

portion of the diocese. In Upper Canada, I believe that employment would be found for 100 beyond the existing establishment.

The petitions which are before your Excellency from the clergy of both provinces respectively contain suggestions which, if acted upon, would open the way for improving the efficiency of the Church establishment in the diocese; but without some present aid from the Government, would be more tardy in their operation than the wants of the people would bear without detriment. Nothing can be less uniform and systematic than the manner in which a meagre supply of clergy is at present eked out and distributed over the diocese. One portion are paid from the imperial treasury (the salaries to be discontinued, one by one, as vacancies occur); another from local resources at the disposal of Government; another is composed of missionaries from home; and there are four different religious bodies (besides an individual of singular zeal in the cause) to whom the diocese is in this way indebted; and another still, although an exceedingly small portion, are dependent, in whole or in part, upon the people. Thus the establishment of clergy, imperfect and insufficient as it is, is made up by means of shifts and expedients, and to a great extent is without any permanent character; and the task of the diocesan in procuring supplies, and maintaining communication with the different parties who afford them, is complicated in a distressing degree.

I am thus led to a subject which I have reserved as the last to be brought under the notice of your Excellency. The care of this diocese is altogether too much for one man. Certainly one man cannot do justice to it, situated as I am. Your Excellency is, I believe, aware that negotiations have for some time been on foot for the erection of a separate see in Upper Canada. It is, indeed, high time that this measure should be carried into effect; and for whatever time I am to remain in the charge of the whole diocese, I really ought (and so, indeed, I ought in any case) to be placed upon a new footing. In executing the duties of the visitation in the two provinces, I have travelled nearly 5,000 miles; the extreme points which I have visited in the length of the diocese being Sandwich, at the head of Lake Erie; and the Bay of Chaleurs, in the Gulph of St. Lawrence. Of the state of the communication in the interior parts of the country and among the new settlements, your Excellency is not without information. No provision exists for enabling me to employ a single functionary in conducting correspondence with the Government, the clergy, and the societies at home, keeping in proper order and arrangement the accumulating records of the see, or transacting those ordinary forms of ecclesiastical business which are proper to the episcopal office; and in those departments of labour where the bishop can receive assistance from the archdeacon, I am deprived of this benefit, as far as Lower Canada is concerned; because, under the existing arrangements, I am compelled to hold the office of archdeacon myself.

The foregoing observations are submitted, with all respect, to the serious consideration of your Excellency. Should it be your desire to be furnished with statements in detail, taken from the returns of the clergy, it will be my endeavour to prepare them with all practicable despatch.

I have, &c.
(signed) G. Montreal,