

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

"for the re-building of his cathedral and his episcopal palace; and, in the mean time, he shall have the liberty to dwell in the town or parishes, as he shall judge proper. He shall be at liberty to visit his diocese with the ordinary ceremonies, and exercise all the jurisdiction which his predecessor exercised under the French government, save that an oath of fidelity, or a promise to do nothing contrary to his Britannic Majesty's service, may be required of him." To this article your Majesty's general made the following answer: "*This article is comprised under the foregoing.*" Now the foregoing, or 30th, article is directly refused; therefore this article must be deemed to be refused likewise: and consequently by this refusal all those parts of the Canadian laws and customs that give a right to the bishop of Quebec to establish new parishes, and to provide for the re-building of his cathedral and his episcopal palace, and to visit his diocese with the ordinary ceremonies, and to exercise the jurisdiction which had been exercised by his predecessors under the French government, are abolished; and your Majesty's ecclesiastical supremacy is vindicated and supported in a manner agreeable to that important and universal statute of the 1st of Queen Elizabeth above cited.

The definitive treaty of peace.

The next public instrument relating to the condition of this province is the definitive treaty of peace concluded at Paris on the 10th day of February 1763.¹ In the fourth article of this treaty it is declared, that your Majesty will give the most effectual orders that your new Roman Catholic subjects may profess the worship of their religion according to the rites of the Romish church, *as far as the laws of Great Britain permit*. By this reference to the laws of Great Britain it should seem to have been your Majesty's intention that those laws should be the fundamental rule of government in this province.

The King's proclamation in October 1763.

The next public instrument relating to this subject, and upon which great stress has been laid by all your Majesty's British subjects that have resorted to this province, is your Majesty's royal proclamation of the 7th October 1763,² which seems to have had principally in view the profit and advantages that might accrue to your Majesty's British subjects by resorting to, or settling in, the countries that had lately been ceded to your Majesty by the definitive treaty of peace. By this very solemn and important instrument, passed under your Majesty's great seal of Great Britain, it is declared, that "your Majesty, being desirous that all your Majesty's loving subjects, as well of your kingdoms as your colonies in America, may avail themselves,

¹ See Treaty of Paris, 1763, p. 97.

² See Proclamation of 1763, p. 163.