

as these, slender though they be, the moral influence of such meetings and proceedings would be immediately felt and acknowledged.

We may indeed be told, that we have already as much power here as the Church has in England, and that all things required for Church government have been long since determined and settled by the highest authority. To this we reply, that in the Colonies cases are constantly arising for which no provision has been made, and it is necessary for the Church of God to adapt herself to the circumstances with which she is surrounded, so far as it can be done consistently with her religious principles.

But this and much more is required in the present crisis, when the Church is attacked by a host of enemies from every quarter; some openly avowing their infidelity, others adding to or subtracting from the faith, and agreeing in no one thing, but their wish to destroy the only true branch of the Catholic Church which is able to stem the torrent of irreligion, fanaticism, and presumption, which is threatening to overwhelm the civilization of the world.

We seek not for the defence of our holy Church in penal enactments, or in depriving other denominations of equal rights and privileges; such a defence we refuse and disavow. Her defence, under God, is to be found in the purity of her teaching, speaking the truth in Jesus Christ boldly as she ought to speak, and in exercising freedom of synodical action, from which all she requires will naturally flow, such as the rapid spread of her catholic doctrine, the restoration of a healthy discipline, the establishment of proper tribunals for the correction of offences, the control of the education of her children, &c. &c.

Remember, my Lord, that the principles of entire toleration are too well understood and established in the present age to admit of their infringement, and that the