

resented by the Legislative Council and Assembly as an unconstitutional dictation of the provisions of a law which they were about to pass, and that the adoption of this threefold division presupposes a knowledge of local details and statistics to which Her Majesty's Government cannot lay claim. Even assuming it to be right that this general scheme of distribution should be followed, Lord Glenelg would have no means of vindicating the proposed division of the territory into three equal parts, or of showing that the proportion to be assigned to the English and Scotch Churches should not be greater or less. It is, however, his Lordship's intention to transmit to the Lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada a copy of the Act recently passed in New South Wales, for making provision for the erection of places of worship; and the maintenance of ministers. The Legislature will thus be informed of the principle on which that measure is founded; and may possibly derive some suggestions tending to facilitate the satisfactory adjustment of the question relating to the Clergy Reserves.

On the subject of the erection and endowment of rectories, Lord Glenelg infers from your letter that you have misapprehended the nature of the objection raised to that measure by the law officers of the Crown. It has no reference to the terms of the patents, but to the power of the Lieutenant-governor to issue such patents at all, consequently, there is no possible amendment of those instruments which would obviate the difficulty. It is not, however, Lord Glenelg's intention to instruct the Lieutenant-governor to act upon this opinion until he shall have communicated with the heads of the Church of England in the Province, and shall have afforded them the most ample opportunity for correcting any mis-statement of the facts on which the report of the law officers of the Crown proceeds, or any error in point of law which it may be supposed to involve.

Having thus adverted to each of the topics noticed in your letter, Lord Glenelg cannot conclude this answer to it without expressing the deep concern with which he finds himself precluded, for the reasons which I have stated, from promoting your views by the methods which you have pointed out; but I am to express his Lordship's confident anticipation that the Legislature of Upper Canada will not fail to adopt such measures as shall appear to them most conducive to effect the important object of extending the means of religious instruction among the various denominations of Christians throughout the Province.

Rev. W. Bettridge.  
Rev. B. Cronyn.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Js. Stephen.*

— No. 24. —

My Lord,

London, 13 Exeter Hall, 20 July 1837.

No. 24.

Rev. W. Bettridge  
to Lord Glenelg,  
20 July 1837.

SINCE, in conjunction with Mr. Cronyn, who is now in Ireland on the affairs of our mission, I had the honour to communicate with your Lordship, an event has occurred which, although, in mournful certainty, we have, from the very character of the malady, been anticipating for several months, still its actual occurrence cannot fail to deepen our sense of the bereavement we have sustained of a father and friend to the clergy, and to the people over whom God had in His wisdom appointed him bishop. I need scarcely say I allude to the death of the Honourable and Right Reverend the Bishop of Quebec. Of him it may be emphatically said, "The memory of the just is blessed." His memory is written in lines of imperishable affection in the hearts of all who enjoyed the privilege of intercourse with him. The loss of such a man and such a bishop would of itself be sufficient to cause unfeigned sorrow; but when with his loss we connect the sad prospect of our Church in Upper Canada, we are constrained to confess, that it would become the virgin daughter of our Zion to descend into the dust, and, with downcast look, the index of her broken spirit, to utter her mournful "Ichabod." Yes, my Lord, over the future destiny of our Church in the Province of Upper Canada, the clouds appear to settle into a gloom, through the denseness of which, faith, with her most vigorous ken, is unable to penetrate.

Bear with me, my Lord, while I endeavour, under this our heavy loss, to bring under your Lordship's consideration the actual state and certain prospects of our church; should the measure which his late Majesty's Government con-