

C A N A D A.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 15 May 1855;—for,

“COPIES of an ADDRESS from the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL and LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY of *Canada*, during their present Session, touching the Legal Position of the BISHOPS and other Members of the Church of England in that Colony :”

“And, of the VOTES of the respective HOUSES on any such ADDRESS, if received.”

Colonial Office, }
25 May 1855. }

JOHN BALL.

— No. 1. —

ADDRESS to the QUEEN from the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL and ASSEMBLY
of *Canada*.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council and Commons of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly approach your Majesty for the purpose of representing that the Legislature of this Province during the present Session of the Provincial Parliament, has passed an Act, by which it is declared that there shall be an entire separation between Church and State in Canada, and that the clergy reserve funds and lands shall be appropriated to secular purposes, after providing for the salaries of existing incumbents.

That the members of the United Church of England and Ireland in this Province are under disadvantages that are felt by no other denomination in the Province, inasmuch as they are unable to meet with their bishops and clergy in synod in their several dioceses, to frame rules and canons for their own guidance and governance, as large numbers of them conscientiously believe that they are under restrictions, from the existence of Imperial Statutes, against the holding of such synods, and inasmuch as they are hereafter required to provide for the maintenance of the bishops of their Church, while they are not allowed to have any voice in their selection or appointment; and we therefore humbly pray that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to cause a measure to be introduced into the Imperial Parliament during its present Session to remove all obstructions that may exist, or be supposed to exist, under any statute now in force in Great Britain, to prevent the meeting of the bishops, clergy, and laity of the United Church of England and Ireland in their several dioceses in this Province, in synod, to frame rules and canons for their own guidance and governance, and to enable them to proceed hereafter to the election of their own bishops; provided that such rules and canons are not repugnant to the laws of this Province, nor to any Act or Acts that the Legislature of Canada may hereafter pass in reference thereto.

(signed) *John Ross*, Speaker, L. C.
L. V. Sicotte, Speaker, L. A.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Friday, 30 March 1855.

Legislative Assembly Hall, Canada, Quebec,
Thursday, 29 March 1855.