of the ablest champion, and in a crisis which makes it almost a crime to be silent. If any part of his statements or reasonings be thought to bear hard against the character and proceedings of any of the Ministers or Ecclesiastical Judicatories, he can say conscientiously, that he has set down nought in malice, and if in a crisis like the present when the greatest interests of the Church are in jeopardy, in acting upon the ancient maxim, "Sacrifice only to truth," he has been constrained to utter a word that may for a moment wound the sensibility of any brother, he can sincerely say that he has felt it to be one of the painful necessities of duty.

For the crude and undigested form in which he presents this appeal to the public he begs to apologize, and to throw himself upon the good nature and indulgence of his readers.

MONTREAL, *June 2^d*, 1844.