

As I had no desire to take any steps offensive to the Government, I had abstained from getting my Petitions presented to the two Houses of Parliament, and felt disposed to withhold them altogether, if a Royal Charter were granted us to secure more easily the property which we and our friends had subscribed, and enable us to grant Degrees; but finding from a letter from Earl Grey, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, that there might be difficulty in obtaining it, although a Royal Charter had been granted to the Members of the Kirk of Scotland in Canada, I thought it right to solicit Sir Robert Peel's assistance and advice, and accordingly addressed to him the following note, with such additional documents as this new obstacle seemed to require:—

19, BURY STREET, St. James's, 15th June, 1850.

SIR,

In compliance with your wish, I have the honor to enclose a Copy of our Petition to the Queen, soliciting a Royal Charter for the establishment of a Church University in Upper Canada, and a Draft of the Charter we desire.

It is little more than a transcript of the Charter of the late King's College, with such alterations as may separate the Institution it seeks to establish, from any political influence whatsoever, and enable it to proceed in its work of religious and scientific instruction in security and peace.

Since I had the honor of calling on you, I have received a Letter from Earl Grey, announcing a condition to the granting of the Charter, which, if not removed, appears to me tantamount to a refusal.

Perhaps you will permit me to show you this Letter, and add to the many obligations I am under, the benefit of your advice.

I have, &c.,

(Signed,) JOHN TORONTO.

The Right Honorable Sir Robert Peel,

In a very few hours I received the following note:—

“ WHITEHALL, June 15.

“ Sir Robert Peel presents his compliments to the Bishop of Toronto, and will see the Bishop at one o'clock on Tuesday morning. Sir Robert Peel would have named an earlier appointment, but he is obliged to leave town for a day or two.”

On Tuesday, the 18th June, I was in attendance. Sir Robert met me as an old acquaintance, and came forward and shook me cordially by the hand. “ I have read your papers, which fully substantiate your statement. It is a case of great hardship and injustice. But I think you have exercised a wise discretion in not presenting your Petitions to the two Houses of Parliament; and it no doubt will be duly appreciated at the Colonial Office—for