

Ryland was also a strenuous advocate of education, and for instructing the people in order to anghify and qualify them for liberal institutions.

The objects of his mission to England were triple : first, to obtain an alteration or suspension of the Constitution ; secondly, to make the Government independent of the people, by appropriating towards its support the revenues of the estates held by the St. Sulpicians at Montreal, and those of the late Order of Jesuits ; and thirdly, to induce the Government to lay hold of the patronage hitherto exercised by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Quebec, to the *cures* or Church livings in his Diocese.

The first of these propositions, as it would require the interference of Parliament, and might raise a storm, the Colonial Minister, Lord Liverpool, at once wisely rejected. The two others not requiring Parliamentary action, were entertained, and after considerable delay and some hesitation, the nation being deeply engaged in war, were determined upon by the Cabinet Ministers, but prevented by the Lord Chancellor (Eldon,) who, to his honor be it told, entertaining scruples on the subject, the whole scheme fell to the ground, and Mr. Ryland's mission consequently proved a failure. As to his purpose of making the Government independent of the people, Mr. Ryland certainly erred, it being contrary to the spirit of the British Constitution that it should be so.

Here a question will naturally occur to the reader acquainted with the population of French origin in Lower Canada, to which expression may be allowed. Had the Government in virtue of the Constitution and Laws of England, as it would seem it legally might have done, wrested from the Roman Catholic Bishop the patronage of his Church livings, or induced him by the more persuasive means of corruption, as proposed, in bribing him, viz :