

any explanations which this subject may appear to require, and on any other referred to in this communication, privately, at your Lordship's convenience.

We have, &c.

(signed) *William Bettridge*, B.D.,
St. John's College, Cambridge,
Rector of Woodstock, Upper Canada.

The Right Hon. the Lord Glenelg,
&c. &c. &c.

Benjamin Cronyn, M.A.,
Trinity College, Dublin,
Rector of London, Upper Canada.

No. 23.

J. Stephen, Esq. to
the Rev. W. Bet-
tridge and Rev. B.
Cronyn,
13 July 1837.

— No. 23. —

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 13 July 1837.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant.

Referring to your proposal that the support afforded by Her Majesty's Government to the Church of England in Australia should be extended to that Church in Upper Canada, Lord Glenelg directs me to call your attention to the fact that no portion of the funds applicable to the erection of churches and chapels, and the maintenance of ministers in Australia is provided by this country, but that these funds are exclusively derived from the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, and are appropriated under the authority of the respective governors and councils. Although Her Majesty's Government would cheerfully acquiesce in the adoption by the Legislature of Upper Canada of the principle of the measure recently introduced in Australia on this subject, and which appears to have given great satisfaction to several leading denominations of Christians in these colonies, there are circumstances which prevent the direct interference of the Government in effecting this object in Upper Canada. In the Canadian Provinces, the principle of popular representation being established on the most comprehensive basis, has led to the transfer to the two Houses of Local Legislature, and especially to the House of Assembly, of the control of the whole of the public receipt and expenditure. It is true indeed that the hereditary territorial and casual revenues have not been actually placed at their disposal; but you are aware that, in pursuance of his late Majesty's instructions, the Lieutenant-governor offered that those funds should be subjected to the appropriation of the Provincial Parliament; and although the pressure of other public business prevented the acceptance of that offer during the last Session of the Assembly, it is still binding on the faith of the Crown; and there is every reason to anticipate that in the next Session this pledge will be fulfilled. No portion, therefore, of the Provincial revenue will in that case be applicable to the important object in question, except through the intervention of the Provincial Assembly.

With reference to your proposal that Her Majesty's Government should recommend to Parliament to pass a law to adjust the claims of the different religious communions on the Clergy Reserves, Lord Glenelg directs me to remind you that both the present and the late Lieutenant-governor of the Province had, in obedience to the commands of his late Majesty, invited the Local Legislature to exercise the powers vested in them by the 41st section of the constitutional Act of the 31 Geo. 3, c. 31, for determining in what manner, and to what uses, the lands in question should be appropriated. This subject engaged the anxious deliberation of the Assembly in their last Session, nor has either House of Provincial Legislature solicited the interposition of Parliament, or expressed the slightest doubt of their own ability to bring this question to a satisfactory adjustment. Under such circumstances, Lord Glenelg cannot but think Her Majesty's Government would justly incur the reproach of a breach of faith if they should advise the Imperial Legislature to intercept the proceedings of the Legislature of the Province on this subject.

To your proposal that Her Majesty should be advised to recommend to the Local Legislature such a division of the Clergy Reserves as would appropriate two-thirds of those lands for the support of the Churches of England and Scotland, the remaining third to be appropriated by the Crown amongst all other Protestant religious societies dissenting from both Churches, Lord Glenelg directs me to answer that such a recommendation would probably be
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