

these very provisions the instruments prompting to a commission of error.

It is obvious, that were it authorized, a colonial minister restrained from advising certain measures, by a salutary dread of the public odium and the personal inconvenience likely to arise from them, were they to be carried into immediate operation, might yet be easily led to procure the regal authority for their being effected, were he sure that this could only happen at some remote period, when he would no longer personally have reason to fear the consequences. Is it to be believed that any minister can thus indefinitely lock up the royal prerogative? That the royal will is to be sought for, not in the breast of the living and breathing monarch, but in the musty folds of some old document deposited in the archives of a colonial executive council—that from thence, to the astonishment of the reigning Sovereign and his ministers—to the dismay of the people, it is to issue for the purpose of changing the whole ecclesiastical condition of a province?

Such a supposition seems to us an insult to common sense—a libel on the well guarded and intelligent, the open and straight forward course of British legislation.

Finally, we hold the establishment of the rectories invalid, from the superior countervailing force of the articles of the treaty of union of the kingdoms of England and Scotland.

We maintain, that no act can truly emanate from the Sovereign of Great Britain, destructive of the principles from which the monarchy derives its existence and on which it rests; that the articles of union of the two kingdoms of England and Scotland, being the very basis of the monarchy, can in no way possibly be infringed or violated; and that, therefore, whatever pretends to violate or infringe them, is to be esteemed essentially powerless and void. We maintain that this measure is thus essentially powerless and void, because it can have neither power nor reality but through a flagrant violation of them.

The articles of this treaty, solemnly ratified by the delegates of both nations ere they merged themselves into a united kingdom, secure to the natives of both, a community of all rights, privileges, and advantages, which do, or may belong to either.

Canada being a colony, conquered by the arms of both kingdoms, subsequently to their union, every advantage which it presents ought consequently in virtue of these articles to be available alike to Scotchmen and Englishmen.

In contravention of this great and fundamental principle, it is pretended that a despatch of Lord Bathurst gives valid authority to the governor and executive council of the province to portion it out into

rectories of the Church of England, and to divide among the incumbents of these rectories the whole provision made for the support of a protestant clergy, amounting to a seventh part of the lands of the country.

Before such authority, in any measures that may have taken place in dependence on it, can have validity, we demand that it be shown what equality of right it allows between Scotchmen and Englishmen, when it pretends to have power not to leave the former a spot to put his feet on, where he shall not be subject to a rector of the church of the latter, having according to the opinion of the law officers of the crown, "the same ecclesiastical authority as is vested in the rector of a parish in England." We demand, that it be shown what equality of advantage it would permit to Englishmen and Scotchmen, when it would bestow one seventh of the colony on the church of the former, and would not leave a single acre for the church of the latter?

Until this be shown, we utterly deny the possible validity of the authority. We solemnly protest against any proceedings that may have taken place in reliance on it, and hold them ineffective and null, as being in direct opposition to the fundamental laws of the monarchy.

To all which I respectfully crave your Excellency's attention.

In name, and by appointment of the Commission of Synod.

(Signed)

ALEX. GALE, Moderator.

MEETING OF THE SYNOD.

While borne homewards on and against the boiling flood of the mighty St. Lawrence, we sit down to pen for our readers a short account of the meeting of Synod which has just closed. The members of our congregations, we believe, feel a growing interest in the proceedings of the Church courts; and those of the recent Synod are of a kind, that may well increase that interest, and occasion to such as are praying for the enlargement and prosperity of our church, thanksgivings to God on her behalf. An abstract of the minutes of the Synod will ere long be printed, and, we doubt not, that our