

adequate to their comfortable maintenance. A small donation, to the extent of £100, out of the funds put by the contributions of their countrymen at the disposal of the memorialists, has been allowed towards the relief of their immediate and urgent necessities, but this can only afford a temporary and trifling alleviation of their sufferings. Without some public provision, their number, instead of being augmented in proportion to the demand for their services, must be inevitably and rapidly reduced; and the same consequences may be anticipated which have been already predicted as about to flow from the existing system in Lower Canada, and than which none can be more earnestly deprecated by every man of pious and patriotic feelings.

The memorialists would farther beg leave to call your lordship's attention to the situation of their countrymen in other colonies, whose spiritual destitution, though not so excessive as in those already referred to, is still very great, and calls loudly for the consideration of an enlightened and Christian government.

In Jamaica, a moiety of the white, with a large proportion of the coloured inhabitants, are Presbyterians, and yet the Scottish Church at Kingston is, so far as is known, the only permanent Presbyterian place of worship in the Island. The Legislative Assembly have passed an "act to extend the means of public religion in this Island by ministers of the Church of Scotland," to the effect, "that it shall be lawful for the justices and vestry of each parish in this island, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to raise, by a tax on the inhabitants of each parish, in the same manner and form as the other parish taxes now are or may hereafter be raised and collected, any sum

that may be necessary for the support of a clergyman of the Established Church of Scotland, not exceeding the sum of £400 per annum. Provided, nevertheless, that such stipend for a minister shall not be so raised until the inhabitants of each such parish shall have first provided, at their own expense, or by private funds, a place of worship for the purpose of this act."

This measure, adopted by the popular branch of the Legislature, as right, fair, and reasonable, stands opposed in the council, not, as is believed, from any direct objection to its being adopted, but because they are not at liberty to accede to it, without instructions from the government at home.

The intercession of the Church of Scotland with your lordship on this subject has been earnestly requested, and the memorialists cannot entertain a doubt of your acquiescing with entire approbation in a proposal originating with the colonists themselves, burdensome, if at all, to them alone, and promising to contribute so powerfully and extensively to the best interests of all classes of the inhabitants.

The good offices of the Church of Scotland with Government have also been requested on behalf of Presbyterian churches at present existing in Grenada and Tobago, and others now in progress at Antigua and Mauritius, for public aid to enable them to pay adequate salaries to their respective clergymen. The memorialists beg leave to recommend to your lordship's favourable consideration the claims of all these societies of their fellow-Christians, but especially that of the inhabitants of Mauritius. Their application is subscribed by a large body of the most respectable settlers of all denominations, many of them being members, and some even clergymen of the Church