

affecting great principles, in harmony with which the existing institutions of the Province have been largely shaped. It is evidently a retrograde movement, of the most serious character, from advancing public opinion in this and other lands in favor of the separation of religious interests and agencies from State control. It seems also strangely out of accord with the principles of His government, who so explicitly declared, "My kingdom is not of this world;" and while contemplating an immediate advantage in the interests of religion, to lose sight of others of wider comprehension and more vital importance. It is with the view of leading to the consideration of the subject in these fundamental aspects that the following remarks are offered.

## I.

The proposed change cannot be conceded, on the part of the civil government, without overstepping its legitimate province.

The outlines of a divine order, in harmony with which the work of the Church in the world should be arranged, were laid down by the Master himself before His departure into the far country, and, under His directions, were more clearly defined by His apostles. In these instructions, the Church was solemnly guarded against all alliances with the kingdoms of this world, and for the advancement of His cause she was taught to rely on himself, and without the aids of secular power, to work on in the spirit of love. During long ages this order was violated by adulterous unions into which the Church entered