

CHATHAM, N. B., Oct. 6, 1898,
(Octave of the Feast of St. Michael Archangel.)

REVEREND JOHN H. CUSHING,
Grand Anse, Gloucester Co., N. B.

REVEREND SIR :—

My telegram of the 3rd inst. withdrew from you the pastorate of Grand Anse, and notified you that your further clerical services in this diocese would not be required. Your telegram of yesterday replying in the spirit of contumacy, states that you refuse to leave unless you get \$1,800, claimed to be due you for expenditure on buildings at Blackville. This last telegram is evidence that you have not the due spirit of sacerdotal piety, and therefore I withdraw from you as far as the canons and discipline of the Church give me authority, all permission to officiate as a priest or celebrate in this diocese.

Your financial claim for reimbursement of expenditure in erecting pastoral residence at Blackville, was duly considered and treated of in my Decretal Letter dated Oct. 1st, 1897, which was communicated to you and others concerned, at the time. It was there shown that according to the ecclesiastical regulations in this diocese, whatever expenditure a priest makes without the written authorization of the Ordinary, he does at his own risk and cannot claim from the Bishop or from the diocese compensation for the same. I also explained that if the people were willing and funds available, I would not prevent the pastor and committee or church wardens from paying whatever might be considered just in equity, for the buildings or property procured in the mission and now used for the benefit thereof; and in referring to the meeting called by the Vicar-General, Father Barry, over which he presided, it was stated in the official report thereof, that one of those present, expressed what was acquiesced in by all, that if anything was due Father Cushing, he ought to be paid: but that first, a full and correct statement of monies received by him from whatever source on account of said expenditure be made, and balance be duly shown. But this statement of detailed receipts and expenditure was never up to the present furnished to the pastor and people of Blackville, who had it been duly furnished, were fully disposed to give it the most favorable consideration: this I know from the remarks made by the Reverend Father Crumley on different occasions, when I met him during the past year. But this matter of financial claim is a distinct question which can be duly adjudicated on its own merits in justice and equity. The building as far as completed, is there, and the contractor, and the recognition of various payments made to him and others, on the one side: and on the other the consciousness among